SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTERS

A. OAR/ORS

- OAR 851-022-0705 Emergency Health Care
- ORS 433-235- to 280; OAR 333-19-020 to 060 Communicable Disease Control
- ORS 433-267 to 275; OAR 33-19-020 Immunization Compliance Monitoring
- ORS 330.870 Assistance to School Personnel in Administration of Medication in Schools
- ORS 418.740-775 Nursing Assessment and Reporting of Child Abuse
- ORS 851-022-0705 Maintenance of Health Records
- IDEA97; OAR 851-022-0705 Nursing Assessment of Students with Special Health Needs
- OAR 851-022-0705 Coordination with Health Education Programs
- OAR 851-022-0705 Vision, Scoliosis and Auditory Screening
- ORS 336-375 to 410, ORS 336-375-420 Dental Screenings
- OAR 851-022-0705 Assistance with Ill and Injured Students
- OR-OSHA Regulation 29CFR1910.1030 Bloodborne Pathogens

B. Overview

School-Based Health Centers (SBHC) exist to improve access to primary health care, preventative services and mental health care services to school-aged youth.

School Based Health Centers are not part of the Oregon education process; rather, they function under the same rule and law which provides oversight for hospitals, medical clinics and other health care delivery entities. A SBHC does not have access to school records except under specific circumstances, such as direct written parent consent. Schools operate under FERPA rule of confidentiality; SBHCs under HIPAA. SBHCs are usually physically located in the school; access for students is a large part of the benefit provided.

The centers have historically been funded with various combinations of state, local government, school and medical/reimbursement monies. SBHCs are open at least part of the hours during which students attend school; they offer services similar to those which may be found in traditional office-based medical care.
SBHC’s are part of the safety net system in some communities, since they see children who would otherwise not get care (those students who have no health insurance).

Decisions concerning the type and extent of services provided at the SBHC’s are impacted by levels of funding and by community norms and needs. These decisions are generally made by an advisory board formed at the local level. However, in order to be recognized as a state certified School-Based Health Center, communities must meet the minimum operational requirements defined in the Oregon SBHC Standards for Certification developed by the Department of Human Services.

C. Procedures

A SBHC delivers a defined set of core services to children, youth and others, in an identified school space, during regular scheduled times by qualified health care professionals in a collaborative relationship with the local educational and health care community.

Staff Development Needed

Staffing for SBHCs is not done by schools; rather, it is an independent process within the SBHC. Services within the SBHC are conducted onsite by qualified/licensed providers (registered nurse, nurse practitioner, physician, physician assistant, dentist, dental hygienist, licensed social worker, certified chemical dependency counselor, etc.) In contrast, school nurses work for the school. School nurses work to provide students with appropriate referrals to health care providers. This may include referral to the local SBHC.

Role of the School Nurse

SBHCs do not replace school nurse services. In a school with a SBHC, school nurses provide all the school nurse services which are part of the school nurse role in that district, including development of health care plans, participation in IEP & 504 processes, training staff in medication and health care protocols, and acting as the school district on site health liaison. A school nurse may work to provide medical care to a student with a health concern, by accessing local community health care provider services. One of these providers may be the school’s SBHC.
D. Oregon Resources

- Oregon School Based Health Center Network (advocacy group) [www.osbhcn.org](http://www.osbhcn.org)
- Oregon School-Based Health Centers [Oregon SBHC](http://www.oregonsbhc.org)

E. National Resources

- National Association of School Nurses [Position Statement - "The Roles of the School Nurse and School Based Health Centers"](http://www.nasbhc.org)
- National Association of School Based Health Centers website [www.nasbhc.org](http://www.nasbhc.org) (this website is the National Assembly of SBHC)
- Health Resources and Services Administration [School-Based Health Centers](http://www.hrsa.gov)

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