

Dear AIO Parent:

The State of Maine has passed a law that affects all campers who need to have readily available (carry or possess outside of the regular supervision of the camp's health staff) and to self-administer emergency medication while at camp. The law establishes procedures to allow such access to emergency medication by those campers who have been diagnosed to be at risk for a potential medical crisis such as asthmatic attacks or allergic reactions. These medications include, but are not limited to, an asthma inhaler or an epinephrine (epi) pen.

To comply with State Law 2496, all Maine camps are required to have a written policy authorizing campers to have readily available and to self-administer such emergency medications where the following conditions are met.

- A. Any camper who self-administers emergency medication must have the prior written approval of the camper's primary health care provider and the camper's parent or guardian;
- B. The camper's parent or guardian must submit written verification to the camp from the camper's primary health care provider confirming that the camper has the knowledge and the skills to safely self-administer the emergency medication in camp;
- C. The camp health staff must evaluate the camper's technique to ensure proper and effective use of the emergency medication in camp; and
- D. The emergency medication must be readily available to the camper.

If your child needs to, and you want to permit your child to have readily available (carry or possess outside of the regular supervision of the camp's health staff) and to self-administer an inhaler, an epi-pen or other **emergency** medication, you and your child's primary health care provider must complete and return to us the forms provided with this letter. These forms were developed in cooperation with the Maine Youth Camping Association. When your camper arrives at AIO our health staff are required to evaluate the camper's self administration technique to ensure proper and effective use.

These forms are **NOT** necessary for those campers who do not need to have readily available and to self-administer emergency medications. **This includes over the counter or prescribed medicines that are not needed for an emergency.** As always, our health staff will administer and provide regular supervision of prescription medications for campers.

We must have these forms on hand while your child is in attendance at the Acadia Institute of Oceanography. Thank you in advance for helping us comply with this law and please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions.