

# The Update

August 2023



## Sarah's Law for Seizure Safe Schools

As part of Ohio's 6198 page budget package for the 135th General Assembly, Sarah's Law for Seizure Safe Schools was signed into law early Tuesday morning July 3, 2023.

"Seconds count and information is critical when someone is in medical distress. By enacting 'Sarah's Law' as part of the budget, teachers will have individualized information on students who have conditions that lead to seizures and how they can best be helped until medical professionals arrive," said Governor Mike DeWine.

Sarah's Law now requires:

- School nurse(s) or other school employees to work with a student's guardians to create an individualized seizure action plan for each student who has an active seizure disorder diagnosis.
- School nurse(s) or other school employees will notify school employees and volunteers who regularly interact with the student, is responsible for the direct supervision of the student, and those responsible for transportation of the student to and from school, in writing regarding the existence and content of each seizure action plan.
- School nurse(s) or other school employees will coordinate seizure first aid at the school and ensure that all staff who interact with students with epilepsy are trained in the care of students with seizure disorders.
- The seizure action plan must be renewed each year and must be kept in the office of the school nurse or school administrator.
- School districts or governing authority of a chartered nonpublic school must designate at least one employee at each school building, aside from the school nurse, to be trained in the implementation of seizure action plans every two years. They must also arrange for the training of the employees. This can be coordinated with Epilepsy Alliance Ohio or other similar organizations as determined by the Department of Education.
- Board of education or governing authority shall require each person it employs as administrator, guidance counselor, teacher, or bus driver to complete a minimum of one hour of self-study training or in person training on seizure disorders no later than 24 months after the effective date of this section. New hires would have within 90 days of employment.

"No parent should ever have to lose a child to epilepsy; this law is truly life changing for the children of Ohio," said Sharon DeVore, Sarah's mom. "Sarah was such an inspiration to us all. It is our family's hope that the passage of Sarah's Law for seizure safe schools will give school personnel a better understanding of epilepsy, and help children maintain their dignity after a seizure. It also gives parents a sense of comfort knowing their child is with someone who is trained to assist them, which was a fear we had sending Sarah to school.



**MIKE DEWINE**  
GOVERNOR OF OHIO



Click [here](#) for the text from pages 1209-1214.

# Living with Epilepsy Conference



The Epilepsy Alliance Ohio  
along with the OhioHealth Presents:  
Living with Epilepsy Conference



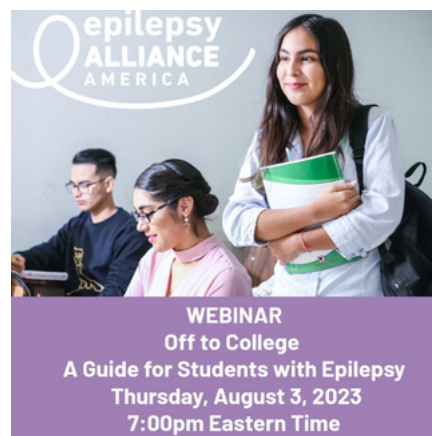
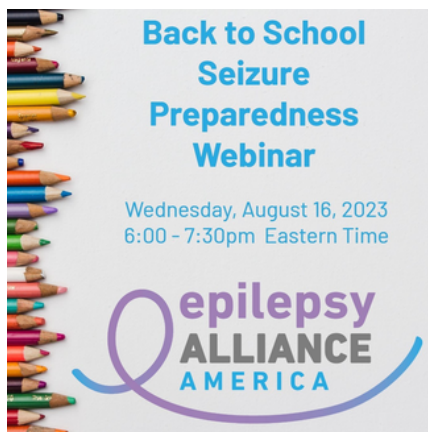
**Saturday, November 4, 2023 | 8 AM to 4 PM**  
**OhioHealth David P. Blom Administrative Campus**

Conference for people with epilepsy, their family and friends and professionals in the field of neurology.

Wide Range of Topics by many experts!  
More Information will be coming as the date approaches! Hope to see you there!

**Are you Seizure-Prepared for the new school year? Here are TWO webinars to help you get ready. The Back to School webinar is geared to families with kids in grammar and high school. The Off to College webinar is targeted for families facing the transition from childhood to adulthood.**

**Please see the links below for information and to register:**



## Save the Dates

September 2 - Frog Legs 5K Run/Walk  
September 29 - October 1 - Camp Dream Catcher  
November 4 - Living with Epilepsy Conference

## Mission Statement:

Epilepsy Alliance Ohio is dedicated to supporting those in our communities impacted by epilepsy by confronting the spectrum of challenges created by seizures.

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