

**JDRF**  
**typeone**  
**nationsummit**  
IMPROVING LIVES. CURING TYPE 1 DIABETES. **T1D**



# KEEPING KIDS WITH DIABETES SAFE AT SCHOOL

Presented by: Barbara Ortiz, MPA, ADA Director, Community Health Strategies & Lourdes Andrews, JDRF Advocate Ambassador

## Mission

**TO PREVENT AND CURE DIABETES  
AND IMPROVE THE LIVES OF ALL PEOPLE AFFECTED BY  
DIABETES**

**We deliver mission through:**

- Research
- Information
- Advocacy



## Session Key Points

- Back-to-school considerations
- Safe at School Campaign
- School diabetes care challenges
- Federal and state laws
- Development of 504 and strategies to overcome challenges
- Resources



## Goals for School Diabetes Care

- Schools must provide a medically safe environment for students with diabetes.
- Students with diabetes must have the same access to educational opportunities and school-related activities as their peers.
- Schools must work with parent and student to support transition to independence.





## School Best Practice Components

- Blood glucose monitoring
- Recognition and treatment of hypo and hyper
- Insulin/medication administration
- Carbohydrate intake/accurate calculation
- Self-management permitted for capable students

Diabetes care should be the same at school as it is at home to ensure smooth, healthy and safe transition from home to school

## What is Needed to Achieve

- Availability of trained personnel and/or school nurse
- Access to immediate routine and emergency treatment
- Self-management and self-possession anywhere, anytime for mature and capable students
- Full participation in all school-sponsored activities

## We Know That.....

- **Diabetes care is 24/7**
- **Smooth transition from home to school is essential**
- **Child must have access to equipment, medication, and assistance is essential**
- **Written care plans are essential, as provided for by federal and state laws**

## A Word About School Nurses....

**ADA supports goal of full time nurses.**

**However:**

- Most schools do not have a full-time school nurse.
- Even a full-time school nurse is not at all places at all times.
- ADA supports a safe model that utilizes trained school personnel in the absence of a school nurse.





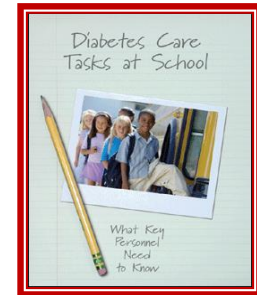
## Safe at School Campaign

All school staff members need to have a basic knowledge of diabetes and know who to contact for help.



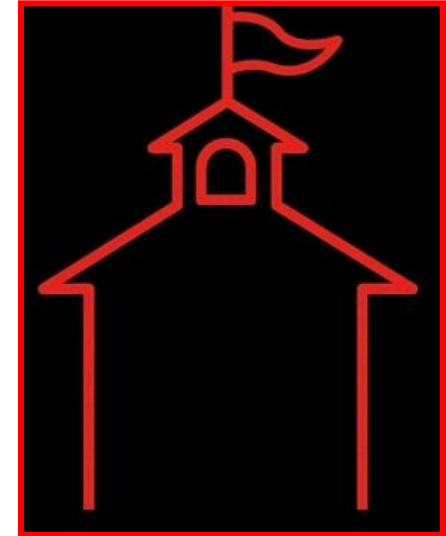
The school nurse is primary provider of diabetes care, but other school personnel must be trained to perform diabetes care tasks when the school nurse is not present.

Students should be permitted to provide self-care whenever they are at school or school-related activities.

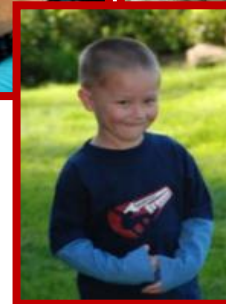
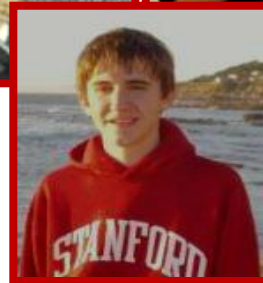
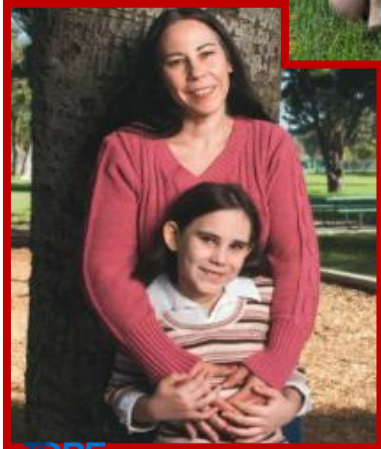
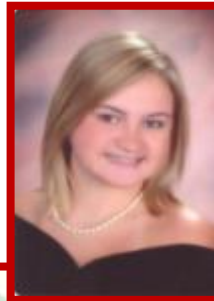


