

### **7.05 School Nurse (Ages Birth–21)**

To be endorsed as a school nurse, an applicant shall hold an earned bachelor's or higher degree in nursing from an accepted institution of higher education or have successfully completed 3 years of practical experience working with school aged children and completed a nursing education program for a Registered Nurse (RN) or Bachelor's in School Nursing (BSN) program recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education as a specialized accrediting agency, such as but not limited to the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) or the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN); have successfully completed the requirements for and hold a license to practice professional nursing in Colorado pursuant to the provisions of the Colorado Nurse Practice Act (section 12-38-101, et. seq., C.R.S.) or hold a license in another state and is practicing in Colorado pursuant to the nurse licensing compact (section 24-60-3202, C.R.S.); have successfully completed field experiences and a supervised practicum as prescribed by the preparing institution, including experiences with school age children in a community health/public health or school setting. The initially licensed school nurse shall participate in an approved induction program that will enable the nurse to be knowledgeable about and able to demonstrate the competencies specified below, which have been endorsed by the American Nurses' Association and the National Association of School Nurses as standards of care and the standards of professional performance for school nurses.

- 7.05(1) The school nurse is knowledgeable about the standards of care of school nursing practice and is able to:
- 7.05(1)(a) assess student health status using data collected from the student, parent, school staff and other relevant health care providers.
  - 7.05(1)(b) conduct basic screening programs to identify potential health issues that may affect a child's ability to learn.
  - 7.05(1)(c) conduct physical assessments and specific screening tests, counseling and conferencing to determine the physical, social and mental status of the student.
  - 7.05(1)(d) assess the school environment and program(s) to determine modifications that are necessary to address student health and safety needs.
- 7.05(2) The school nurse has the knowledge to make nursing diagnoses and is able to:
- 7.05(2)(a) validate student, family and group assessment data.
  - 7.05(2)(b) interpret health history information, medical reports, nursing observations and test results using
  - 7.05(2)(c) establish student and school health care priorities.
- 7.05(3) The school nurse has the knowledge of how to set health priorities in the school setting and is able to:
- 7.05(3)(a) evaluate health outcomes of school environment and program changes and create situation-specific methods of results-measurement.
  - 7.05(3)(b) assess the cultural health beliefs of students to determine the impact on health care delivery, health care compliance and on education in the classroom.
  - 7.05(3)(c) identify resources needed to achieve objectives and establish time frames and criteria to measure results.

7.05(4) The school nurse is knowledgeable about planning and is able to:

7.05(4)(a) review assessment information and relate findings to functioning levels and needs of students within the school setting.

7.05(4)(b) develop a school health care plan to meet students' individual health needs within the school setting.

7.05(4)(c) develop a plan to promote health and wellness and reduce risk factors within the school setting.

7.05(4)(d) collaborate with school personnel, community professionals and other resources to plan health-related and informational activities for students, educational staff and relevant others.

7.05(5) The school nurse is knowledgeable about plan implementation and is able to:

7.05(5)(a) manage health care plans for students with identified special health needs within the school setting.

7.05(5)(b) provide direct delivery of health services for students, when and if appropriate.

7.05(5)(c) delegate to, train and supervise appropriate school personnel to implement specific health care procedures.

7.05(5)(d) help clients to obtain resources and services.

7.05(5)(e) adhere to professional standards and state regulations.

7.05(5)(f) coordinate care to meet the health needs of students, their families and related vulnerable populations.

7.05(6) The school nurse is knowledgeable about evaluation for purposes of plan updating and is able to:

7.05(6)(a) monitor progress toward meeting student health care plan outcomes and revise plans as needed to meet identified ongoing or emerging needs of the student.

7.05(6)(b) evaluate school or district health care policies and procedures, counseling and classroom teaching outcomes.

7.05(6)(c) evaluate health care delivery models.

7.05(6)(d) monitor health outcomes of school environment and program changes.

7.05(7) The school nurse is knowledgeable about what constitutes quality of care and is able to:

7.05(7)(a) develop recommendations to enhance the school environment and/or to modify a school program to meet student health and safety needs.

7.05(7)(b) evaluate school staff trained to carry out designated health care procedures.

