



Oregon Department of Education  
Salam Noor, Deputy Superintendent

# 2016 Nursing Services in Oregon Public Schools



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## Executive Summary

Students are best able to access their education programs when they are healthy. Some students in Oregon arrive at school with health conditions that require nursing support for success. Nursing services available in schools are individualized to meet the variety of medical needs of such students. In 2009, the legislature amended ORS 336.201 to require the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to submit an annual report to the State Board of Education and the interim legislative committees related to education, no later than October 1 of each year, which provides data collected from districts on:

- The availability of Licensed Practical Nurses, Registered Nurses and School Nurses in each school district; and
- The number of medically complex students, medically fragile students and nursing dependent students in each school district.

Table 1 below provides the total number of enrolled students and available nurse.

<b>Table 1: School Nursing Service Available in Oregon Schools</b>				
<b>School Year</b>	<b>Number of Students Enrolled</b>	<b>School Nurse FTE Reported in this Collection</b>	<b>Ratio of Nurses to Students</b>	<b>School Nurse Single Student FTE</b>
<b>2015-2016</b>	576,407	218.72	1:2635	43.55

Oregon law (ORS 336.201) requires districts provide the following levels of nursing services:

- One Registered Nurse or School Nurse for every 225 medically complex students.
- One Registered Nurse or School Nurse for every 125 medically fragile students.
- One Registered Nurse, School Nurse, or Licensed Practical Nurse for each nursing-dependent student

In addition, Oregon law encourages school districts to provide one Registered Nurse or School Nurse for every 750 students by 2020 following the calendar below:

- One Registered Nurse or School Nurse for every 3,500 students by July 1, 2014
- One Registered Nurse or School Nurse for every 2,500 students by July 1, 2016
- One Registered Nurse or School Nurse for every 1,500 students by July 1, 2018
- One Registered Nurse or School Nurse for every 750 students by July 1, 2020

Table 2 below provides the total number of students with health needs.

<b>Table 2: Number of Students with Specific Medical Impairments</b>			
<b>School Year</b>	<b>Number of Medically Complex Students</b>	<b>Number of Medically Fragile Students</b>	<b>Number of Nursing Dependent Students</b>
<b>2015-2016</b>	17,340	3,102	80

# Nursing Services in Oregon Public Schools And Students with Medical Impairments

## Background

Many Oregon students arrive at school with existing health conditions that influence their ability to access and benefit from educational programming. As such, it is vital that student health care needs while at school be addressed. Existing health conditions, such as asthma, diabetes and seizure disorders, are a “fact of life” for many of the students attending Oregon public schools.

This report provides the most accurate data the state has collected on the number of medically fragile and complex students and the number of health care providers (Registered Nurses, School Nurses, and Licensed Practical Nurses) working in Oregon schools. Subsequently, this report identifies the current School Nurse to Student ratios for Oregon.

## Nursing Services Provided in Oregon Public Schools

In general, there are three ways nursing services are provided in Oregon schools.

1. Through Licensed School Nurses. As defined by ORS 342.455, a “School Nurse” means a Registered Nurse who is certified by the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC) as qualified to conduct and coordinate the health service programs of a school. The TSPC issues a Professional School Nurse certificate to Registered Nurses who meet these additional requirements promulgated by the Oregon State Board of Nursing. (ORS 342.475) However, there is no state requirement that school districts employ only TSPC certified School Nurses (ORS 342.495) to provide health services to students.
2. Through Registered Nurses. Oregon law allows school districts to hire registered nurses, who do not hold a TSPC Professional School Nurse certificate, to provide school nursing services.
3. Through Licensed Practical Nurses. Under Oregon law, Licensed Practical Nurses must work under the clinical direction of a Doctor, Dentist, or Registered Nurse.

## Delegation

Oregon law allows Registered Nurses to train and delegate nursing responsibilities to non-health professionals to meet the needs of medically complex students as well as students without identified medical needs. As such, a Registered Nurse, working for a district, may train and oversee non-nursing school staff that may perform nursing tasks delegated by the nurse. Registered Nurses have the authority to perform this training and oversight under Division 47 of the Oregon Nurse Practice Act. A Registered Nurse can only delegate once they identify that the person being delegated, is willing and capable of performing the nursing task. The Oregon Department of Education does not currently collect data on the number of Registered Nurse delegations performed in Oregon schools.

