
Important Information for Parents/Guardians of New York City Public School Students with Diabetes

Victory for kids! The American Diabetes Association® (ADA) achieved a victory for NYC public school students with diabetes in its monumental settlement agreement with NYC public schools. The settlement ensures these students will have access to the care they need to be Safe at School.

On April 21, 2023, the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York approved a settlement agreement to resolve a lawsuit brought by the ADA and three families against the City of New York, the Department of Education, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, and the Office of School Health. This settlement agreement is a major victory for students with diabetes and their families and provides 504 process deadlines, requires the training of school nurses and school staff, and ensures a trained school staff member is available to provide care to your child on the bus and during field trips and other school-sponsored activities. The ADA is ready to help families and schools to implement this important settlement agreement. Learn more about the settlement at diabetes.org/nycstudents.

Important steps you can take to make sure your child is Safe at School:

Make sure your child's diabetes care plan is current. Before the new school year or when your child's diabetes regimen has changed, work with your child's diabetes provider to write physician's orders (called a **Diabetes Medication Administration Form** (DMAF) in NYC) that spell out your child's school diabetes care regimen. This should include:

- Times and dosages for insulin administration
- Blood glucose (also called blood sugar) monitoring
- Glucagon administration
- Carbohydrate content for meals and snacks.
- Recognition and treatment of hypoglycemia (low blood glucose) and hyperglycemia (high blood glucose)

The plan should also say what tasks your child can do independently and which tasks require school staff assistance.

Ensure the school has staff available to provide diabetes care to your child. New York state law states only school nurses may administer insulin. Under the settlement agreement, school nurses and staff will receive diabetes training to provide other care to your child such as glucagon administration.

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Make sure you discuss all field trips and extracurriculars with your child's 504 team to ensure trained staff are always available. NYC public schools have established a float pool of nurses to provide care during field trips and requires trained staff to cover other school-sponsored events. In addition, your child's bus driver should be trained in the recognition and treatment of hypoglycemia including glucagon administration.

Make a 504 plan or Individualized Education Program (IEP).

The settlement agreement sets a timeline for the development of **504 plans** so your child will receive diabetes care and other services on the first day of school. Work with the school's 504 coordinator to develop a plan to specify what services your child needs at school. Having this plan in writing is the best way to protect your child's rights. The 504 plan or, in some cases, IEP should be consistent with your child's DMAF or physician's orders.

Still having a problem? Report it to the NYC Public School's 504 coordinator.

Have questions about your school's legal obligations to provide diabetes care to your child or need general information about diabetes care at school? The ADA's Safe at School® campaign can help. Check out our Safe at School resources at diabetes.org/safeatschool and learn more about your legal protections at diabetes.org/fedlaws. You can also call **1-800-DIABETES (800-342-2383)** or email AskAda@diabetes.org for assistance.