

School Nursing Services

Children's Hospital Colorado provides comprehensive school health nursing services on a contractual basis to public school districts, charter schools, independent schools, early childhood, and childcare centers, and before- and after-school programs and camps. The program provides support through consultation, referral information and in-service education and training offered to school and childcare professionals throughout the state. The program strives to support and facilitate the successful transition of children with complex health needs into the school and community environment and to promote partnerships between Children's Hospital Colorado, the educational system, families, and community programs. School nurse consultative services may be provided in-person or through virtual care (remotely).

Our school nurse consultants have a minimum of a bachelor's degree and are eligible for or are holding Colorado Department of Education licensure, as appropriate.

Public & Charter School Clients

Standard Services Provided:

1. Health consultation for students with identified health needs requiring modifications or accommodations in the school setting or during school-sponsored events and activities.
2. Obtain and interpret student health data, as deemed necessary, for child find/special education assessments and 504 accommodation plans.
3. Participate as the health expert on the response to intervention (RTI), special education and 504 teams by mitigating health-related obstacles to learning.
4. Develop, train implement and evaluate Individual Health Care Plans and/or Emergency Action Plans and services for students with chronic or potentially emergent health care needs, as determined by the school nurse consultant.
5. Design response plans to assist all students with special needs in emergencies.
6. Develop, train, supervise and perform nursing procedures, including medication administration and special health procedures related to specific health care services. Ensure safe delegation of various duties through training and supervision to unlicensed assistive personnel.
7. Assure provision of first aid and provide triage for physical, oral, and mental health issues.
8. Assist school with implementation of a health screening program and facilitate follow-up care needs.
9. Assure student health information is protected in accordance with FERPA and HIPAA.
10. Provide education and serve as a resource regarding child protection issues.
11. Promote and monitor immunizations, institute appropriate disease control measures, assist in the development of policy and provide recommendations to support public health law and educate about infectious and nuisance diseases.

12. Align school health programs with national and state standards and evidence-base.
13. Practice and evaluate the provision of school health services using outcomes-based measurements and submit annual reports to state and local boards.
14. Consult and train regarding school health office management, such as the use and procurement of health supplies, monitoring of school health regulatory agencies.
15. Assess and consult on school health policy development regarding promotion of healthy behaviors and prevention of child and adolescent morbidity/mortality, environmental hazards, student safety, disaster planning and crisis response teams.
16. Provide on-call nurse consultant services Monday through Friday during the hours school is in session.
17. Serve as a liaison between student, school, parent and community healthcare providers and organizations.
18. Provide health-related case management services and assist families in accessing resources.

Additional Services Provided:

1. Connection to Children's Hospital Colorado programs and resources.
2. Access to Children's medical specialists for school-level town halls for staff and/or parents.
3. Early access to school health affinity programs led by Children's (i.e. Just-in-Time Schools ECHO learning series, conferences, and events).
4. Provision of monthly themed content (articles and a related photo) that schools can use in their communications (i.e., newsletter, email, etc.).
5. Enhanced partnership, advisement, and translation of school operations during emergency public health orders.