



COLORADO
Department of Education

ESSENTIAL SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES

This Essential School Health Services document describes school health activities school nurses can support. The school nurse is an individual licensed to practice as a Registered Nurse (RN) in Colorado who also holds a [CDE Special Service Provider License with an endorsement as a school nurse](#). Personnel without nursing licensure require training, delegation and supervision from the school nurse to perform delegated nursing tasks in schools.

- These services are organized using the National Association of School Nurses' [School Nursing Practice Framework](#) principles.
- Listed for each service are the federal and/or state statute that governs, state or federal rules and regulations that interpret and enforce, and/or best practice references.

See Tutorial: [Finding Rules and Statutes](#)

Framework Principle: Standards of Practice	Governed by Federal or State Statute	Interpreted/Enforced by Rules/Regulation	Best Practice Reference
*Provide for the administration of medication and nursing procedures.	Nurse Practice Act CRS 12-255-101 Policy for student possession and administration of prescription medication - rules - definitions. CRS 22-1-119.3 Asthma, food allergy, and anaphylaxis health management CRS 22-1-119.5 Additional Statutes & Rules	CDE Rules for the Administration of Medication , 1 CCR 301-68	Framework CDE Medication Administration Guidelines

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Framework Principle: Standards of Practice	Governed by Federal or State Statute	Interpreted/Enforced by Rules/Regulation	Best Practice Reference
*Ensure safe delegation and training to unlicensed assistive personnel by adhering to the provisions of the Colorado Nurse Practice Act, Board of Nursing and Colorado Department of Education Rules and Regulations	Nurse Practice Act CRS 12-255-101	BON Rules and Regulations Regarding the Delegation of Nursing Tasks 3 CCR 716-1.13 CDE Rules for the Administration of Medication 1 CCR 301-68 CDE Rules for Individualized Medical Seizure Action Plans 1 CCR 301-112	Framework CDE Guidance for Medical Seizure Safe Schools, Action Plans, and Training NASN School Nurse Evidence-Based Clinical Guidelines
*Align school health programs with National and State standards and evidence based practice.		CDE Rules for Administration of ECEA 1 CCR 301-8	Framework NASN Professional Practice Documents

Framework Principle: Care Coordination	Governed by Federal or State Statute	Interpreted/Enforced by Rules/Regulation	Best Practice Reference
*Identify students with health needs requiring modifications or accommodations in the school setting or during school sponsored events and activities	IDEA Child Find 20 USC 1412(a)(3)		Framework

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Framework Principle: Care Coordination	Governed by Federal or State Statute	Interpreted/Enforced by Rules/Regulation	Best Practice Reference
*Obtain and interpret student health data, as deemed necessary, for child find/special education assessments and 504 accommodation plans	Exceptional Children's Educational Act CRS 22-20-101 — 22-20-120	CDE Rules for Administration of ECEA 1 CCR 301-8	Framework
*Develop and implement individualized care/action plans for students with health care needs (Colorado Laws specific to Asthma, Severe Allergy, and Seizure Disorder)	Asthma, food allergy, and anaphylaxis health management CRS 22-1-119.5 Seizure Safe Schools CRS 22-1-132	USDE Rules for Implementation of Section 504 34 CFR 104 CDE Rules for the Administration of Medication 1 CCR 301-68 CDE Rules for Individualized Medical Seizure Action Plans 1 CCR 301-112	Framework CDE Guidance for Medical Seizure Safe Schools, Action Plans, and Training School Nursing Evidence-Based Clinical Practice Guideline: Students with Allergies and Risk for Anaphylaxis
*Participate as the health expert on the response to intervention (RTI), special education and 504 multidisciplinary teams by mitigating health related obstacles to learning	Exceptional Children's Educational Act CRS 22-20-101 — 22-20-120	CDE Rules for Administration of ECEA 1 CCR 301-8	Framework
*Ensure the provision of first aid and provide triage for physical, oral, and mental health issues		CDPHE Rules and Regulations Governing Schools 6 CCR 1010-6.13	Colorado Emergency Guidelines for Schools Stock EpiPen Guidelines

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Framework Principle: Care Coordination	Governed by Federal or State Statute	Interpreted/Enforced by Rules/Regulation	Best Practice Reference
*Provide education and serve as a resource regarding child protection issues	Child Protection Act CRS 19-3-301 — 19-3-318 Board of Ed-Specific Duties CRS 22-32-109(z)	CDHS Rules, Child Welfare, Child Care Facilities 12 CCR 2509-1-- CCR 2509-10	Framework
*Design response plans to assist all students with special needs in emergencies		USDE Rules for Implementation of Section 504 34 CFR 104	Framework
Assess student health risk behaviors and protective factors			Framework
Communicate and coordinate with other school programs, (e.g. Exceptional Student Services, Multi Tiered System of Supports, Response to Intervention, Behavioral Health, etc.)			Framework WSCC Model
Serve as a liaison between student, school, parent, and community health care providers and organizations			Framework WSCC Model
Provide health related case management services and assist families in accessing resources			Framework WSCC Model

