

2021-22 School Year Certification Policy

Updated January 2022



Background

The School-Based Health Center (SBHC) State Program Office (SPO) has continued to work to support SBHCs during COVID-19 pandemic and recovery. We recognize COVID-19 has created unprecedented challenges for your clinics, schools and communities. At the same time, we know a critical component of the COVID-19 response and recovery involves student health services and SBHCs.

In spring 2021 the SPO surveyed the SBHC field about their operation plans for the 2021-22 school year (SY). The majority of SBHCs anticipated being able to meet [SBHC Standards for Certification](#). Many SBHCs also plan to offer services via telehealth. The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) has provided guidance around [well-care visits](#), [sick visits](#), [telehealth](#) and [school health](#) in the context of COVID-19.

The SPO used this guidance, as well as feedback from the SBHC field, to develop the following certification policy for the 2021-22 SY.

The SPO updated this policy document again during the 2021-22 school year in response to continued capacity constraints due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Changes included postponing most site visits and extending deadlines for data requirement submissions.

Certification

SPO will expect SBHC to meet minimum Standards for Certification during the 2021-22 SY, including:

- Certification process
- Sponsoring agency
- Facility
- Operations/staffing
- Comprehensive pediatric health care
- Data collection/reporting
- Billing

Please see the [SBHC Standards for Certification](#) for more details about these requirements.

Operational Profile

SBHCs will be required to complete the Operational Profile as normal by **December 1, 2021**.

Waivers

Beginning **October 1, 2021**, the SPO will resume requiring waivers if SBHCs are not in compliance with the Standards for Certification. SBHCs must notify SPO within **20 calendar days** of any change that brings the SBHC out of compliance with minimum standards.

Waivers must include:

- Explanation of the non-compliant requirement

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- Plan for corrective action
- Anticipated date for meeting compliance

Site visits

SBHCs due for a site visit during the 2021-22 school year are postponed.

Exception:

Newly certified sites or sites that have made changes that impact their state certification (such as transfer of location) will still receive a certification site visit in the 2021-22 school year.

If you are due for a site visit, your assigned [SBHC Public Health Nurse](#) will be in contact with you in the coming months to schedule your site visit.

Encounter data

SBHCs will continue to be required to submit encounter data as usual for SBHC clients/visits.

For non-OCHIN sites, **the mid-year encounter data submission deadline has been extended to February 15, 2022.**

The year-end encounter data submission will remain the same for all sites with a **July 15, 2022 deadline.**

SPO will collect telehealth data as in previous school years and will be working closely with OCHIN to improve the information we receive. Loretta Gallant, the SBHC SPO Research Analyst, (LORETTA.L.Gallant@dhsosha.state.or.us) will be in touch with OCHIN sites in the coming weeks to confirm your OCHIN department ID numbers.

SPO recognizes telehealth has expanded greatly during the COVID-19 pandemic and in many ways is here to stay. We will continue gathering information and data about the use of telehealth in SBHCs and anticipate reevaluating our encounter data policy in the future.

Key Performance Measures (KPMs)

SPO will have slightly modified KPM requirements in the 2021-22 SY.

SPO will **not** require SBHCs to meet benchmarks this school year and so will not require waiver submission if a benchmark is not met.

SBHCs should audit all visit types, including in-person and telehealth, and document in the KPM audit spreadsheet if the client had in-person visits only, telehealth visits only, or a combination of both.

For 2021-22 SY:

All SBHCs must audit the two required Core KPMs:

- [Well-visit](#)

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- [Health assessment](#)

All SBHCs must choose **one** Optional KPM:

- [Adolescent Immunization](#)
- [Adolescent Teen Immunization Series](#)
- [Chlamydia Screening](#)
- [Depression Screening](#)
- [Flu Immunization](#)
- [HPV Immunization](#)
- [Nutrition Counseling](#)
- [Substance Use Screening](#)

SBHCs must select their **2021-23 biennial** Optional KPM by **August 1, 2021**. [Click here to access the Operational Profile to choose an Optional KPM](#)

SBHCs should submit **2020-21 SY** KPM audit results by **December 1, 2021**.

Satisfaction surveys

SPO will **not** require SBHCs to administer the SBHC satisfaction survey in the 2021-22 SY. Satisfaction survey administration will instead be **optional** for this school year. A new iPad survey file will be available in February 2022.

SPO will not be requiring a separate satisfaction survey for telehealth visits.

Questions?

If you have questions about this policy, please contact the SBHC program:
sbhc.program@dhsosha.state.or.us.