## Safe at School Principles Endorsed by:

American Academy of Pediatrics  
American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists  
American Association of Diabetes Educators  
American Diabetes Association  
Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics  
Children With Diabetes  
Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund  
Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation  
Pediatric Endocrine Society  
Pediatric Endocrinology Nursing Society  
Endocrine Society



# Who Is Discriminated Against Because of Diabetes?



## Challenges Facing Students with Diabetes



- Failure to have trained staff to assist student with diabetes.
- School's refusal to administer insulin.
- School's refusal to administer glucagon.
- No coverage during field trips and extracurricular activities.

## Challenges Facing Students with Diabetes



- School's refusal to permit blood glucose checks outside of the health clinic or office.
- Sending child to "diabetes school."
- School's refusal to allow a student to attend the school at all.

## Is Your Child With Diabetes Being Discriminated Against?

### Discrimination occurs when students:

- Don't get the care they need, OR
- Only get the care they need:
  - By missing out on school activities, or
  - Only when a family member can provide assistance at school
- Learning is compromised.
- Health is compromised.
- Legal rights are compromised.



## Federal and State Laws to the Rescue

**These laws can help level the playing field and ensure a safe and fair school environment for our children**

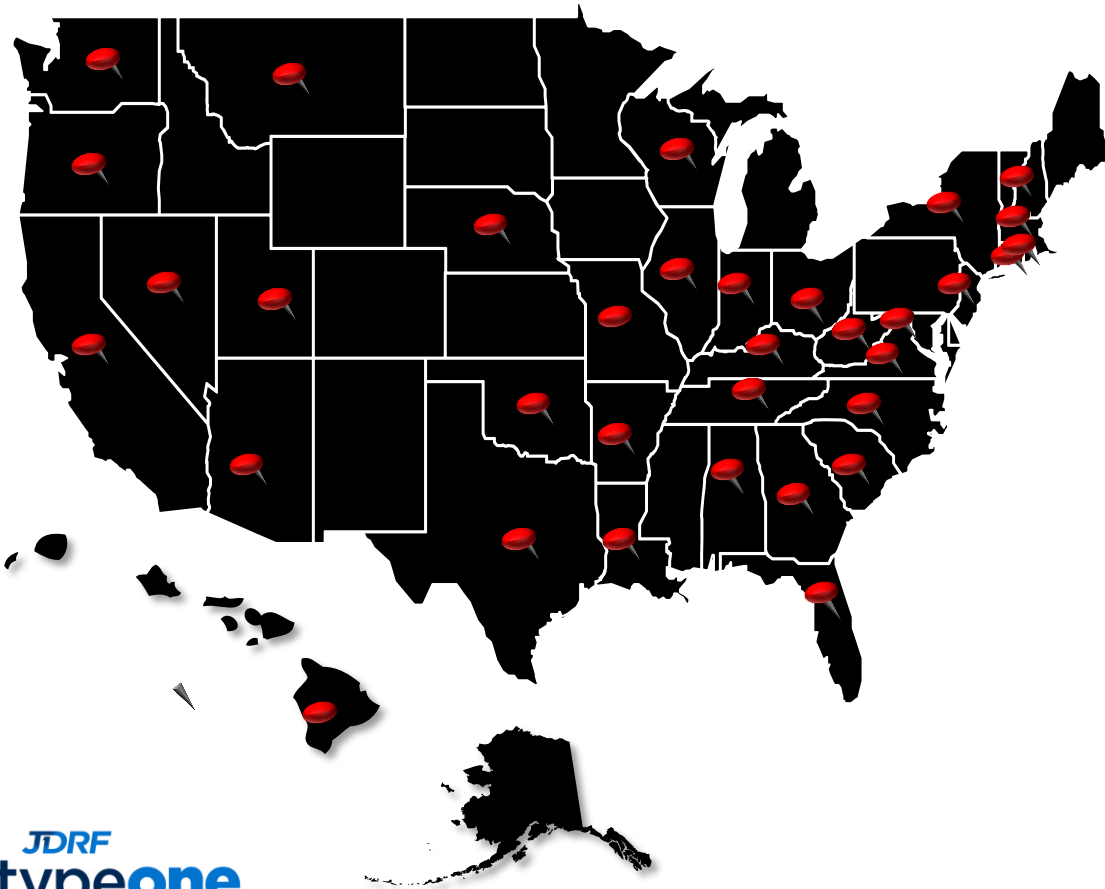
### Federal laws

- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504)
- Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act (IDEA)