## Data Collection 2015-2016

School districts were required to submit data on nursing services for the 2015-2016 school year. ODE staff communicated this requirement to all districts in a variety of formats including by phone, email, and through appropriate list serves. ODE received data from 196 of the 198 districts in Oregon.

## Nursing Services Available in Oregon Schools

In the 196 Oregon school districts who reported data, there are 262.27 full-time equivalent (FTE) nurses employed who serve students. (See district-by-district data in Appendix A). Table 2 below shows the total nursing support (Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses) in public schools for the 2015-2016 school year. This data indicates an increase in the overall number of nurses working in Oregon schools. (See Table 2)

<b>Table 2: 2015-2016 Nurses Reported in Oregon Schools - FTE</b>	
<b>Licensed Practical Nurse</b>	34.31
<b>Registered Nurse/School Nurse</b>	262.27
<b>Total Nurse Support in Schools</b>	296.58

## Students with Medical Impairments

For purposes of this report, students with medical impairments fall into three categories:

- *Medically complex*
- *Medically fragile*
- *Nursing dependent*

Table 3 highlights the number of students with specific medical impairments over the past three school years. This table shows there has been a steady decrease in the number of medically complex students over the past three school years. However, this decrease may be due to improved data collection strategies including better understanding of how to count students in one of the three categories. In an attempt to verify the accuracy of the data and to identify potential issues with reporting, ODE surveyed a sample of school districts, which all reported that the 2016 guidance on classifying students increased accuracy and consistency in reporting student counts.

<b>Table 3: Number of Students with Specific Medical Impairments</b>			
<b>School Year</b>	<b>Number of Medically Complex Students</b>	<b>Number of Medically Fragile Students</b>	<b>Number of Nursing Dependent Students</b>
<b>2015-2016</b>	17,340	3,102	80

## Medically Complex Students

Oregon law defines “medically complex students” as those students who may have an unstable health condition and who may require daily professional nursing services. Students in this category have health conditions which require a licensed nurse to do an assessment, write a health care plan, and teach and oversee tasks of care to non-nurse school staff who are working directly with the student. The nurse has intermittent direct contact with the student, for instance to write a health care plan, address emergent problems, monitor school staff performance of tasks, access new medical orders, and similar tasks.

An example of a student in this category would be one who has a stable seizure disorder. The school nurse will access medical orders, assess the student, write a care plan for the student, and teach non-nurse school staff how to recognize and assist the student during seizure activity. The nurse will also periodically monitor the student during the school year, and intervene if a change is needed in health services provided by the school.

In 2015-2016, districts reported 17,340 medically complex students. This is an increase of 1,429 students as compared to the number reported as medically complex in 2013-2014. This increase may be due to more accurate data collection strategies including the addition of specific definitions for each of the categories which increased understanding of how to count students in one of the three categories.

## Medically Fragile Students

Medically fragile students are those students “who may have a life-threatening health condition and who may require immediate professional nursing services.” Students in this category have a health condition which requires frequent (often daily) one-on-one intervention by a Registered Nurse. An example of this would be a six-year-old student who is newly diagnosed with diabetes. Nurse intervention is required on a daily basis to check blood status, configure correct insulin doses, and administer insulin. As this student’s medical condition becomes more stable and the student matures, the student’s category may change to one which requires less intense school health services.

In 2015-2016, districts reported 3,102 medically fragile students. This is a decrease of 619 over the number of medically fragile students reported in 2014-2015. Again, this decrease may be due to more accurate data collection strategies including the addition of specific definitions of each category, which increased understanding of how to count students in one of the three categories.

Oregon seems to reflect national statistics in the numbers of diabetic and severely allergic children and young adults. Taken together, these two diagnoses may affect up to 10% of Oregon’s school population. Children and young adults who have these and other serious medical conditions are only able to access their educational program when their chronic condition is under. Achieving this optimum control during school hours requires cooperation and communication between school staff, school nurses, parents, students, and the medical community. Nurses who deliver services in the school setting are the ‘boots on the ground’ who spearhead and lead these efforts.

