

Treat Your Child's Asthma in School



Asthma cannot be cured, but it can be controlled. Your child's school can help.

What is an asthma controller?

- An asthma controller is a daily medicine that prevents and keeps asthma symptoms under control. This helps people who have frequent symptoms due to asthma.
- Fluticasone (an inhaled corticosteroid) is a type of asthma controller that we offer for **free** in school.

What is the In-School Asthma Management Program?

- Your child's school wants to help your child gain better control of their asthma. Giving a child a dose of an inhaled corticosteroid, such as fluticasone, in school can help control their asthma.
- The child is given the medicine and directly observed by their school nurse. This is to make sure the child is taking the medicine correctly and at the same time every day.
- We provide fluticasone for **free**. If your child's health care provider chooses a different asthma controller to be given in school, you will need to bring the medicine to school.

Why should my child take an asthma controller in school?

- Better asthma control keeps you and your child out of the emergency room.
- Asthma controllers should be taken twice per day, every day. However, we know that it is easy to forget. We want to work with you and your child's health care provider to make sure your child gets their medicine every day.
- Fluticasone is provided to your child in school for **free**. Since your child will be taking their morning dose in school, the home controller will last longer.

How do I make sure my child gets an asthma controller in school?

- Ask your child's doctor or a school physician to complete an Asthma Medication Administration Form (MAF) and make sure the Controller Medications for In-School Administration section is filled out.

More Information and Other Asthma Management Programs

Medication Administration Forms

- MAFs should be completed by students' health care providers before or at the beginning of every school year.
- These forms allow students to receive their quick-relief and controller medications in school.
- Students with an Asthma MAF for school are less likely to be sent to the emergency room.

Open Airways

- Open Airways is an asthma education program for students in grades three to five.
- Your child will learn the basics about asthma, the warning signs, how to manage symptoms, how to talk to adults about their asthma, how to identify and control triggers, and how to understand their medicine.

Asthma Case Management Program

- This program is currently based in community schools. It provides case management to students with asthma.
- Asthma case managers help you set up an asthma management plan for your child.
- Asthma case managers work with you, your child's health care provider or specialist, and school health care providers.



To learn more about our **in-school** asthma programs and the Asthma MAF, visit schools.nyc.gov/asthma.