

STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES

P5501

School health services shall be provided to protect and improve students' health, thus enabling them to gain the greatest benefit from their school experience. Services shall include first aid for accident and illness; vision and hearing testing; postural screening; counseling; tuberculosis screening; promotion of regular health supervision by their family physician; adjustment of academic program when required by illness or handicap; and provisions for a safe school environment. School health services shall maintain a record of immunizations of each student and will work with the student and family to comply with the immunization requirements.

School nursing has been defined as a specialized practice of professional nursing that advances the well-being, academic success, and life-long achievement of students. To that end, school nurses facilitate positive student responses to normal development; promote health and safety; intervene with actual and potential health problems; provide case management services; and actively collaborate with others to build student and family capacity for adaptation, self-management, self-advocacy and learning.

The Superintendent shall appoint school physicians and nurses to the schools and shall provide them with the necessary facilities and equipment.

Nevertheless, the prevention of serious accidents or illness often depends upon prompt medical attention that can be administered only if a responsible adult refers an ill or injured child to the care of the school nurse. It shall be the responsibility of all teachers to report to the school nurse any student displaying a rash, fever, cough, or vomiting, and any who seem unduly fatigued or listless. Teachers shall also bring to the attention of the school nurse those students who are frequently absent, who have trouble hearing or seeing, or who are in need of dental care.

Massachusetts General Law References:

- M.G.L. 71:38G – Definitions; Provisional Educator, Provisional Educator
with Advance Standing and Standard Educator Certificates
- M.G.L. 71:53 – School Physicians and Nurses.
- M.G.L. 119:51A – Requirement to File Reports on Injured Children

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