



The “FoodAllergy Smart®” Training Program

I. Founding Principles

Safe@School®Partners, Inc., a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, was founded in September of 2006 with the sole mission of helping schools, camps, and daycares become safer places for children with food allergies. In our assessment, improving educators’ knowledge base and translating that into simple, practical solutions for teachers, administrators, counselors and daycare providers represents an enormous unmet need in the food allergy community. While there are many existing resources for schools about managing food allergies, the majority require a significant investment of time and energy by parents and/or school personnel to have an impact.

With educators’ needs in mind - and in consultation with our medical advisory board - Safe@School®Partners, Inc. developed the FoodAllergySmart®Training Program in accordance with several guiding principles:

1. The information must be targeted and actionable: it is critical to separate the “must know” from the merely “interesting to know” and to provide practical, fact-based approaches for classroom, lunchroom, field trip safety and more.
2. The style and tone are as important as the content. An engaging, approachable, dynamic presenter makes the information easier to absorb and retain. In addition, the tone must reinforce that the purpose is to educate and impart confidence, not to scare.
3. Follow-up increases impact. Having a resource to call on for additional guidance after the initial training increases the likelihood of lasting impact.

II. Proven concept

Safe@Schools® Partners, Inc. has conducted food allergy safety trainings nationwide. The feedback has been consistently and overwhelmingly positive, reinforcing how eager teachers and staff are for guidance:

[W]ithout a doubt, our teachers found the presentation informative, thought provoking, and extremely useful... Many of our staff indicated that they had learned more in that small amount of time . . . than with any other presenter.
-School Head, Gilbert, Arizona

Safe@School’s food allergy training was invaluable to our teachers - full of practical information. We are going to make it part of our annual Back-to-School agenda.
-School Nurse, Wash DC

The [school] nurses gave you rave reviews and indicated they would be making changes to improve their food allergy policies.”
- School Nursing Program Services Specialist, San Diego County Office of Education

[This] was the most informative program I have come across in educating my counselors about the seriousness of food allergies. The staff found the information to the point and very useful. One adult counselor commented that although she felt she knew all of the information, having it presented all together gave her a much better understanding. . . . I look forward to having Safe@School return next summer.
-Camp Director, Bethesda, MD

I want to thank you for the outstanding presentation you gave to our staff. Even though we had worked with children with allergies for many years, there was a lot of information that was new to us. We also appreciated the format – information was presented in a concise, attention holding, and significant way that all the teachers found easily understandable and informative.

-Preschool Director, Alexandria, VA

The message [was] delivered in an accessible way that [was] clear and concise.

-School Head, Wash DC

[All] school nurses[that] attended the presentation commented that they had learned something new....Your program was exactly the kind of information I was hoping that you would provide to our school staff.

- School District Health Coordinator, Chapel Hill, NC

Your presentation materials were superb, and your teaching and facilitation techniques were incredibly effective....Not only did you relay the key information our professionals needed for the learning environments in which they work, you provided them with the necessary opportunities to process the information so they could feel confident in applying it in their day to day professional (and personal) lives. Our professionals were highly complimentary of this session."

-Director of Youth & Teen Programs, Rockville, MD

The Safe@School training was invaluable education to our counselors, helped raise our food allergy awareness, and provided us with simple steps we could take to better ensure the safety of our campers...[T]he session was excellent – educational, interesting, and instructive...We received much positive feedback from teachers and administrators who were grateful for the opportunity to ask questions and better understand food allergies.

-School Director of Auxiliary Programs, Wash DC

III. Inservice Training for Schools, Camps, and Daycares

Safe@School®Partners, Inc. offers an in-service training presentation that covers “everything an educator should know about food allergies™.” Our training provides teachers and staff the information they need in order to confidently “CARE™” for students with life-threatening food allergies. We teach them how to:

- C- Comprehend the 6 basic food allergy medical facts.**
-With just these 6 facts, you can confidently care for any food allergic student.
- A- Avoid the food allergen**
-We cover practical techniques on how to manage the classroom, lunchroom, field trips and more.
- R- Recognize an allergic reaction**
-Did you know that life-threatening allergic reactions can present with NO skin symptoms whatsoever? Or that a stomachache is a common symptom? Or that anaphylaxis can be confused with a severe asthma attack? We review all the potential symptoms, some of which may be surprising.
- E- Enact Emergency protocol**
-We provide hands-on practice on how to administer an epinephrine auto-injector and exactly what you need to say when calling 911.

The training lasts approximately 60-90 minutes. Cost is as follows:

Local Seminars (Washington, DC Metro Area)	\$250
Out-of-Town Seminars (U.S. outside DC Metro Area)	\$325-495 (depending on travel time required) plus out-of-pocket travel expenses