

Section J:

Students

Knox County Board of Education

Descriptor Term:

**School and Student
Health Services**

Descriptor Code:

J-350

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7/95

Reviewed:

5/26

Revised:

2/24

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES

School Health Services works in collaboration with school administrators to provide an environment that protects and promotes health of all students. The school nurse provides an opportunity for individualized student health assessments, health education and promotion of a healthy lifestyle. School nurses utilize community and school resources to assist students, school personnel and families in obtaining improved health outcomes.

The School Health Services program¹ includes but is not limited to:

1. Maintenance of a safe, sanitary and healthy school environment.
2. Promotion of healthy living.
3. Recognition of physical, mental or emotional well-being of students and/or school personnel.
4. Verification of a well visit physical examination and required immunization for all students except those exempt by statute initially entering Knox County Schools when immunization requirements change.²
5. Verification of a Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association (TSSAA) physical for students prior to participation in interscholastic athletics.³
6. Compilation of cumulative health records when necessary.
7. A record for each student which contains information as to how and where to contact parents in case of emergency.
8. A report of each accident taking place while the student is under the jurisdiction of the school and notification of parent(s)/legal guardian(s) of any accident, injury, or incident.
9. Procedures for reporting suspected child abuse or neglect.⁴
10. Plans for excluding students with communicable disease and for readmission following recovery in accordance with the Tennessee Department of Health's Division of Communicable and Environmental Disease Services Rules and Regulations.^{5,6}
11. Procedures for administering and recording medications.

- 1 12. Development of Individual Health Plans, participation in Individualized Education Plan (IEP)
- 2 Team meetings, and 504 accommodation plans when health related.
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- 4 a. As warranted by the student’s condition or diagnosis, an Individual Health Plan (IHP) will
- 5 be completed by the registered nurse.
- 6 b. The IHP shall include:
- 7 i. Emergency care procedures;
- 8 ii. A nursing assessment;
- 9 iii. Physician's orders; and
- 10 iv. Parental authorization.
- 11 c. The school nurse is responsible for updating and maintaining each IHP.
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- 13 13. Completion of health assessment by a registered nurse for any child with acute or chronic health
- 14 issues.
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- 16 14. Maintenance of confidentiality as outlined by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability
- 17 Act (HIPAA) and/or the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).
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- 19 15. Development of a “Drug Free Schools Policy” addressing drug and alcohol-related medical
- 20 emergencies, guidelines for reporting drug and alcohol-related incidents and referral of students.
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- 22 16. Development of an HIV-related illness and AIDS policy to ensure all children with HIV, HIV-
- 23 related illness, and AIDS infection who enroll in a Tennessee public school are able to attend and
- 24 participate.
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26 **HEALTH CARE PROCEDURES IN A SCHOOL SETTING**

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- 28 1. All health care procedures, including the administration of medication, shall be conducted in
- 29 accordance with the Guidelines for Use of Health Care Professionals and Health Care Procedures
- 30 in a school setting produced by the Tennessee Department of Education and the Tennessee
- 31 Department of Health.
- 32
- 33 2. If a student is performing an invasive procedure, that student should have at minimum a biannual
- 34 nursing assessment of competency and proficiency as well as an IHP. Every attempt should be
- 35 made on an individual basis to allow a child who is independent to continue self-management.
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- 37 3. Any health care procedure a student is not capable or competent to perform must be performed
- 38 by a licensed health care professional in accordance with applicable guidelines of their respective
- 39 regulatory boards. A physician’s order and parental authorization are required for any health care
- 40 procedures performed by a licensed health care professional in a school setting. The written
- 41 parental authorization shall be kept in the student’s school records.
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- 43 4. Any student with acute or chronic health issues should have a health assessment completed by a
- 44 registered school nurse.
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Legal References:

1. TRR/MS § 0520-01-13(1)(a)(b)(c)(d).
2. TRR/MS § 0520-01-13(1)(b).
3. TRR/MS § 0520-01-13(1)(a).
4. T.C.A. § 37-1-403.
5. TRR/MS § 0520-01-13(1)(c).

Cross Reference:

- Knox County Board of Education Policy J-357 “Student Communicable Diseases.”

Approved as to Legal Form
 By Knox County Law Director 1/2/2024
 /Gary T. Dupler/Deputy Law Director