

SUN SAFETY!

[Senate Bill 5404 Sun Safety Act](#) was recently signed by the governor and goes into effect immediately. This act will:

1. Allow parent supplied sunscreen
2. Encourage schools to educate students about sun safety
3. Not mandate staff to assist students in applying sunscreen
4. Allow use without a prescription or note from a licensed health care professional if the product is regulated by the United States Food and Drug Administration for over-the-counter use.
5. Place an exception in [RCW 28A.210.260](#) – (school medication administration law) stating “does not apply to topical sunscreen products regulated by the United States Food and Drug Administration for over-the-counter use”
6. Not create civil liability
7. Take effect immediately

Other considerations:

- OSPI will develop a guidance bulletin for SB 5404; however, not until this summer at the earliest.
- Given the number of field trips this time of year and student health and safety, districts should consider developing policy and procedures quickly so students can be protected. These should be in place before proceeding with sunscreen use at school or school sponsored events.
- Allergies to paba (an ingredient in most sunscreen products) are well known. Please plan for this possibility.
- “Spray” sunscreen products may possess a risk to students with asthma, other respiratory conditions or any student if it gets into the eyes.
- This is a short summary and you should read the entire law for a thorough understanding. (<http://lawfilesexxt.leg.wa.gov/biennium/2017-18/Pdf/Bills/Senate%20Passed%20Legislature/5404-S.PL.pdf>)