## Nursing-Dependent Students

“Nursing-dependent students” are those students who may have an unstable or life-threatening health condition and who may require daily, direct, and continuous professional nursing services. Nursing-Dependent students are those who require direct one-on-one services by a licensed nurse so that they are medically safe in the school setting. A student with impaired breathing, who has a tracheostomy which requires frequent suctioning, would be one example of a student in this category. Since professional nursing assessment is required with each instance of suctioning, a licensed nurse must be present with the student during the hours of school.

Table 3 above shows that 80 students were identified as nursing-dependent in 2015-2016. This represents a decrease of 99 students compared to data reported in 2014-2015. Again, this decrease may be due to more accurate data collection strategies including the addition of specific definitions of each category, which increased understanding of how to count students in one of the three categories.

## Conclusion

Many Oregon students are arriving at school with existing health conditions that compromise their ability to access and benefit from their educational program. Specifically, we have seen increased numbers of students with insulin-dependent diabetes and severe allergies. The data reflected in the 2016 Nursing Services in Oregon Public Schools report is the most comprehensive of the five collection years. As with all such data collections, results depend on the accuracy and timeliness of response from local districts. Responses for this year comprise 99% of Oregon’s school districts reporting data

Although this data collection has occurred over the past five school years, there has been a significant change in the staff at ODE that oversees this data collection and report. As a result, the current staff did a thorough internal review of the collection and identified several areas of concern that likely skewed the data collected and created confusion among school districts responsible for submitting the data to ODE.

The first concern is with the definition of the terms, “medically complex,” “medically fragile,” and “nursing dependent” used in the collection. These are not terms typically used in the school setting and definitions may have caused confusion for the field when determining student status for the collection. In March of 2016, ODE issued new guidance to districts that provided clarification of these terms. The guidance included

specific examples related to the most common student health conditions including: asthma, seizure, allergy, diabetes, behavior disorder, medication, and concussion. (See appendix B)

The second area of concern identified is the need for clarification regarding the definition of a registered nurse and a school nurse as well as who constitutes an actual school nurse versus an LPN or a registered nurse performing one to one nursing duties. In March of 2016, ODE clarified the definitions of each term, however despite the many attempts to clarify and bolster the accuracy of the data the nurse FTE data continues to show inaccuracies. ODE believes this is due to the continuing confusion over how to report nurses in the collection based upon their licensure and duties. ODE intends to set up a series of training opportunities to help clarify this issue.

In addition ODE has changed the “School Nurse Ratio” in Table 1 to reflect Registered Nurses and School Nurses practicing in a school nurse role. ODE chose to calculate the school nurse to student ratio more accurately. In previous years, ODE calculated the ratio using “School Nurse FTE”. This year, ODE decided to calculate the ratio using “Registered Nurse FTE” minus “Registered Nurse Single Student FTE”. This calculation more accurately reflects the Registered Nurse FTE available to serve general student populations. The removal of one-to-one Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses from the calculation provides a more accurate picture of the “Students to School Nurses Ratio.” This resulted in a decrease in the “Students to School Nurse” Ratio.

Given these concerns and the impact they have had on the validity of the data collected over the past five years, ODE has decided to continue to work to refine the Nursing Services in Oregon Public Schools collection for the 2016-2017 school year. This will include updating nursing FTE definitions as well as providing a series of professional development opportunities for district personnel to improve comprehension of the medically fragile and complex definitions as well as how to distinguish nurse FTE. This will assure that the data collected for the 2016-2017 school year is accurate, valid and useful. As a result of the anticipated changes, the data collected for the 2015-16 school year will become a new baseline and subsequent reports will only include this most current baseline data.

**Appendix A**

**2015-2016**

**Medically Fragile**

**Data Collection**

**District Level**

Note: The rows of Districts who did not report their data to ODE were intentionally left blank.

