

La Harpe Elementary School

Peanut Products and Food Allergy Management Policy

La Harpe Community School District #347

Purpose

La Harpe Elementary School recognizes that peanut allergies can cause serious and potentially life-threatening reactions. La Harpe Elementary School is **not a peanut-free or peanut-restricted school**. Peanuts, peanut butter, peanut oil, and foods containing peanut ingredients may be present, prepared, served, or consumed on school property and during school-sponsored activities.

The school will take reasonable precautions and provide appropriate accommodations for students with documented food allergies.

Parent and Guardian Responsibilities

The parent or guardian of a student with a diagnosed peanut allergy should:

1. Notify the school of the student's allergy.
2. Provide current written instructions from the student's licensed healthcare provider.
3. Supply prescribed emergency medication when required.
4. Provide updated medical information and medication at the beginning of each school year and whenever the student's condition or treatment changes.
5. Maintain current emergency contact information with the school.

Individual Allergy Plans

When appropriate, the school will develop an Individual Health Care Plan, Emergency Action Plan, Section 504 Plan, Individualized Education Program, or other student-specific plan.

A student's plan may address:

- Known allergens and symptoms of an allergic reaction.
- Procedures for reducing exposure and cross-contact.
- Meal substitutions or modifications.
- Cafeteria seating or food-service accommodations.
- Classroom celebrations and activities.
- Transportation, field trips, athletics, and other school-sponsored events.
- The location and administration of emergency medication.
- Emergency response and parent-notification procedures.

Accommodations will be based on the student's individual needs and supporting medical documentation.

Peanut Butter, Peanuts, and Peanut Oil

Peanuts, peanut butter, peanut oil, and foods containing peanut ingredients may be used or served at La Harpe Elementary School.

Food-service personnel will:

- Maintain ingredient and allergen information when reasonably available.
- Follow appropriate sanitation and cross-contact procedures.
- Follow each student's documented allergy and meal-modification instructions.
- Avoid representing any meal, kitchen, cafeteria, classroom, or school facility as peanut-free.
- Notify the appropriate school employee when a menu item is known to contain peanut ingredients and a student with a documented peanut allergy may be affected.

No employee will independently determine that a peanut product or type of peanut oil is safe for a particular student. The student's medical instructions and individual allergy plan must be followed.

Food Brought to School

Students and employees may bring foods containing peanuts or peanut products to school unless a specific restriction has been established for an individual student, classroom, or activity.

Students shall not share food with a student who has a documented food allergy. When appropriate, the school may establish reasonable precautions in an affected classroom, cafeteria area, school vehicle, or activity without designating the entire school as peanut-free or peanut-restricted.

Parents and guardians are encouraged to provide commercially packaged food with a complete ingredient label for classroom celebrations.

Emergency Response

If a person is believed to be experiencing anaphylaxis, school personnel will:

1. Follow the student's Emergency Action Plan, if one is available.
2. Administer epinephrine promptly by an authorized individual when appropriate.
3. Call 911 immediately.
4. Notify the school office and school nurse or designated health professional.
5. Notify the student's parent or guardian.

6. Ensure the student is evaluated by emergency medical personnel, even if symptoms improve.

Employee Training

Appropriate La Harpe Elementary School employees will receive training regarding:

- Signs and symptoms of allergic reactions and anaphylaxis.
- Emergency notification procedures.
- Procedures for reducing cross-contact.
- Student-specific allergy plans applicable to their duties.
- Administration of epinephrine when authorized.

Notice and Disclaimer

La Harpe Elementary School may notify families, employees, volunteers, and visitors that peanut products may be present at school.

Although reasonable precautions will be taken, La Harpe Elementary School and La Harpe Community School District #347 cannot guarantee that school buildings, classrooms, buses, meals, or activities will be free from peanuts, peanut oil, or peanut residue.

Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed at least once every three years and revised as necessary to remain consistent with Illinois law, District policy, and current health guidance.