## State Laws and Regulations

- State and local laws and regulations (i.e. Board of Nursing regs) vary regarding who may perform various aspects of diabetes care.
- Often there is no statewide policy. Rather, policy is determined district by district.
- Some states have developed guidelines.
- Some states have passed school diabetes care legislation or changed Board of Nursing regulations.

## School Diabetes Care Laws



Alabama  
Arizona  
Arkansas  
California  
Connecticut  
District of Columbia  
Florida  
Georgia  
Hawaii  
Illinois  
Indiana  
Kentucky  
Louisiana  
Massachusetts  
Missouri

Montana  
Nebraska  
New Hampshire  
New Jersey  
New York  
Nevada  
North Carolina  
Ohio  
Oklahoma  
Oregon  
Pennsylvania  
Rhode Island  
South Carolina  
Tennessee  
Texas  
Utah  
Virginia  
Washington  
West Virginia  
Wisconsin

## School Plans for Diabetes Management

Plan	What it covers	Who writes it
<b>DMMP</b>	<i>“Doctor’s Orders”</i> – details all aspects of routine and emergency diabetes care.	Health care team.
<b>504 Plan</b> <b>IEP Team</b>	<i>Education plans</i> - details both health care and educated related aids, services, accommodations, and special education services the student may need.	504 team IEP team
<b>Quick Reference</b>	<i>Resource/Tool for school staff</i> - how to recognize and treat hypo or hyperglycemia	School nurse

## Back-To-School Strategies

- Approach in spirit of cooperation and work with the school team.
- Be realistic and reasonable!
- Communication is paramount.
- Provide supplies, snacks, quick-acting form of glucose.
- Encourage your child to wear a medical ID jewelry.



## Working through disagreement: ADA Legal Advocacy Strategies

### EDUCATION. Negotiation. Litigation. Legislation.



- **Educate** school personnel about diabetes and legal obligations.
- **Negotiate** using resources such as NDEP school guide, ADA resources, and medical device trainers.
- **Litigate** if necessary – OCR, due process, state court, federal court.
- **Legislate** if all else fails and clear legal barriers exist.



## Education Resources



[www.diabetes.org/safeatschool](http://www.diabetes.org/safeatschool)

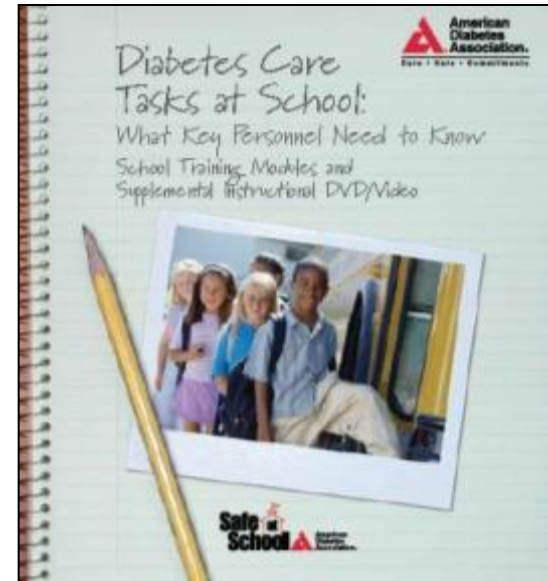
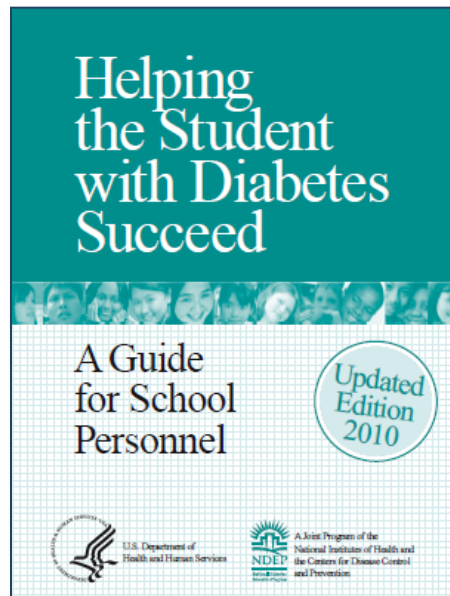
- American Diabetes Association Position Statement: Care of Children with Diabetes in the School and Day Care Setting
- ADA School Discrimination Packet
- Training modules for school personnel
- 1-800-DIABETES

