

**Sample Letter to Parents about the New Peanut Allergy Law
First Notice without Specifics**

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Food allergies are a major problem in this country. They claim over 200 lives and cause over 30,000 emergency room visits each year, nationwide. A new state law was passed this summer to deal with this problem. The new law basically says that schools have to do whatever is needed to protect the lives and safety of students who have a food allergy, especially to peanuts or tree-nuts (almonds, walnuts, etc.). Health and safety have always been top priorities for [SCHOOL], so we are taking this very seriously.

We will now be creating an Individual Health Care Plan (IHCP) and an Emergency Health Care Plan (EHCP) for each student who has a food allergy. These plans will lay out exactly what everyone in the [SCHOOL] community has to do to keep those students safe.

If you have a child in school with an allergy to any food, please make sure to let us know this *as soon as possible*. The school nurse will then contact you to start creating the IHCP and EHCP with you, your child's health care provider, and your child (if appropriate). We will do our best to address your concerns and meet all of your child's needs.

If your child does not have a food allergy, please know that, as soon we can, we will send out some simple guidelines. We trust that you understand how serious this is. Please do everything you can to follow these guidelines. We all want students at [SCHOOL] to be safe.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me any time.

I wish you and your family a safe and healthy school year.

Sincerely,

[PRINCIPAL]