



Position Statement HEALTH OFFICE

STATEMENT

The California School Nurses Organization affirms that the health office should meet the following minimal standards to provide optimum health services to all students, which should include, but are not limited to:

- a privately screened area or room to provide specialized physical health care procedures such as tracheostomy, suctioning, gastrostomy tube feeding, urinary catheterization, and other health/medical services as required, to allow all students optimal educational access;
- an area for confidential communication;
- a locked cabinet and refrigerator with freezer for medications, biologicals, and ice;
- a sink with clean running water;
- accessible handicap bathroom facilities;
- an area for isolation of ill students (including cots or an examination table);
- access to a telephone with voice mail;
- access to technology (i.e. computer, internet access, printer, copier, fax);
- an area to provide assessments, such as vision and hearing assessments, with a minimum of 10 feet in length; and
- appropriate furniture (including a desk, chair, book case, and locked file cabinets for confidential information).

The health office should have sufficient emergency, first aid, and other supplies and equipment for health assessments, health screenings, and specialized health care procedures, in order for the credentialed school nurse to provide diligent care. Furthermore, the health office must be in an area where students can be supervised at all times.

RATIONALE

In order for the credentialed school nurse to provide appropriate health services to all students, the health office must meet minimal health and safety standards. Students should receive services in a clean and safe environment that will address their individual health needs in a caring, confidential, and private manner.

REFERENCES

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