### Medically Fragile 2015-2016

District Name	Medically Fragile Student Count	Nursing Dependent Student Count	Medically Complex Student Count	Licensed Practical Nurse Count	Registered Nurse Count	Registered Nurse Single Student Count	School Nurse Count
Adel SD 21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adrian SD 61	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Alsea SD 7J	*	0	0	0	0.1	0	0
Amity SD 4J	0	0	25	0	0.04	0	0
Annex SD 29	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arlington SD 3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arock SD 81	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ashland SD 5	6	0	107	0	1.2	0	0
Ashwood SD 8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Astoria SD 1	*	0	42	0	1.3	*	0
Athena-Weston SD 29RJ	*	0	6	0	0.14	0	0
Baker SD 5J	14	0	26	0	0.4	0	0
Bandon SD 54	*	*	*	1	0	0	0
Banks SD 13	21	0	39	0	0.2	0	0.2
Beaverton SD 48J	132	6	1714	2	19.5	*	12.5
Bend-LaPine Administrative SD 1	143	*	1154	0	10.75	*	5
Bethel SD 52	48	*	249	0	2.6	*	1
Blachly SD 90	0	0	*	0	0	0	0
Black Butte SD 41	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Brookings-Harbor SD 17C	*	*	203	0	0.95	*	0
Burnt River SD 30J	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Butte Falls SD 91	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Camas Valley SD 21J	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Canby SD 86	18	0	102	0	1	0	1
Cascade SD 5	*	0	105	0	1	0	0
Centennial SD 28J	*	*	86	1	3.87	0	3.6
Central Curry SD 1	0	0	*	0	0	0	0
Central Linn SD 552	*	0	6	0	0.65	0	0
Central Point SD 6	8	0	40	0	0.1	0	0
Central SD 13J	11	*	54	1	1	*	0
Clatskanie SD 6J	*	0	19	0	0.58	0	0
Colton SD 53	*	0	7	0	0.17	0	0
Condon SD 25J	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Coos Bay SD 9	17	0	98	0	2.6	0	0
Coquille SD 8	7	*	52	0	3	*	1
Corbett SD 39	0	0	15	0	0.45	0	0.4
Corvallis SD 509J	87	*	170	0	5	*	0



District Name	Medically Fragile Student Count	Nursing Dependent Student Count	Medically Complex Student Count	Licensed Practical Nurse Count	Registered Nurse Count	Registered Nurse Single Student Count	School Nurse Count
Cove SD 15	*	0	0	0	0.01	0	0.01
Creswell SD 40	*	*	*	4	0	0	0
Crook County SD	11	0	49	0	2	0	0
Crow-Applegate-Lorane SD 66	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Culver SD 4	*	0	19	0	1	0	0
Dallas SD 2	17	*	51	0	1.5	*	0
David Douglas SD 40	24	*	154	0	6.06	*	3.6
Dayton SD 8	0	0	23	0	0.26	0	0.26
Dayville SD 16J	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diamond SD 7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Double O SD 28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Douglas County SD 15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Douglas County SD 4	0	*	0	0	1	*	0
Drewsey SD 13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dufur SD 29	*	0	11	0	0.02	0	0
Eagle Point SD 9	102	0	84	0.75	3	0	0
Echo SD 5	0	0	*	0	0.05	0	0
Elgin SD 23	*	0	*	0	0.25	0	0
Elkton SD 34	0	0	6	0	0	0	0
Enterprise SD 21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Estacada SD 108	49	0	107	0	1	0	0
Eugene SD 4J	37	*	365	3.05	10.7	0	4.75
Falls City SD 57	0	0	*	0	0.02	0	0.02
Fern Ridge SD 28J	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Forest Grove SD 15	10	*	252	0	2	0	0
Fossil SD 21J	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Frenchglen SD 16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gaston SD 511J	*	0	27	0	0.04	0	0
Gervais SD 1	*	0	9	0	1	0	0
Gladstone SD 115	*	*	19	1	0.6	0	0.6
Glendale SD 77	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Glide SD 12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grants Pass SD 7	9	0	535	0	1	0	0
Greater Albany Public SD 8J	202	*	974	0.1	1	*	0
Gresham-Barlow SD 10J	26	0	165	0	4.52	0	4
Harney County SD 3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Harney County SD 4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Harney County Union High SD 1J	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Harper SD 66	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Harrisburg SD 7J	*	0	38	0	0.2	0	0
Helix SD 1	*	0	*	0	0.04	0	0

