



Statewide Standing Order for Epinephrine in School Settings

Date Issued: January 20, 2026

Purpose: To allow public and private K-12 schools to possess and administer epinephrine in the event of an anaphylactic reaction in a student in a school setting.

Pursuant to Virginia Code [§54.1-3408 \(D\)](#), this order authorizes any K-12 school nurse, school board employee, employee of a local governing body, or employee of a local health department who is authorized by a prescriber and trained in the administration of epinephrine, to possess and administer epinephrine to a student in the event of an anaphylactic reaction in a public school setting. This order authorizes an employee of a private K-12 school that is accredited pursuant to [§ 22.1-19](#) to possess and administer epinephrine to a student in the event of an anaphylactic reaction in a private school setting.

Eligible providers in public schools shall administer epinephrine in accordance with *Code of Virginia § 22.1-274.2 (C)* and all eligible providers shall administer epinephrine as described in the [Guidelines for Recognition and Treatment of Anaphylaxis in the School Setting](#) and [Guidelines for the administration and medication training of epinephrine](#). The school shall maintain a copy of the standing order, school policy and a list of trained school personnel for school records and provide this documentation to VDH upon request.

This order is effective through June 30th, 2026 from the date of issuance unless otherwise discontinued by the Commissioner or upon her resignation, removal or retirement.

Approved Options for Auto-Injector or Nasal Administration

Medication Name	Population Authorized for Use
Neffy (epinephrine nasal spray), USP 2mg	Individuals weighing 66 pounds or greater
Epinephrine Auto-Injector, USP 0.3mg	
EpiPen 2-Pak Auto-Injector, USP 0.3mg	
Auvi-Q Auto-Injector, USP 0.3mg	
Neffy (epinephrine nasal spray), USP 1mg	Individuals weighing between 33 and 66 pounds
Epinephrine Auto-Injector, USP 0.15mg	
EpiPen Jr. 2-Pak Auto-Injector, USP 0.15mg	
Auvi-Q Auto-Injector, USP 0.15mg	
Auvi-Q Auto-Injector, USP 0.1mg	Individuals weighing between 16.5 and 33 pounds

Directions for Use (Auto-Injector)

- If anaphylaxis is suspected, inject epinephrine via auto-injector: Pull off safety release cap. Swing and jab firmly into the middle of the upper thigh, (through clothing if necessary). **Hold in place for 3* seconds to deliver medication and then remove.** *Note: *Follow manufacturer instructions for delivery of medication ([Mylan Epipen or generic](#)).* Massage the area for 10 more seconds. Note the time of administration.
- Call or have a bystander call 911 immediately or activate the Emergency Medical System (EMS). Explain to the 911 operator that anaphylaxis is suspected and epinephrine has been given.
- Keep the student either lying down or seated, never leave alone. If they lose consciousness, check if they are breathing and have a pulse. If not, begin CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation), call out for help and continue CPR until the individual regains a pulse and is breathing or until EMS arrives and takes over.
- Call the School Nurse or assigned school health staff and notify the school administrator of the situation.
- Repeat the dose after 5 to 15 minutes if no improvement, symptoms persist or return.
- Stay with the student until EMS arrives, continuing to follow the directions above
- Provide EMS with epinephrine auto injector labeled with name, date, and time administered to transport to the ER with the student. Use caution: auto injector needle does not retract.

Directions for Use (Neffy nasal spray)

Note: Neffy is for nasal use only. *Follow manufacturer instructions for delivery of medication.*

- € Each Neffy nasal spray is for single use and delivers the entire dose upon activation.
- € **Do not** prime or attempt to reuse Neffy for more than one administration.
- € Administer Nnffy by inserting the nozzle of the nasal spray fully into one nostril until fingers touch the nose.
- € Hold the nasal spray straight into the nose - **do not** angle the nasal spray to the inside septum or outer wall of the nose as some medication may be lost.
- € Press the plunger firmly to activate.
- € **Avoid** sniffing during and after administration.
- € If a second dose of Nnffy is needed, administer a new nasal spray into the same nostril starting 5 minutes after the first dose.
- € More than two sequential doses of epinephrine should be administered under direct medical supervision.
- € Call or have a bystander call 911 immediately or activate the Emergency Medical System (EMS). Explain to the 911 operator that anaphylaxis is suspected and epinephrine has been given.
- € Keep the student either lying down or seated, never leave alone. If they lose consciousness, check if they are breathing and have a pulse. If not, begin CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation), call out for help and continue CPR until the individual regains a pulse and is breathing or until EMS arrives and takes over.
- € Call the School Nurse or assigned school health staff and notify the school administrator of the situation.
- € Stay with the student until EMS arrives, continuing to follow the directions above

- ☛ Provide EMS with epinephrine auto injector labeled with name, date, and time administered to transport to the ER with the student.

Common symptoms associated with anaphylaxis may include

- Difficulty breathing, wheezing
- Hives, generalized flushing, itching, or redness of the skin
- Swelling of the throat, lips, tongue, throat; tightness/change of voice; difficulty swallowing
- Tingling sensation, itching, or metallic taste in mouth
- Feeling of apprehension, agitation

Required follow-up after epinephrine administration

- Notify parent/guardian of incident
- Request follow up care by a healthcare provider and provide school with an Allergy Action Plan and medication for the student
- Complete required documentation of event and return to school health supervisor and school leadership
- Notify local health director of a severe adverse event, such as death or hospitalization with intubation, following administration
- Order replacement epinephrine auto-injector

Prescriber:  _____

Bryant C. Webb, MD,

NPI Number: 1538402904

Virginia Medical License Number: 0101263261

Virginia Department of Health

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