Ore City Independent School District
100 Rebel Rd., Ore City, Texas 75683

FOOD ALLERGY MANAGEMENT PLAN

I. PURPOSE

Ore City Independent School District (OCISD) is committed to providing a safe and supportive learning environment for all students, including students with diagnosed food allergies who may be at risk for anaphylaxis.

The purpose of this plan is to reduce the risk of accidental exposure to peanuts and tree nuts and other known food allergens, establish consistent procedures for prevention and response, and increase awareness among students, families, employees, and visitors.

This plan is intended to supplement OCISD's existing food-allergy/anaphylaxis policies and individualized student health plans.

II. PLAN STATEMENT

Because it is not possible to guarantee that a school environment will be completely free of allergens, OCISD will use multiple prevention and emergency-response strategies to reduce the risk of exposure.

OCISD will make reasonable efforts to:

- Reduce exposure to allergens.
- Educate staff, students, and families about food allergies.
- Prevent unnecessary sharing of food.
- Maintain appropriate emergency medication and response procedures.
- Provide individualized accommodations for students with diagnosed food allergies.
- Promote inclusion while maintaining appropriate safety precautions.

III. CLASSROOM RESPONSIBILITIES

Teachers and classroom staff shall:

- Be aware of students with diagnosed food allergies assigned to their classroom.
- Follow each student's individualized health/emergency plan.
- Avoid using allergens in classroom activities.
- Discourage food sharing.
- Encourage students to wash their hands after eating.
- Clean food-contact surfaces after food is consumed.
- Notify the school nurse/administrator of suspected allergic reactions.
- Follow emergency procedures immediately when an allergic reaction is suspected.

IV. CAFETERIA AND FOOD SERVICE

OCISD Child Nutrition Services shall work with the school nurse and campus administration to reduce allergen exposure and accommodate students with documented food allergies.

The cafeteria shall:

- Follow applicable food-service safety and sanitation requirements.
- Maintain appropriate procedures for identifying and communicating food allergens.
- Avoid intentional use of peanut/tree-nut and other known food allergens products in meals or activities serving students with known severe allergies when reasonable alternatives are available.
- Follow established procedures to reduce cross-contact.

V. FIELD TRIPS, ATHLETICS, AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Before field trips, athletic events, extracurricular activities, and other off-campus activities, staff shall review the emergency needs of students with diagnosed severe food allergies.

When appropriate:

- Emergency medication shall accompany the student.
- Designated staff shall know how to respond to an allergic reaction.
- Staff shall know how to contact emergency medical services.
- Food brought for students should be reviewed for allergens when feasible.
- Students should not share food.

VI. TRANSPORTATION

When a student with a severe food allergy rides district transportation, the campus should communicate relevant emergency information to transportation personnel when necessary and consistent with student privacy requirements.

Food consumption on buses should be limited or prohibited when necessary to address the needs of a student with a severe food allergy.

VII. CLEANING AND HAND HYGIENE

OCISD will promote routine cleaning of surfaces where food is consumed.

Students and staff should:

- Wash hands with soap and water after eating.
- Clean desks, tables, and other food-contact surfaces after food is consumed.
- Avoid relying solely on hand sanitizer for removal of food allergens.

- Dispose of food waste appropriately.

Custodial staff shall maintain routine cleaning procedures for classrooms, cafeterias, and other areas where food is consumed.

VIII. STUDENT FOOD-ALLERGY MANAGEMENT

For students with diagnosed food allergies, OCISD will maintain appropriate documentation and individualized plans as required or appropriate.

Documentation may include:

- Physician documentation.
- Food Allergy Action Plan/Emergency Action Plan.
- Medication authorization.
- Individualized Healthcare Plan.
- Section 504 plan or other appropriate accommodation plan.
- Parent/guardian emergency contact information.

Texas law requires school districts to have a plan for students with diagnosed food allergies who are at risk for anaphylaxis. Texas law also addresses disclosure of food-allergy information during enrollment.

IX. EPINEPHRINE

Students with prescribed epinephrine shall have access to their medication in accordance with OCISD medication procedures and applicable law.

OCISD maintains unassigned/stock epinephrine in accordance with applicable Texas law, administrative rules, physician orders, and district policy.

Staff designated and trained to administer epinephrine shall follow the student's emergency plan and district emergency procedures.

If an individual is suspected of experiencing anaphylaxis, emergency medical services shall be activated in accordance with district procedures. Texas DSHS guidance specifically emphasizes rapid emergency response and provides resources regarding school epinephrine programs.

X. STAFF TRAINING

OCISD shall provide appropriate food-allergy and anaphylaxis awareness training to employees as required by law and district policy.

Training should include:

- Recognition of signs and symptoms of an allergic reaction.
- Recognition of anaphylaxis.
- Prevention of accidental exposure.
- Student-specific emergency procedures.
- Proper use of epinephrine auto-injectors.
- Activation of EMS.
- Appropriate communication with the school nurse and administration.
- Prevention of food sharing and cross-contact.

Training should include, as appropriate, teachers, paraprofessionals, administrators, substitute teachers, cafeteria employees, transportation staff, coaches, custodial staff, and extracurricular personnel.

XI. PARENT/GUARDIAN RESPONSIBILITIES

Parents/guardians are encouraged to:

- Notify the school of their child's food allergy.
- Provide current physician documentation and emergency plans.
- Provide medications as required by district policy.
- Keep emergency contact information current.
- Educate their child about avoiding known allergens.
- Encourage their child not to share food.
- Inform the school of changes in the child's allergy or treatment plan.

XII. STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Students who are developmentally able should be taught to:

- Avoid known allergens.
- Never share food or drinks.
- Wash hands after eating.
- Report symptoms immediately to an adult.
- Follow their individualized allergy/emergency plan.
- Know how to seek help in an emergency.

XIII. COMMUNICATION

OCISD will communicate food allergen expectations to appropriate staff, students, and families.

Communication may include:

- Student/parent handbooks.
- Campus websites.
- Registration materials.

- Staff emails and training.
- Parent notifications.

The district will protect student health information and share allergy information with staff only as necessary to protect the student's health and safety.

IX. RESPONSE TO SUSPECTED ALLERGIC REACTION

When a student or other individual demonstrates signs or symptoms of a serious allergic reaction:

1. **Stay with the individual.**
2. **Follow the individual's emergency action plan.**
3. **Administer epinephrine as authorized and trained.**
4. **Call 911/activate EMS.**
5. **Notify the school nurse and campus administration.**
6. **Contact the parent/guardian according to district emergency procedures.**
7. **Continue monitoring the individual until EMS arrives.**
8. Document the incident and medication administration according to district procedures.

Emergency treatment should not be delayed while waiting for a parent/guardian.

X. PLAN REVIEW

This plan shall be reviewed annually by district administration in consultation with the school nurse, campus administration, Food Services, and other appropriate stakeholders.

The **School Health Advisory Council (SHAC)** may provide recommendations regarding food-allergy awareness, prevention, education, and campus practices.