District Name	Medically Fragile Student Count	Nursing Dependent Student Count	Medically Complex Student Count	Licensed Practical Nurse Count	Registered Nurse Count	Registered Nurse Single Student Count	School Nurse Count
Hermiston SD 8	34	*	138	0	2	*	1
Hillsboro SD 1J	134	7	644	8.84	6.9	0	2.5
Hood River County SD	8	*	149	0.58	1.66	*	0
Huntington SD 16J	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Imbler SD 11	0	0	*	0	0.25	0	0
Ione SD R2	*	0	0	0	0.02	0	0
Jefferson County SD 509J	*	0	60	0	1	0	1
Jefferson SD 14J	*	0	8	0	0.11	0	0
Jewell SD 8	*	0	7	0	0	0	0
John Day SD 3	*	0	*	0	0	0	0
Jordan Valley SD 3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Joseph SD 6	0	0	*	0	0	0	0
Junction City SD 69	*	0	46	0	1	0	0
Juntura SD 12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Klamath County SD	26	0	143	0	3.2	0	0
Klamath Falls City Schools	47	0	147	0	2	0	0
Knappa SD 4	*	0	18	0	0.6	0	0
La Grande SD 1	*	0	14	0	1	0	0
Lake County SD 7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lake Oswego SD 7J	15	*	352	2.2	3.8	*	1
Lebanon Community SD 9	18	*	253	0	1.6	*	0
Lincoln County SD	18	0	103	0	2	0	0
Long Creek SD 17	*	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lowell SD 71	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mapleton SD 32	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Marcola SD 79J	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
McKenzie SD 68	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
McMinnville SD 40	51	0	204	0	1	0	1
Medford SD 549C	44	0	244	0	5	0	5
Milton-Freewater Unified SD 7	11	0	24	0	0.41	0	0
Mitchell SD 55	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Molalla River SD 35	6	0	48	0	1	0	0
Monroe SD 1J	*	0	6	0	0	0	0
Monument SD 8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Morrow SD 1	11	0	15	0	0.25	0	0
Mt Angel SD 91	*	0	0	0	0.07	0	0
Myrtle Point SD 41	*	0	19	0	0.5	0	0
Neah-Kah-Nie SD 56	*	0	21	0	0.43	0	0
Nestucca Valley SD 101J	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Newberg SD 29J	17	0	149	0	1	0	0
North Bend SD 13	17	*	300	0	4	*	1

District Name	Medically Fragile Student Count	Nursing Dependent Student Count	Medically Complex Student Count	Licensed Practical Nurse Count	Registered Nurse Count	Registered Nurse Single Student Count	School Nurse Count
North Clackamas SD 12	98	*	1065	0	5.8	*	2
North Douglas SD 22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
North Lake SD 14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
North Marion SD 15	8	0	44	0	1	0	0
North Powder SD 8J	*	0	0	0	0.25	0	0
North Santiam SD 29J	10	0	77	0	1.2	0	0
North Wasco County SD 21	28	0	83	0	1.6	0	1.6
Nyssa SD 26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Oakland SD 1	*	0	8	0	0	0	0
Oakridge SD 76	*	0	7	0	0	0	0
Ontario SD 8C	15	*	42	1	0.62	0	0
Oregon City SD 62	68	*	442	0	2	*	0
Oregon Department of Education	31	0	*	2	1	0	1
Oregon Trail SD 46	33	0	188	0	0.63	0	0
Paisley SD 11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Parkrose SD 3	*	0	*	0	1.14	0	1
Pendleton SD 16	22	*	33	0	1.65	*	0
Perrydale SD 21	*	0	13	0	0.19	0	0
Philomath SD 17J	0	0	44	0	1	0	0
Phoenix-Talent SD 4	8	0	79	0	1	0	0.19
Pilot Rock SD 2	*	0	*	0	0.04	0	0
Pine Creek SD 5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pine Eagle SD 61	*	0	0	0	1	0	0
Pinehurst SD 94	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pleasant Hill SD 1	0	0	0	0.38	0	0	0
Plush SD 18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Port Orford-Langlois SD 2CJ	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Portland SD 1J	115	6	999	2	38.24	*	33.2
Powers SD 31	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Prairie City SD 4	0	0	*	0	0	0	0
Prospect SD 59	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rainier SD 13	*	0	19	0	0.5	0	0
Redmond SD 2J	59	*	285	0	7.5	0	1.5
Reedsport SD 105	*	0	13	0	1	0	0
Reynolds SD 7	26	*	104	2	7.5	*	4
Riddle SD 70	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Riverdale SD 51J	15	0	55	0	0.3	0	0
Rogue River SD 35	0	0	*	0.01	0	0	0
Salem-Keizer SD 24J	385	*	628	0	15	0	1
Santiam Canyon SD 129J	*	0	*	0	0.2	0	0
Scappoose SD 1J	8	0	95	0	1	0	0