## Education & Training Resources:



ADA Position Statement

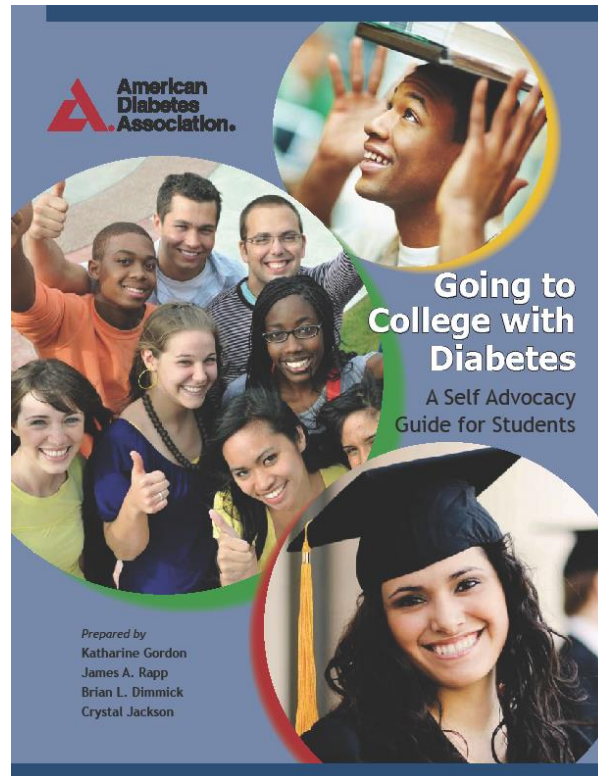
### NDEP School Guide



Diabetes Care Tasks at School

Helping Administer to the Needs of the Student with Diabetes in School

## Post-Secondary Education



[diabetes.org/assets/pdfs/schools/going-to-college-with-diabetes.pdf](https://diabetes.org/assets/pdfs/schools/going-to-college-with-diabetes.pdf)

**We're here to help you!**

**CAUTION: Keep in mind – especially if you are really frustrated:**



**1-800-DIABETES**

- Most disagreements with schools can be resolved as you **educate** and **negotiate** with school staff.
- If you get to the point that you feel litigation or legislation is the only solution, please request assistance from an American Diabetes Association Legal advocate before taking legal action:  
**1-800-DIABETES**

## Next Steps.....

- Read the information on [www.diabetes.org/safeatschool](http://www.diabetes.org/safeatschool) about legal rights and written plans.
- Call us at 1-800-DIABETES if you need help or have questions.
- Work with your child's health care provider to develop or update your child's DMMP.
- Schedule a meeting with the school nurse and/or principal to review DMMP.
- Help identify training resources.
- Initiate the 504/IEP process or update your child's plan by contacting school's 504/IEP coordinator.

## Become a Diabetes Advocate



### Sign up at the American Diabetes Association Action Center

- [diabetes.org/takeaction](https://diabetes.org/takeaction)

Receive updates on advocacy issues in:

- the U.S. Congress
- your state legislature
- Association's Safe at School campaign



 American Diabetes Association®

YOUR RIGHTS. ONE VOICE.™

**THANK YOU!!!**



JDRF  
**typeone**  
nationssummit  
IMPROVING LIVES. CURING TYPE 1 DIABETES.™ T1D

**Safe**  **at**  
**School**

# QUESTIONS?

Contact information:

Barbara Ortiz, [bortiz@diabetes.org](mailto:bortiz@diabetes.org).

Lourdes Andrews, [lourdesandrews3@gmail.com](mailto:lourdesandrews3@gmail.com)