



STUDENTS: Conduct

Alcoholic Beverages, Controlled Dangerous Substances, Intoxicants, Prescription, and Nonprescription Drugs

I. Purpose

- A. To establish guidelines for the administration of medications in Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS), educational programs to deter the use of alcohol and drugs, and provide notice of disciplinary action for violations of Policy 5540 and this accompanying rule.

II. Guidelines

- A. The possession, use, and distribution of alcoholic beverages, controlled dangerous substances, drug paraphernalia, or intoxicants in any quantity are prohibited on school property and at any school-sponsored activity.
- B. Annually, school administrators shall provide notice to students, parents, and staff of the contents of Policy 5540 and this rule.
- C. Each school administrator with the support of the Department of Student Support Services, the Department of Special Programs, and the Office of Health Education, is directed to continue efforts to make students aware of the physical effects and legal consequences of the use of alcohol, other drugs, and intoxicants. This may be accomplished through the health education curricular program and extra-curricular programs such as drug abuse resistance education (D.A.R.E.), and through individual counseling of students by teachers and student support services staff.

III. Prescription and Nonprescription Drugs

- A. Students are permitted to take medication during the school day and on school-sponsored activities only when necessary and only under the supervision of school system personnel. Decisions concerning the use and administration of medication at school shall be made on an individual basis for each student by the nurse and/or Office of Health Services.
- B. A medication order must be on file for each medication to be administered to a student.

- C. All prescription drugs shall be delivered to the school nurse by the student's parent in an original prescription container labeled with the student's name, dose/strength, and specific administration directions.
- D. Nonprescription drug products to be administered in school or at school-sponsored activities must be delivered to the school nurse by the student's parent in the original manufacturer's package, and the package shall list the ingredients and recommended dosage in a legible format.
- E. All medication must be administered by the school nurse or trained staff person.
- F. Written permission from the school nurse, parent, and health care provider is required before a student may carry or self-administer any specialized medical treatments including, but not limited to, use of Epi-pen, inhalers, and insulin.
- G. School nurses may administer certain nonprescription medications for certain conditions with parent permission.

IV. Student Acknowledgement

- A. A student is neither under the influence nor in possession of drugs and voluntarily seeks information from a teacher, counselor, principal, or other professional educator employed by BCPS to overcome any form of drug use, a statement, whether oral or written, made by the student is not admissible against the student in any disciplinary proceeding.
  - 1. Support and resources will be offered to assist the student with the problem.
- B. Should a student seek assistance under this paragraph, no report shall be filed with the police department.

V. Violations

- A. Violations of Policy 5540 and this rule shall be taken in accordance with Board Policy 5550, *Disruptive Behavior*.

- B. All searches and seizures related to this policy conducted on school property or during school-sponsored activities will follow *Procedures* outlined in Policy 5460, *Searches*.
- C. The school administrator shall report any instances of the possession, use, and distribution of alcohol and other drugs to the Baltimore County Police Department.

Legal References: 20 U.S.C. §7101, *Et Seq., Safe and Drug-free Schools and Communities Act*  
*Annotated Code of Maryland, Criminal Law Article §5-101, Et Seq., Controlled Dangerous Substances, Prescriptions, and Other Substances*  
*Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §4-124, Designation of Drug-free School Zones*  
*Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §7-305, Suspension and Expulsion*  
*Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §7-308, Searches of Students and Schools*  
*Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §7-411, Drug Education Program*  
*Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §7-412, Preservation of Rights of Student Seeking to Overcome Drug Abuse*  
*Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §7-413, Alcohol Abuse Program*  
*Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §26-103, Drinking or Possessing Intoxicating Beverages on School Premises*  
COMAR 10.27.11.05, *Nursing Functions*  
COMAR 13A.05.05.08, *School Health Standards – For all students with Special Health Needs*  
COMAR 13A.08.01.08, *Substance Use or Distribution*  
COMAR 13A.08.01.11, *Disciplinary Action*  
COMAR 13A.08.01.15, *Reporting Delinquent Acts*

RULE 5540

Related Policies: Board of Education Policy 5330, *Social Events*  
Board of Education Policy 5460, *Searches*  
Board of Education Policy 5550, *Disruptive Behavior*  
Board of Education Policy 5560, *Suspensions, Assignment to  
Alternative Programs, or Expulsions*  
Board of Education Policy 5600, *Students' Rights and  
Responsibilities*  
Board of Education Policy 6700, *Extracurricular Activities*  
Board of Education Policy 6800, *Field Trips and Foreign Travel*

Related Rule: Superintendent's Rule 6801, *Cultural Exchange*

Rule  
Adopted: 12/04/12

Superintendent of Schools