

Managing Diabetes in Schools Policy

Policy Release

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (EECD) is pleased to share the *Managing Diabetes in Schools Policy* that has been developed in partnership with the Department of Health and in collaboration with staff from the Regional Centers for Education (RCEs) and the Conseil scolaire acadien provincial (CSAP), with advice from paediatricians and other health care professionals and partners.

EECD recognizes the importance of providing health care support services to students with diabetes to enable them to attend school. The *Managing Diabetes in Schools Policy* provides the directives and guiding principles required to ensure students with diabetes are supported in managing diabetes health care tasks while at school.

Under the new policy, teacher assistants (TAs) can be assigned and trained to perform health care tasks related to diabetes management, including midday insulin administration. As well, students will have access to intranasal glucagon, which is now a benefit under the Nova Scotia Pharmacare program, during the school day. Annual orientation on diabetes and diabetes management will be required for all staff working in schools where a student has been diagnosed with diabetes.

The policy is effective as of **September 1, 2022**, and will replace any related policies currently in place in schools. Implementation will happen in a phased-in approach. As training is completed, students who require assistance receiving midday insulin will transition to having insulin administered by a TA.

EECD acknowledges that there are administrative duties associated with this policy and that school administrators and TAs will play a significant role in its implementation. We are committed to working with RCEs and the CSAP to ensure the policy is successfully implemented across the province.

Originally signed by

Hon. Becky Druhan

Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development

Special Thanks

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- Nova Scotia College of Nursing
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- Nova Scotia Health (NSH)
- Nova Scotia Teachers Union (NSTU)
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- Principals and Teachers
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- School Health Partnership Nurses
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