

# Fullerton School District Student Support Services

## Procedure for Use of Crutches, Wheelchairs, Cast and Assistive Devices on School Property

The Fullerton School District recognizes that occasionally students may need to use assistive devices such as, crutches, wheelchairs, casts, walking boot, etc. (See "School Participation Following Injury/Illness" form) in order to attend school. There is potential risk to a student or others if this equipment is not used properly or if steps are not taken to ensure safe use while on campus. The District will not be responsible for student injuries that occur without a physician's written statement on file.

Parent will provide a School Participation Following Injury/Illness form to the office staff when a student who uses crutches, wheelchair or other assistive devices returns to school. The school nurse will be called to assess the situation if there are questions.

Parent/guardian will provide the following:

1. A completed School Participation Following Injury/Illness form identifying the limitations and duration of use before the student will be allowed to use either crutches, wheelchair, cast or other assistive devices. The statement will also indicate that the student received instructions on how to safely use these devices. (Only students who have submitted such a document shall be permitted in class with these devices). Otherwise student will be given a work packet to complete at home or in the school office temporarily.
2. The School Participation Following Injury/Illness form will include the anticipated length of time excused from P.E., recess, or other physical activities.
3. Parent will supply the physician-approved equipment appropriate in size for the student. Wheelchairs shall have seatbelts and tip bars.
4. When the student's condition changes, the parent will notify the school office staff members.

When the school office staff has received notification that a student must use either crutches, wheelchair, or other assistive devices the following steps will be taken:

1. The office staff will notify the nurse when a student requires assistive devices due to an injury or illness.
2. School staff will ensure that student safety is maintained while such devices are in use. A predetermined route to and from the classroom will be used to minimize any risk from staircase, campus or classroom obstructions if needed. Restroom facilities will be designated to ensure that the location does not pose a risk to the student.
3. Another student will be assigned to assist in carrying student's books, lunch trays and for emergency purposes if needed. Both students will be dismissed five minutes earlier to facilitate getting to the bus on time at the end of the day.
4. Only school staff members are permitted to propel an injured student in a wheelchair, unless the student can self-propel safely. Other students are prohibited from pushing an injured student in a wheelchair.

"School Participation Following Injury/Illness" form attached