



Community Health Center of Snohomish County (CHC) requests \$496,644 of one-time capital funds from the 2025-2027 biennial budget to renovate a space within Granite Falls High School to become a school-based health center (SBHC). If funded, the SBHC will provide no-cost primary medical, dental, and behavioral health services at Granite Falls High School students and their families.

Proposed Expansion in Granite Falls School District:
Granite Falls High School
1401 100th St NE, Granite Falls, WA 98252

Why Invest in SBHCs?

SBHCs are a national, evidence-based model that has been operational in Washington State since 1990. CHC successfully operates two SBHCs in the Edmonds School District and plans to open two additional clinics in the Everett School District in spring of 2025. Recent data and community needs assessments have indicated increasing severity of youth mental health, dental, and medical needs.

- More than 33% of Snohomish County youth did not receive an annual check-up, and nearly 25% have an Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) score of three or more in 2022.
- Granite Falls has no local FQHCs, urgent care, or walk-in clinics and students face transportation barriers to accessing healthcare in neighboring communities.
- The number of uninsured SBHC patients increased from 20% to over 35% in 2023.
- SBHCs are often the first contact that newly arrived refugee, immigrant, and humanitarian parolee families have with the U.S. healthcare system.
- 2023 Healthy Youth Survey data shows higher rates of mental health challenges among Granite Falls students compared to state averages, with 12% of eighth graders lacking a trusted adult to turn to when depressed.

Why Granite Falls High School?

Granite Falls is a rural community in Snohomish County without a local FQHC, urgent care or walk-in clinic. **Students with limited access to local healthcare services and a lack of public transportation must seek services in adjacent communities.** The proposed SBHC at Granite Falls High School would serve a diverse, geographically isolated, and historically underserved student population, addressing significant disparities in health access and outcomes. Based on OSPI data, the school has 570 students, of whom:

43% qualify as low-income, indicating financial barriers to accessing healthcare and increased vulnerability to unmet medical, dental, and mental health needs.

31% identify as non-white, with a significant proportion being Hispanic/Latino, Asian, Black, and other minority groups. These students often face systemic barriers to healthcare access and are at higher risk for conditions such as asthma, diabetes, and mental health challenges.

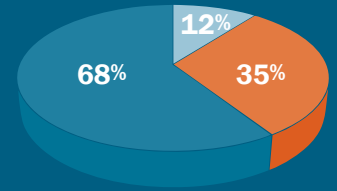
13% of students have disabilities, highlighting the need for an inclusive health center equipped to support their unique needs, including mental health, developmental screenings, and care coordination.

Services Provided

SBHCs provide students with no-cost healthcare and connections to community resources for support with housing, food, clothing, and other essential needs.

- + Medical Care**
- + Dental Care**
- + Behavioral Health**
- + Resource Support**

Insurance Distribution



● Medicaid ● Private Insurance ● Uninsured

Impact

CHC would launch initial operations part-time and increase capacity to meet student demand. Once fully operational, the Granite Falls High School SBHC will:

- ✓ Provide students with access to confidential, high-quality care on campus. We anticipate providing up to 400 dental visits, 800 mental health visits, and 1,600 medical visits to students each school calendar year.**
- ✓ Offer required vaccines, preventative care, and sports physicals to keep students in the classroom and participating in extracurricular activities.**
- ✓ Support working parents who struggle to access services for their school-aged child due to cost, transportation, language barriers, or inability to take time off work.**
- ✓ Create a healthcare career pathway by offering job shadowing and student internships.**
- ✓ Partner with student advisory groups to include the student perspective.**

Community Partners

- Granite Falls School District
- Verdant Health Commission
- Washington School-based Health Center Alliance
- Community Health Network of Washington
- Washington Association of Community Health Centers



Scan to watch our SBHC video.

"The challenges our families face are vast and unique. This initiative will address a critical need in our community by providing much-needed access to healthcare services for students and families."

DANA GEASLEN - Superintendent, Granite Falls