District Name	Medically Fragile Student Count	Nursing Dependent Student Count	Medically Complex Student Count	Licensed Practical Nurse Count	Registered Nurse Count	Registered Nurse Single Student Count	School Nurse Count
Scio SD 95	0	0	0	0	0.13	0	0
Seaside SD 10	*	0	33	0	0	0	0
Sheridan SD 48J	*	0	11	0	1	0	0
Sherman County SD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sherwood SD 88J	107	*	236	0	1.75	*	0
Silver Falls SD 4J	32	0	120	0	3	0	3
Sisters SD 6	12	0	110	0	2	0	2
Siuslaw SD 97J	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
South Harney SD 33	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
South Lane SD 45J3	*	0	265	0	2	0	2
South Umpqua SD 19	0	0	15	0	0	0	0
South Wasco County SD 1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Spray SD 1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Springfield SD 19	31	*	244	0	3	0	3
St Helens SD 502	*	*	72	0	1	*	1
St Paul SD 45	0	0	*	0	0.1	0	0.1
Stanfield SD 61	*	0	*	0	0.05	0	0
Suntex SD 10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sutherlin SD 130	12	0	36	0	1	0	1
Sweet Home SD 55	11	*	91	0	3	*	2
Three Rivers/Josephine County SD	6	*	*	0	0.2	0	0.2
Tigard-Tualatin SD 23J	189	*	598	0	8	*	1
Tillamook SD 9	8	0	78	0	2	0	0
Troy SD 54	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ukiah SD 80R	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Umatilla SD 6R	9	0	*	0	0.13	0	0
Union SD 5	*	0	*	0	0.1	0	0
Vale SD 84	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vernonia SD 47J	7	0	10	0	0.12	0	0
Wallowa SD 12	*	0	*	0	0	0	0
Warrenton-Hammond SD 30	15	0	85	0	1	0	0
West Linn-Wilsonville SD 3J	135	0	508	0	3	0	1
Willamina SD 30J	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Winston-Dillard SD 116	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Woodburn SD 103	30	0	114	0	2	0	0
Yamhill Carlton SD 1	*	*	13	1.4	0.66	*	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>3102</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>17340</b>	<b>34.31</b>	<b>262.27</b>	<b>43.55</b>	<b>113.23</b>

# Appendix B

## Guidance for Assessing Student Health Conditions

# Guidance for Assessing Student Health Conditions for Annual Oregon Department of Education School Nurse Data Collection

This document is provided as guidance for completing the Annual Oregon Department of Education School Nurse Data collection. It is recommended that district administration review all laws, administrative rules, and guidance documents when making decisions affecting nursing ratios.

## General Student Population (1:750 recommended)

**Description:** Students with normal growth & development or intermittent acute illness/injury events; if a condition exists, it is uncomplicated and predictable.