Framework Principle: Leadership	Governed by Federal or State Statute	Interpreted/Enforced by Rules/Regulation	Best Practice Reference
*Assist in the development of policy and provide recommendations to support educational, health, and public health law	CDPHE Powers and Duties CRS 25-1.5-101(1)(a),(h), (k), and (l)	CDPHE Rules and Regulations Governing Schools 6 CCR 1010-6	Framework
Participate in the development of emergency plans for natural, man-made and hazardous materials disasters in school and community	Safe Schools Plan School Response Framework CRS 22-32-109.1		Framework

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Framework Principle: Leadership	Governed by Federal or State Statute	Interpreted/Enforced by Rules/Regulation	Best Practice Reference
Assist in the development of policy to provide a safe and healthy school environment.	Safe Schools Plan School Response Framework CRS 22-32-109.1		Framework
Coordinate school health or medical advisory councils			Framework

Framework Principle: Quality Improvement	Governed by Federal or State Statute	Interpreted/Enforced by Rules/Regulation	Best Practice Reference
*Assure student health information is protected in accordance with Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act	Student Data Transparency and Security CRS 22-16-101 — 22-16-112 Family Educational and Privacy Rights 20 U.S.C.1232g Health Information Portability and Accountability Act 42 U.S.C. § 1320d et seq.	Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act 34 CFR Part 99 Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act 45 CFR Parts 160, 162, and 164	CDE School Nursing and Health Website Documentation and Confidentiality Resources
*Submit annual reports to state and local boards Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) and Colorado Department of Education (CDE)	Asthma, food allergy, and anaphylaxis health management CRS 22-1-119.5	CDPHE Rules Infant Immunization Program and Immunization of Students Attending School 6 CCR 1009-2 CDE Rules for the Administration of Medication , 1 CCR 301-68	Framework CDE School Health Report
Evaluate the provision of school health services using outcomes based measurements			Framework

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Framework Principle: Quality Improvement	Governed by Federal or State Statute	Interpreted/Enforced by Rules/Regulation	Best Practice Reference
Collect accurate data to improve and support evidence-based school health services			Framework CDE School Health Report

Framework Principle: Community/Public Health	Governed by Federal or State Statute	Interpreted/Enforced by Rules/Regulation	Best Practice Reference
*Ensure safe and sanitary health office facility, environment and resources	CDPHE Powers and Duties CRS 25-1.5-101— 25-1.5-102	CDPHE Rules and Regulations Governing Schools 6 CCR 1010-6.13	Rules and Regulations Governing Schools Guidance
*Promote and monitor immunizations	School Entry Immunization CRS 25-4-901 — 25-4-912 Infant Immunization Act CRS 25-4-1701 — 25-4-1711	Rules Pertaining to ... Immunization of Students Attending School 6 CCR 1009-2	Framework
*Implement health screening programs and facilitate referral and follow-up care	School Children-Sight and Hearing Tests CRS 22-1-116		Vision Screening Guidelines Hearing Screening Guidelines
*Institute appropriate disease control measures		Epidemic and Communicable Disease Control 6 CCR 1009-1	Infectious Disease in Child Care and Schools Guidelines
*Participate in development of a school wellness plan based on federal requirements	Local Wellness Plans CRS 22-32-136	Local School Wellness Policy 7 CFR part 210.31	Framework WSCC Model

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Framework Principle: Community/Public Health	Governed by Federal or State Statute	Interpreted/Enforced by Rules/Regulation	Best Practice Reference
*Requirement for First Aid and CPR Certified Staff for School-Sponsored Events and CPR/AED training for public school athletic coaches.	Certification of public school athletic coaches in CPR/AED CRS 22-1-125.5	CDPHE Rules and Regulations Governing Schools 6 CCR 1010-6	Framework
Monitor student accident/incident reports			Framework
Provide screening, intervention, and referral for identified student health concerns			Framework
Utilize surveillance and screening data to implement Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child programs and initiatives.			WSCC Model
Educate about infectious and nuisance diseases			Infectious Disease in Child Care and Schools Guidelines
Communicate health and wellness issues to school and community			Framework WSCC Model
Initiate prevention programs based on assessment of high-risk behaviors	Claire Davis School Safety Act CRS 24-10-106.3 Policy for employee and agent possession and administration of opiate antagonists - definitions CRS 22-1-119.1		Framework WSCC Model CSSRC Claire Davis School Safety Act Resource
Provide interventions to promote healthy behaviors and prevent child and adolescent morbidity/mortality			Framework WSCC Model

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Framework Principle: Community/Public Health	Governed by Federal or State Statute	Interpreted/Enforced by Rules/Regulation	Best Practice Reference
Participate in comprehensive health education programs and school health policy development	Colorado Comprehensive Health Education Act 22-25-101 — 22-25-110 Comprehensive Human Sexuality Education CRS 22-1-128		Framework WSCC Model
Assess, provide recommendations, and collaborate to address environmental hazards and safety issues in the school setting.	Colorado Air Pollution Prevention and Control Act CRS 25-7-101 — 25-7-142	CDPHE Rules and Regulations Governing Schools 6 CCR 1010-6	Framework WSCC Model NASN Environmental Health Position Statement
Participate in crisis-response teams			Framework NASN Emergency Preparedness Position Statement

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