

## 2019 School Health Update August 2019

- 1) Please read the school health updates and share with your colleagues
  - a. Previous updates and PowerPoint presentations are on the school health website
    - i. [www.health.state.pa.us/schoolhealth](http://www.health.state.pa.us/schoolhealth)
    - ii. We strive to make the website a valuable resource
    - iii. Answers to most questions can be found on the website
  - b. School Health may not provide legal, personnel/contractual issues or financial advice
- 2) We would like to reiterate this previous notification: Do not send Immunization or Communicable disease questions to the Division of School Health. These issues are under a separate Debutate, Bureau and Division. These questions must be sent to your state health center, your local county health department, your immunization consultant or the Division of Immunizations (717-787-5681)
  - a. School immunization information can be found at <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/programs/immunizations/Pages/School.aspx>
  - b. Please refer to the February 2019 School Health update for contact information for other offices/bureaus/divisions
- 3) Keep the Division of School Health abreast of new and discontinued staff email addresses and changes to school email extensions
  - a. Provide your name, school name and what county the school is located in
- 4) CPR/AED training for school personnel and students falls under the responsibility of the Pa Dept of Education
  - a. <https://www.education.pa.gov/Teachers%20-%20Administrators/School%20Services/Pages/AED-Program.aspx>
  - b. Public School Code: Article XII. Certification of Teachers Section 1205.4. CPR Instruction.--(a) School entities shall be required to offer a cardiopulmonary resuscitation training (CPR) class on school premises at least once every three years. The course shall be offered as an option to all employees of the school entity
  - c. Assure that two (2) or more persons assigned to the location where the automatic external defibrillator will be primarily housed are trained
  - d. A school entity shall have at each school one person certified in the use of cardiopulmonary resuscitation during regular school hours when school is in session and students are present
  - e. Act 7 of 2019, formerly Senate Bill 115, which will require the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) to create potentially life-saving curriculum for cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) for students
    - i. <https://www.media.pa.gov/Pages/Education-Details.aspx?newsid=663>
  - f. CPR requirements for Certified School Nurses
    - i. <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/school/Pages/AED-CPR.aspx>
- 5) TB testing for school employees – shortage of skin testing antigen
  - a. <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/school/Pages/Tuberculosis.aspx>
  - b. It is advised that school staff who need TB testing be given the interferon-gamma release assay (IGRA) blood test in lieu of the skin test until the shortage is over
  - c. The updated “School Personnel Health Record” form now includes the results for IGRA
- 6) Bloodborne Pathogen (BBP) information for schools can be found on the school health Environmental Issues web page
  - a. <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/school/Pages/Environmental.aspx> this page has been updated with the following information on BBP
    - i. <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2004-101/default.html> (Safety Checklist Program for Schools)
    - ii. <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/bbp/occupations.html>
- 7) Dental Hygiene Services Program (DHSP)
  - a. A School Dentist is required for schools that have a DHSP
  - b. The school dentist is responsible for the school’s dental issues and must review and approve the DHSP plan prior to its submission in April and at a minimum every three years or when amended for a Public Health Dental Hygiene Practitioners (PHDHP) and annually for a Certified School Dental Hygienist (CSDH)
  - c. Dental Hygienists in a DHSP MUST be certified by Pa Department of Education (PDE)
    - i. The Professional Personnel Identification Number (PPID) is now a mandatory field for Dental Hygienists in a DHSP
    - ii. The Dental Hygiene authorization plan and the SHARRS report can not be submitted without providing the PPID

- iii. The PPID is required for PHDHP even when they are emergency certified
  - iv. The PPID# can be obtained from the PDE in PERMS <https://www.perms.pa.gov/screens/wfpublicaccess.aspx> if you have the person's date of birth and social security number.
  - v. A person's certification can be verified as active (but you cannot obtain the number) from the PDE in TIMS <http://www.teachercertification.pa.gov/Screens/wfSearchEducators.aspx>
- 8) Cyber Charter Schools are to meet the same screening and exams requirements as school districts, brick and mortar charter schools and full-time Career and Technical Centers (CTC)
- a. Some suggestions to help meet the requirements are to schedule screenings during times those students are on campus or attending events such as enrollment, standardized testing, if attends any on campus classes, assemblies, sporting events, clubs, intramural activities...
- 9) Medical Marijuana. The Division of School Health may not provide guidance on the use of medical marijuana or CBD oil in schools
- a. This must be up to the school to decide whether to allow its use or not. This would be up to the school's discretion to allow its use or not in consultation with the school solicitor and administration. If the school permits its usage then a policy and procedure should be developed as to how the use of these substances will be managed
- 10) School Health Annual Reimbursement Request System (**SHARRS**) <https://apps.health.pa.gov/SHARRS/Login.aspx>
- a. The SHARRS report must be **submitted** by the **Superintendent/CEO** no later than **September 30** of each year
  - b. Schools that do not submit the report timely forfeit their reimbursement per the Public School Code of 1949 (the law)
    - a. 2505.1 (b) ...Reimbursement on account of health services rendered by a school district or joint school board may be withheld by the Secretary of Health unless the actual expenditures for the health services are certified to the Secretary of Health within three months after the end of the school year...
  - c. When submitting the SHARRS report the license numbers, PPID #, expiration dates for Nurses, Dental Hygienists, Doctors and Dentists must be correct. When we receive reports with inaccurate personnel information the report will be disapproved and returned to the school for correction. This prolongs the processing time thus prolonging the receipt of the reimbursement
  - d. When a Superintendent/CEO (as well as any user) is no longer employed at a school their user account **must be inactivated by the User Account Manager (UAM) and the new person must set up a User Account**. See Chapters 1-3 of the instructions for guidance
    - i. The new superintendent or other staff may not use the old superintendent's account to submit the report
  - e. SHARRS opens for data entry on **May 15 and closes on September 30**
    - ii. If applicable to a school - the **Dental Hygiene Services Program (DHSP) Authorization Plan** must be entered and submitted between **April 1 and April 30** prior to the opening of SHARRS or the school will revert to a mandated dental program; which cannot be changed afterwards due to SHARRS programming requirements
      - 1. See the February 2019 school health update for specific details on the requirements for a DHSP <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/school/Pages/Updates.aspx>
      - 2. A school is still required to have a school dentist when they are an approved DHSP
  - f. There is a link to the SHARRS "Instruction Manual" on every page for further guidance
    - a. The instruction manual and the SHARRS hard copy worksheet were updated in August 2019
  - g. Timely submission is essential as the reports are used to gather statistical data for State and Federal government reports, grant applications, educational and research studies
  - h. It is strongly recommended that a Certified School Nurse (CSN) review the SHARRS report before submission.
    - iii. Erroneous data entry causes inaccurate statistics
    - iv. Non-medical personnel may not recognize medical data errors
      - 1. For example, several schools reported giving hundreds or thousands of doses of Narcan. If a CSN had reviewed the report this statistical error may have been avoided
- 11) Nursing Services Staffing:
- a. **Certified School Nurse (CSN)** is the only licensed registered nurse who may manage and direct the care of a caseload of students in Pennsylvania. The CSN is at all times responsible for the caseload while students are under school jurisdiction. There are no set number of hours/days that the CSN is required to be physically present in his/her assigned (public/private) buildings but must rotate through the buildings on a "regular" basis. "Regular" depends on the health needs of the students in that building. The CSN must spend enough time in each building to be totally familiar with the students' health issues, treatments, medications, maintaining health records, etc. The CSN is also responsible for

