

# READ THE REGS...

## MEDICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR YOUTH CAMPS.

The following information is available on the OEC's website, specifically in this [video](#).

Ensuring our campers are safe and healthy while at camp is our top priority. Some campers require medications to help with that. This issue of 'Read the Regs' will go over some key points of administering medications at a youth camp.

First, we must ask ourselves what is a medication? Sunscreen and bug spray are not classified as medications, but the OEC recommends you obtain parental consent prior to using them at camp.

There are many different types of medication including: oral, topical, inhalant, injectable, rectal. If a camper requires a type of medication not listed here – such as a feeding tube, for example – a request for special medication authorization can be obtained. For more information on this [click here](#).

### Do camps have to offer Medication Administration?

Youth camps are not required to administer medications, but camps must comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). This federal law specifies that no child with a disability, such as diabetes, may be excluded from participation at a youth camp simply because of that disability. When deciding whether to administer medication, you must consider both the licensing requirements and the requirements of ADA – you may also wish to consult with an attorney.

### Requirements of Medication Administration

All camps that administer medication must have policies and procedures that outline how they will do so. These should include, but are not limited to:

- The type of medication that shall be administered
- Parental responsibilities
- Staff responsibilities
- Proper storage and labeling of medication
- Record keeping

These policies should be kept on camp so they are readily available to camp staff and OEC licensing staff upon inspection.

### Training Requirements

Nonprescription topical medications can be administered with parental permission. All other medications require training and a medication authorization. This training must be done by a Physician licensed to practice medication in any state, or a CT licensed Pharmacist, Physician Assistant, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse or Registered Nurse, and must contain specific content. There must be a staff member that is trained, and 18 years old on site whenever a child with an order for medication is present.

Sample of Written Approval for Administration of Medication for is available [here](#). This is valid for 3 years. Training for a premeasured auto injector (such as an epi-pen) are only valid for one year. Documentation of the training and the curriculum that was used should be available onsite.

### Documentation

Each time a medication is administered it should be recorded on a Medication Administration Record (MAR). This must be kept onsite at the camp for 2 years after the child has attended camp. Medication errors should be recorded on the MAR, and reported to the OEC and parent as stated by the OEC.

## **Storage & Labeling**

- Medication stored in the original child-resistant safety container and locked.
- Medication labeled with child's name, name of medication, directions and date of the prescription.
- Emergency medication stored for quick access, inaccessible to children.
- Controlled drugs should be double locked.
- All drugs that are not picked up within 7 days should be disposed of. Follow direction from Department of Consumer Protection for disposal for controlled drugs. Documentation of drugs that are disposed of should be documented and kept on site at the camp for 3 years.

## **Self Administration**

Written permission for self-administration by the child's parent and the written order of an authorized prescriber must be obtained. They must be stored in the same manner as other medications. Med trained staff must be on site when a child who self administers is on site.

All this information is from the [OEC website](#)

You should always *READ THE REGS* yourself to ensure your camp is in compliance. Here is a link to the OEC CT: <https://www.ctoec.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Youth-Camp-Statutes-and-Regulations-2022.pdf>