7.05(7)(c) participate in quality assurance activities, such as the development of relevant policies and procedures.

7.05(8) The school nurse is knowledgeable about performance appraisal and is able to:

- 7.05(8)(a) effectively appraise performance through constructive comments from peers and supervisors, self-assessment and adherence to relevant regulations.
  - 7.05(8)(b) develop personal goals for professional development.
- 7.05(9) The school nurse is knowledgeable about professional development and participates in relevant continuing education programs.
- 7.05(10) The school nurse is knowledgeable about the necessity for collegiality in the school setting to meet the health needs of students and relevant needs of their families related to student achievement, and is able to:
- 7.05(10)(a) collaborate with school personnel, students, parents, primary health care providers and relevant others to establish an effective reciprocal referral system.
  - 7.05(10)(b) participate as a member of an interdisciplinary school health and/or relevant education team to positively affect student well-being.
  - 7.05(10)(c) participate in appropriate and relevant professional and community organizations.
- 7.05(11) The school nurse is knowledgeable about the ethics of the profession and is able to:
- 7.05(11)(a) demonstrate through application an understanding and incorporation of professional standards and state regulations in an education and/or health care setting.
  - 7.05(11)(b) recognize the need for and maintain confidentiality.
  - 7.05(11)(c) recognize and demonstrate respect for students' and families' cultural health care beliefs and student and family autonomy and rights.
- 7.05(12) The school nurse is knowledgeable about the positive aspects of collaboration and is able to:
- 7.05(12)(a) articulate clearly the value and role of the nurse in the school setting.
  - 7.05(12)(b) work within the organizational structures that influence the delivery of school health services and be an advocate for the health and well-being of students within the school setting.
  - 7.05(12)(c) act as liaison between school, community health agencies, care providers, parents and students to meet the objectives of student health care plans.
- 7.05(13) The school nurse is knowledgeable about applicable research and is able to:
- 7.05(13)(a) base practice on current knowledge, theory and research on which there is documented evidence of effectiveness.
  - 7.05(13)(b) participate in ongoing relevant research activities.
- 7.05(14) The school nurse is knowledgeable about resource utilization and is able to:
- 7.05(14)(a) assess the economic, legal and political factors that influence health care delivery in schools and communities and constructively address applicable factors within the school setting.
  - 7.05(14)(b) collaborate with community agencies to reduce duplication and expand resources.

7.05(15) The school nurse is knowledgeable about communication, including non-verbal communication, and its effect, and is able to:

7.05(15)(a) articulate issues clearly to a wide variety of audiences in a wide variety of situations and settings.

7.05(15)(b) interpret health history information, medical reports, nursing observations and test results, and communicate clearly to appropriate staff and/or students and/or their families.

7.05(15)(c) document interventions accurately in a timely way and in a retrievable and understandable format.

7.05(15)(d) effectively use technology to acquire up-to-date information and to expand skills and resources.

7.05(16) The school nurse is knowledgeable about program management and is able to:

7.05(16)(a) develop effective community partnerships and a wide range of accessible resources.

7.05(16)(b) design disease prevention and health promotion strategies and programs for students, their families, when appropriate, and other relevant staff.

7.05(16)(c) implement and oversee recommended modifications of the school environment and programs to meet identified student health and safety needs and to reduce injuries.

7.05(16)(d) provide health consultation, health education and health promotion for students, families, where appropriate, and staff to improve school attendance.

7.05(16)(e) advise and consult with other relevant health care providers as appropriate to address the needs of students within the school setting.

7.05(16)(f) evaluate health care delivery models and apply relevant elements within the school setting.

7.05(17) The school nurse is knowledgeable about of health education and is able to:

7.05(17)(a) develop and effectively implement lesson plans pertinent to identified health education needs.

7.05(17)(b) assess student and staff education needs for relevant health information and provide staff with health education programs, information, resources and materials, developmentally appropriate for the student population being served, to promote health/wellness and to prevent illness and injury.

7.05(17)(c) inform students and parents of patient rights.

7.05(18) The school nurse shall self-assess the effectiveness of practice, direction and/or supervision based on the well-being, needs and achievement of students and pursue continuous professional development through appropriate activities, coursework and participation in relevant professional organizations.