

Brewster Academy Medication Contract 2008-2009

Student Name: _____

This is a detailed but extremely important document. Please read it carefully. This form must be signed by all parents and students, even if your child is not taking medications.

In order to administer medications to your child, we must have the following:

1. A **Brewster Academy Medication Information Form** completed by the prescribing physician.
2. Medications must be in the original pharmacy bottle and be accurately labeled.
3. An order from the prescribing physician any time a change is made in the prescription. We cannot implement changes or discontinuances until we get an order in writing (fax or mail) or a telephone order from the prescribing physician.

Medication Refills:

Please send all medications directly to the Health Center in the original pharmacy containers.

Do not send prescription medication back with your child or mail medication to your child. To help ensure the safety of our students, prescription medication is not allowed in the dorms (exceptions such as asthma and allergy medication must be approved by the Director). Your child will receive consequences for having medication in his/her possession while on campus.

Please arrange for refills to be obtained and sent to the Health Center on a routine and timely basis. Please don't allow your child to run out of medication. Parents are financially responsible for providing all medications required for their child.

Medication Compliance: Taking prescribed medication is considered part of the student's responsibility while on campus and attendance issues will be dealt with as follows:

1. **ADHD medication:** Your physician indicated on the medication form how often the medication should be taken. **Please** discuss this with the physician and your child. Your child must understand the importance of routinely taking medications as ordered and must be willing to comply. Sometimes this medication is only ordered for class days. Some students need to take it every day. **We are legally responsible for dispensing the medications as ordered.** However, your child has a responsibility to come to the Health Center or medication room to get their meds. **The nursing staff is not responsible for finding students or constantly reminding them to get medications.** If compliance becomes a problem, we will communicate our concerns with the parents. If a student continues to miss taking medications, we will notify his/her Advisor to develop and initiate a plan of support.
2. **Antidepressants, Anti-seizure medicine, and other medication essential to emotional or physical stability:** Medications that ensure safety and mental health must be taken every dose every day as prescribed by the physician. Your child must come to the Health Center or med room daily for all prescribed doses. Our nurses will communicate with parents and with the Dean of Students regarding medication compliance issues. Persistent problems with medication compliance may lead to a review of the student's status at Brewster and may, at the recommendation of the Counseling Team, lead to separation from the school. *Parents are strongly encouraged to purchase tuition refund insurance if they have any doubts as to their child's ability to meet their medication responsibility.*

We encourage you to call the Health Center periodically to check on your child's medication attendance record and to talk to your child to see how he/she is doing.

Vacations and school breaks:

1. We request that you have a sufficient supply of medication at home for school breaks. **We are not able to give controlled medications to the students to take home for vacations.** Parents can come directly to the Health Center to pick up meds.
2. Medication holidays are discouraged during vacation breaks off campus. Your child should continue taking medication at home and away from school as prescribed by the physician.

Day students are not permitted to have prescription medication on campus at any time except in the Health Center. While on campus, all of the above information also pertains to day students.

Federal law prohibits misuse of medication, including distribution to any person other than for whom the medication is prescribed.

Things to discuss with your prescribing physician:

1. Bedtime medications create logistics problems and should be rescheduled to another time if at all possible. Please contact the Health Center to discuss any concerns.
2. We encourage you to consider long-acting medications to increase convenience and compliance for your child. Please discuss this with their physician.
3. A Medication Information form should be given to the prescribing physician to complete.

The better informed a dorm parent, advisor, coach, and others are regarding your child, the better the Brewster Community can care for your child. Information about your child's medication will be shared discreetly with adults in the community on a need-to-know basis as determined by the Health Director.

My child **does** take prescription medication. _____ My child **does not** take prescription medication. _____

I have read this Medication Contract and agree to abide by the terms set forth by the school whether or not my child currently takes medication.

Signature of student

Date

Signature of parent

Date