

## Become a School Nurse:

#### An Important Specialist in the Healthcare Industry

School nurses are considered specialists in public health and are uniquely qualified to address pressing health concerns while delivering quality, cost-effective healthcare.



# They are a trusted voice of fact-based information to families.

- School nurses advise school leaders on pandemic and public health policies.
- School nurses serve as an important safety net for our most vulnerable children.
- For students who face barriers to accessing healthcare, especially those living in predominantly low-income, rural and minority communities, a school nurse may serve as their only regular healthcare provider.

### Did you know?

- School nurses are often the only healthcare provider students see regularly.
- School nurses are a central force in helping parents gain access to healthcare for their children.
- School nurses, through prevention and treatment of health and behavioral issues, improve student attendance.

## Benefits

- Make a measurable difference in the lives of students and families.
- Be involved in multiple projects and initiatives to improve community health.
- Work hours that are consistent with the school calendar, allowing for holiday and summer breaks.
- Satisfy the increased demand for school nurses.

### Responsibilities

- Provide direct care to students, including those with chronic conditions and disabilities that require care during the school day.
- Oversee all health services within the school, including immunization surveillance and health screenings.
- Identify vision, hearing, and other health issues in students that could create a barrier to learning.
- Provide Illness and injury assessments and interventions.
- Serve as a liaison among the school and parent, doctors, case managers, teachers, and other stakeholders in child health.
- Infectious disease prevention.
- Train and delegate to school staff for emergency response.
- Develop employee wellness programs.



- Support school wellness teams.
- Contribute to health policies, programs, and curriculum within the school system.
- Develop health-related aspects of special education and emergency response plans.

#### Requirements

School nursing is recognized as a <u>specialty</u> <u>practice</u>.

A school nurse must be a licensed registered nurse (RN) and eligible for the <u>CDE Special</u> <u>Service Provider License</u> with the School Nurse Endorsement.



**COLORADO** Department of Education



Learn more about Colorado School Nursing at https://www.cde.state.co.us/healthandwellness/snh\_home or use this QR code