

**RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CLASSROOM TEACHER  
FOR THE STUDENT WITH  
FOOD ALLERGIES/ANAPHYLAXIS**

**GENERAL**

\_\_\_\_\_ Participate in the team meeting for the student with life-threatening allergies and in-service training regarding:

- Allergens that cause life-threatening allergies (such as foods, insect stings, medications, latex)
- Steps to take to prevent life-threatening reactions and accidental exposures to allergens
- How to recognize symptoms of the student's life-threatening allergic reaction
- Steps to manage an emergency and communicate with clinic or main office
- How to administer an epinephrine auto-injector

\_\_\_\_\_ Be sure volunteers, student teachers, instructional assistants, specialists and substitute teachers are informed of the student's food allergies and necessary safeguards. Leave information in an organized, prominent and accessible format for substitute teachers.

\_\_\_\_\_ Coordinate with parent or guardian and public health nurse to educate classmates and other parents or guardians to avoid endangering, isolating, stigmatizing or harassing students with food allergies.

\_\_\_\_\_ Be aware of how the student with food allergies is being treated; enforce school rules about bullying and threats.

**AT SNACK AND LUNCHTIME**

\_\_\_\_\_ In the classroom, establish procedures to ensure that the student with life-threatening food allergies eats only what she or he brings from home.

\_\_\_\_\_ Encourage student to eat in areas of class or cafeteria that are free of food to which he or she is allergic.

\_\_\_\_\_ Prohibit students from sharing or trading any food, including snacks.

\_\_\_\_\_ Encourage parents or guardians to send in a box of "safe" snacks for their student.

\_\_\_\_\_ Have parents or guardians provide a non-perishable safe lunch in case their child forgets lunch one day.

\_\_\_\_\_ Avoid cross-contamination of foods by wiping down eating surfaces with soap and water before and after eating.

\_\_\_\_\_ Tables should also be washed with soap and water in the morning if an after-school event has been held in the classroom the day before.

\_\_\_\_\_ Reinforce hand washing before and after eating.

### **DURING CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES**

\_\_\_\_\_ Avoid use of foods for classroom activities (e.g., arts and crafts, counting, science projects, parties, holidays and celebrations, cooking, or other projects).

\_\_\_\_\_ Welcome parental involvement in organizing class parties and special events.

\_\_\_\_\_ Consider non-food treats.

### **ON FIELD TRIPS**

\_\_\_\_\_ Collaborate with the school public health nurse, prior to planning a field trip.

\_\_\_\_\_ Ensure epinephrine auto-injectors and instructions are taken on the field trip.

\_\_\_\_\_ Ensure that at least one person on the field trip is trained in recognizing symptoms of life-threatening allergic reactions, trained to use an epinephrine auto-injector, and trained in emergency procedures.

\_\_\_\_\_ Review plans for field trips; avoid high-risk places.

\_\_\_\_\_ Consider eating situations on field trips and plan for prevention of exposure to the student's life-threatening foods.

\_\_\_\_\_ Invite parents or guardians of a student at risk for anaphylaxis to accompany their student on school trips, in addition to the chaperone. However, the student's safety or attendance must not be conditioned on the parent's or guardian's presence.