- **Asthma Example:** Student identified on registration forms as having asthma. No known events at school, no contact from parents/staff/student. Student may have rescue inhaler at school. Asthma is well managed, no exacerbations or hospitalizations in past year.
- **Seizure Example:** Student with history of febrile seizure(s). No further seizure activity, no anti-epileptic medication. Well-controlled with medication with rare breakthrough seizures outside of school setting.
- **Severe Allergic Reaction (SAR) Example:** Student has penicillin allergy
- **Behavioral example:** On medication for depression or other mental health diagnosis with stable dosing of long-term medication.
- **Medication example:** Over the counter (OTC), non-prescription medications available at school (acetaminophen, ibuprofen, cough drops, etc); self-administration of medications
- **Miscellaneous Example:** Student with muscular dystrophy but no ongoing nursing needs at school. RN chooses to monitor student annually

**Nursing Assessment:** No identified/ongoing nursing intervention at school; no health plan necessary.

## Medically Complex (1:225 mandated)

**Definition:** Medically complex students means students who may have an unstable health condition and who may require daily professional nursing services. (ORS 336.201)

- **Asthma Example:** Frequent use of rescue inhaler: multiple times per week. Frequent health room visits and/or PMD/hospital visits require assessment and intervention by nurse. Student may/may not have nebulizer.
- **Seizure Example:** Student has occasional breakthrough seizures at school.
- **SAR Example: Student with identified allergy and has medication ordered for treatment (antihistamine or epinephrine), may be life-threatening**
- **Diabetes Example:** Diabetic student with blood glucose monitoring supplies and Glucagon at school. Student may/may not be independent self-manager
- **Behavioral Example:** Student on medication for depression or other mental health issue with frequent medication dosage changes and staff symptom monitoring. Student discharged after emergent hospitalization for eating disorder, long history of cutting and emergent hospitalizations
- **Medication Example:** Daily medication given at school by school staff, may require student/family education and/or side effects monitoring
- **Miscellaneous Example:** Student requires clean intermittent catheterization daily at school; student has a long-term G-tube feeding at school
- **Concussion example:** Student with a recent concussion that needs monitoring and interventions to help with their recovery and academic success.

**Nursing Assessment:** Needs more than a first aid response; a health plan may or may not be in place

**Note:** ORS 336.201 allows school districts to satisfy the nurse ratio requirements for medically complex students by providing personnel trained and supervised by registered nurse or school nurse. (ORS 336.201 (4)(b).)

### Medically Fragile (1:125 mandated)

**Definition:** Medically Fragile students means students who may have a life-threatening health condition and who may require immediate professional nursing services. (ORS 336.201)

- **Asthma Example:** Student uses rescue inhaler 3-4 times in 24 hour. Peak flows are 65% or less of student's expected normal. Hospitalizations and/or emergent ED visit(s) have occurred in past year
- **Seizure Example:** Severe seizure disorder requiring immediate intervention with VNS and/or rectal Diastat; student has frequent cluster seizures making it difficult for unlicensed staff to identify beginning and/or end of seizure activity. Student often has prolonged post-ictal phase
- **SAR Example:** Severe and/or multiple life-threatening allergies necessitating wide-ranging accommodations in the school setting
- **Diabetes Example:** Student with highly variable blood glucose levels, and/or student requiring insulin administration at school, and/or non-compliant student, and/or student with cognitive impairment, and/or newly diagnosed student
- **Behavioral example:** Suicidal ideation requiring frequent monitoring/assessment by school staff
- **Miscellaneous example:** Multiple 'complex' conditions that combined put the student at risk of a life-threatening event

**Nursing Assessment:** Licensed nurse is readily available for assessment and/or intervention

### Nursing Dependent (1:1)

**Definition:** Nursing-dependent students means students who may have an unstable or life-threatening health condition and who may require daily, direct, and continuous professional nursing services. (ORS 336.201)

- **Example:** Student with tracheostomy that requires nursing assessment & care to maintain airway
- **Example:** Student with multiple health conditions e.g. compromised airway, severe seizure disorder, GT feedings, etc. that requires skilled nursing assessment and intervention

**Nursing Assessment:** Student requires direct and continuous care by a licensed nurse (1:1)