coordinating the care of the student caseload in such matters as, developing plans of care, communicating with parents regarding concerns, being part of teams (such as Student Assistance, IEP, 504s), etc. Schools may hire supplemental nurses (LPNs or non-certified RNs) to assist the CSN. The supplemental staff may provide daily care of students and assist with completion of mandated screens and exams, as their licensure allows. The CSN needs to be “on duty” and be physically present or available by phone to provide the supplemental staff nurse with direction/assistance whenever needed.

- i. Only a CSN may substitute for another CSN
  - ii. **Section 1401.** Definitions - As used in this article-- (8) "School nurse" means a licensed registered nurse properly certificated by the Superintendent of Public Instruction as a school nurse who is employed by a school district ...
  - iii. **Section 1402.** Health Services - (a.1) Every child of school age shall be provided with school nurse services...
  - iv. **Section 1410.** Employment of School Health Personnel - (a)... all school districts ... shall employ one or more school nurses ...
  - v. **Section 1421.** Powers and Duties of the Secretary of Health and of the Superintendent of Public Instruction; Rules and Regulations - ... Approve certification of school nurses and dental hygienists for employment by a school district or joint school board and administer and direct their services and program: Provided, That the services of school nurses and dental hygienists shall be utilized exclusively in connection with medical and dental examinations and associated health activities
  - vi. **23.34. School nurses** - The duties of school nurses shall be those assigned by the school district or joint school board which are **exclusively connected with medical and dental school health activities**. The technical content of the duties of the nurse shall be those prescribed by the Department of Health
- b. **Supplemental staff nurses (LPNs or non-certified RNs)** may be hired to assist the CSN to provide daily care of students and assist with completion of mandated screens and exams, as their licensure allows
- i. The CSN needs to be “on duty” and be physically present or available by phone to provide the supplemental staff nurse with direction/assistance whenever needed.
  - ii. The **noncertified RN may not carry a caseload assignment** and functions in the school setting under the CSN who serves as the RN’s team leader and case manager
  - iii. If a CSN is absent and a substitute is a supplemental licensed nurse covering the daily needs, the caseload of the absent CSNs’ assignment must be temporarily redistributed so the supplemental nurse has a CSN to report to and receive direction from
  - iv. The non-certified RN lacks the education that provides the concepts, framework, applications and issues unique to school based health care delivery
  - v. An **LPN** may be used in the school but per their licensure **may not function independently**
    1. **21.141. Definitions Practice of practical nursing**—The performance of selected nursing acts in the care of the ill, injured or infirm under the direction of a licensed professional nurse, a licensed physician or a licensed dentist which do not require the specialized skill, judgment and knowledge required in professional nursing. Example: there is no assessment language in the license
- c. Pa Department of Education Certification Staffing Policy Guidelines (CSPGs)
- i. <https://www.education.pa.gov/Educators/Certification/Staffing%20Guidelines/Pages/default.aspx>
  - ii. **CSPG75 Certification Staffing Assignment Dental Hygienist (PK-12)** A dental hygienist must be licensed by the State Dental Council and Examining Board and be certified as a School Dental Hygienist by the Pennsylvania Department of Education
  - iii. **CSPG 80 School Nurse (PK-12)** ... When a school district employs an individual in the job title “school nurse,” this person must be a certified School Nurse whether employed as a professional or temporary professional...
  - iv. **CSPG 95 Principal (Kindergarten-12)** ... Supervision and direction of certified and non-certified staff persons required for school operation exclusive of directing health services controlled by the Nurse Practice Act...
  - v. **CSPG 101 Utilization of Paraprofessional Staff** ... Paraprofessionals serving as health room aides cannot be directed to engage in health-related activities reserved exclusively for licensed professionals and controlled by the Nurse Practice Act, or other medically related laws