

POLICY  
RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

HEALTH POLICY  
USE OF LATEX GLOVES OR PRODUCTS

**Purpose**

To promote the health and well-being of students and employees.

**Policy**

In accordance with [RI Gen. Laws §23-73-1 et seq.](#) and Rhode Island Department of Health regulations, the RI School for the Deaf cafeteria or other food service establishments shall utilize disposable gloves, whether sterile or non-sterile.

RISDeaf is a latex-free school, therefore all disposable gloves used shall be **latex-free**.

The Director shall post a [warning notice](#) in any school facility, such as the Health Room or Gym, etc., if latex gloves (or other latex products) are utilized for any reason (such as for a science experiment or celebration). The notice shall be posted in English, Spanish, and other languages deemed appropriate by the Director and shall be printed in letters that are at least 3/8th of an inch high.

The notice shall alert students, employees and the public

- (1) that natural rubber latex gloves or (balloons, another product, etc.) are being used,
- (2) that exposure to latex may result in the development of an allergy,
- (3) that allergic reactions to natural rubber latex can cause skin rash, hives, nasal and eye irritation, asthma, and shock; and
- (4) that persons who experience allergic reaction symptoms, should contact their health care provider.

**Reference**

[RI Gen. Laws § 23-73-1 et. seq.](#)

[Rhode Island Department of Health Regulations Pertaining to the Use of Latex Gloves Model Notice](#)

Approved 6/5/12