

School Nurse Roles include*

- AED/CPR staff training
- Asthma intervention & management
- Assessment of acute illness
- Assessment of chronically ill students at school
- Case management of chronically ill students
- Concussion assessment
- Child abuse reporting
- Communicable disease containment
- Counseling
- Dental screening
- Diabetes screening (Acanthosis)
- Disaster preparedness planning & response
- Emergency care
- Emergency medication administration and training (epinephrine auto injectors, glucagon, naloxone)
- First aid
- Health care plan alignment (emergency & existing health conditions) with medical plan.
- Health education
- Health expert/liaison with physicians/NP/PA
- Health record maintenance
- Hearing screening
- Home visits
- Homelessness resource support (food security, clothing, personal care items)
- HIV/AIDS/sexual health instruction
- Immunizations/vaccines administration

School Nurse Roles include*

- LEA Medi-Cal Billing Option Program & Medi-Cal Administrative Activities federal reimbursement
- Medication administration
- Mental health crisis intervention
- Obesity prevention groups
- Referral follow-up
- Response to intervention (RtI), Student Study Team (SST), individualized education program (IEP) team member.
- School safety/risk assessment
- Social emotional health promotion
- Special education health care
- Specialized physical health care procedures
- Sports physicals
- Substance abuse assessment
- Suicide intervention
- Staff In-services
- Student health counseling
- Supervision of health services (RN's, LVN's and trained health care aides)
- Vision and color deficiency screening
- Wellness committee member

*Dependent on district/school/coe assignment

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT
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California School Nurses Organization
Optimize Student Health & Enhance Learning

The Financial Ca\$e For \$chool Nur\$e\$



*“School nursing is one of the most
(cost) effective ways to keep
children healthy and in school and
to prevent chronic absenteeism.”*

*-American Academy of Pediatrics,
2016*

In California Schools,

Students do not leave their health care needs at the school's front door.

- Asthma is a leading chronic illness among children and adolescents. On average, in a classroom of 30 children, about 3 are likely to have asthma (CDC, 2015). 15.2% of all children in California have asthma. 7.7/10,000 5-17 year olds with asthma have been hospitalized (Kidsdata.org 2015). An average asthma emergency department hospital visit costs \$1,502 (Wang et al., 2015) **School nurses provide early asthma intervention for students while at school, thereby averting costly emergency department visits during school time.**
- 15% (1,165) of 7th, 20% (2,990) of 9th and 31% (4,158) of 11th graders reported missing school 3 or more days in the past 12 months. Of those students, 41% of 7th, 44% of 9th and 48% of 11th graders attributed the absence to illness. (CHKS, 2013-2015). **School nurses case-manage chronically ill students to increase school attendance/seat time. Each day of absenteeism on average costs the district \$50/student; over \$2.7 million annually.**
- 1 in every 500 children has Type I Diabetes and 1 in every 2,000 children has Type II Diabetes (Pediatric Academy Studies, 2014). While at school, children with diabetes required blood glucose testing, carbohydrate counting and insulin administration. **While unlicensed trained personnel may provide these services at school, a school nurse is needed to train, supervise and ensure unlicensed persons can safely and appropriately deliver these services to students.**

Healthy Students Learn Better

Just the Facts.....

- 2.1 million K, 2, 5, 8 and special education students were screened for vision problems. Approximately 9% of these students were referred to an eye care practitioner for additional vision services. School nurses supplied VSP certificates to students that need additional eye care services and do not have vision services insurance.
- 227,000 male 1st grade students were screened for color deficiency.
- 2.1 million K, 2, 5, 8 and special education students were screened for hearing.
- There are over 610,000 special education students (CDE, 2016), many of whom need specialized health care procedures that may include:
 - Gastrostomy tube feedings
 - Oxygen administration/pulse oximeter
 - Ventilators
 - Tracheal suctioning/tracheal care
 - Catheterizations
 - Ostomy care
 - PIC (central IV) line flushing
 - Emergency response plans for special needs
 - Medication administration (routine & emergency)
 - Care coordination with Primary Care Provider

Cost-savings to districts while meeting Federal and State laws to deliver required direct health care services.

School Nurse Cost Effectiveness

A 2014 study of the Massachusetts Essential School Health (ESHS) Services program compares money spent placing full-time nurses in schools with money the program saved by reducing doctors' visits, keeping parents at work, and keeping teachers delivering instruction instead of health services. The study suggests the benefits of school nursing services well exceed the cost for other services. School nursing services cost \$79 million whereas it cost \$20 million to pay for health care external to school, \$28.1 million in lost parent productivity (missed work), and \$129 million in lost teacher productivity to perform health services instead of instructional time. (JAMA Pediatrics, 2014).

American Academy of Pediatrics Recommends A Full-Time School Nurse in Every School. (AAP, 2016)

California School Nurses

- ✚ Are registered nurses;
- ✚ Minimally possesses a Baccalaureate degree, however many are nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, have public health nurse certificates, Masters and/or Doctoral degrees;
- ✚ Are credentialed by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing; and
- ✚ Have additional post-graduate education related to school health issues, specialized training in population health issues and advanced nursing knowledge and intervention skills.