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School Nursing: Scope and Standards of Practice

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1902 Lina Rogers
First US School Nurse



SCHOOL NURSE AT WORK IN NEW YORK CITY IN 1902

The School Nurse: A Survey of the Duties and Responsibilities of the Nurse in Maintenance of Health and Physical Perfection and the Prevention of Disease Among School Children.

[View online via Google Books](#)

Objectives

In this session, we will:

- Determine Scope of Practice
- Determine purpose and importance of Scope and Standards to School Nurse Practice
- Examine the Standard Statements and their meaning
- Discuss use of Standards in guiding School Nurse evaluation

Scope and Standards of Practice



SCOPE describes the who, what, where, when, why and how of school nursing

STANDARDS, guide our role implementation, interpretation and evaluation

SCOPE (ANA)



ANA, President Daley, speaks at NASN 2011 On Scope of School Nurse Practice <http://www.nursingworld.org/ScopeofPractice>

Model of Professional Nursing Practice Regulation

Primary Goal of the School Nurse

is to support student learning.

This is accomplished by implementing strategies that promote student and staff health and safety.



SCOPE

Roles of the school nurse continuously expanding

The depth and breadth in which individual school nurses engage in the total scope of school nursing practice depend on education, experience, role, work environment, and the population served.

School Nursing: Scope and Standards of Practice, 2nd edition

SCOPE is determined by School Nurse to Student Ratio or Acuity?



American Academy of Pediatrics

- One school nurse per every school building

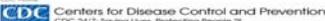


National Association of School Nurses

- 1 school nurse per every 750 students
- 1 school nurse per every 250 students with special health care needs
- 1 school nurse per every 1 student with complex and unpredictable health care needs



ECBP-5 Increase the proportion of elementary, middle, and senior high schools that have a full-time registered school nurse-to-student ratio of at least 1:750


[HTTP://WWW.CDC.GOV/HEALTHYYOUTH/PROFILES/INDEX.HTM](http://www.cdc.gov/healthyouth/profiles/index.htm)
[HTTP://WWW.CDC.GOV/HEALTHYYOUTH/SHPPS/INDEX.HTM](http://www.cdc.gov/healthyouth/shpps/index.htm)

[HTTP://HEALTHYPEOPLE.GOV/2020/TOPICS/OBJECTIVES/2020/OBJECTIVESLIST.ASPX?TOPICID=11](http://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/topics/objectives/2020/objectiveslist.aspx?topicid=11)



Utah (average) School Nurse to Student Ratio

2013 Public school student population	61,2551
Total FTE of around 200 school nurses	142

Utah best overall estimate school nurse to student ratio

1:4314

Disclaimer: this ratio is not equally distributed between districts or charter schools for some districts have ratios as high as 1:6700 and some as low as 1:<1000

SCOPE

The school nurse is responsible for all students in a given school, district or region

The school nurse is most likely the only health care provider in the educational setting

- This does not give the school nurse any authority in performing medical diagnosis





SCOPE is legally determined by level of professional practice

➤ Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN) – 1 year of training

- Licensed to practice under the supervision of a registered nurse or physician
- Cannot delegate tasks to others.
- Cannot initiate teaching with students or staff.

➤ Emergency Medical Technicians - (140-1200 hours)

- Licensed to practice under supervision of a physician or emergency protocols.
- Limited pediatric training

Neither can make nursing assessments nor practice registered nursing without a license.

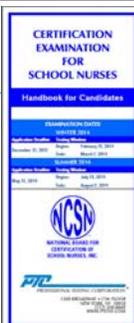
Recommended School Nurse Credentials

Leadership

- School nurse supervisors and administrators
- Lead nurses
- Team leaders
- Advanced practice RN
- School nurse consultants



NCSN information found at:
<http://www.nasn.org/rolecareer/schoolnursecertification>
<http://www.nbcsn.org/>



Writing your name and credentials

Highest earned degree, mandated requirements (i.e. licensure), state designations or requirements, national certifications, awards and honors, other certifications.

Mary B. Smith, BSN, RN, CCRN

Beth Matthey, MSN, RN, NCSN

Terri Lipman, PhD, CRNP, FAAN

www.wocn.org/resource/resmgr/.../ana_credentials_for_the_prof.pdf

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Job title
Contact information

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Standards of School Nurse Practice

- Standards are best used as broad professional expectations that reflect the values and priorities of the discipline (ANA, 2004)
- Are established by a professional organization for specialty practice
- Are an agreed-on level of practice developed to characterize and guide the nurse in achieving Excellence in school nursing practice
- Legal statutes to guide School Nurse Practice
- When tailored to fit a specific area of school nursing, provide a means for evaluation by describing competent levels of practice

Standards of School Nurse Practice

17 Standards divided between Two categories:

- Standards of **Practice** (6)
- Standards of **Professional Performance** (11)



Standards of Practice

The first six standards encompass the Nursing Process

1. Assessment
2. Diagnosis
3. Outcomes Identification
4. Planning
5. Implementation
6. Evaluation



Use of standards in developing an evaluation tool



SUMMARY

It is the position of the National Association of School Nurses (NASN) that the registered professional school nurse (hereinafter referred to as the school nurse) should be clinically supervised and evaluated by a registered nurse knowledgeable of the scope and standards of practice for school nursing. The school nurse job description and performance evaluation should be based on the standards of school nursing practice, the standards of professional performance, and related competencies described in the current version of "School Nursing: Scope and Standards of Practice" (American Nurses Association [ANA] & National Association of School Nurses [NASN], 2011).

<http://www.nasn.org/Portals/0/positions/2013pssupervision.pdf>

Category	Description
Exemplary	The school nurse provides written evidence or example(s) demonstrating practice for every performance indicator within each standard, and reaches beyond the school to the broader community.
Proficient	The school nurse provides written evidence or example(s) demonstrating practice for most performance indicators within each standard at the assigned school(s).
Developing	The school nurse does not provide written evidence or example(s) demonstrating practice for most performance indicators within each standard at the assigned school(s).
Unacceptable	The school nurse does not provide written evidence or example(s) demonstrating practice for any performance indicators within each standard at the assigned school(s).

11: Communication:

The school nurse communicates effectively in a variety of formats in all areas of nursing practice.

The ability to effectively communicate in the professional setting has been shown to be key to effective school nursing proactive with children, professional staff, and parents



(Stevenson, 2010)

12: Leadership:

The school nurse demonstrates leadership in the professional practice setting and the profession.

"Control is not leadership; management is not leadership; leadership is leadership. If you seek to lead, invest at least 50% of your time in leading yourself—your own purpose, ethics, principles, motivation, conduct. Invest at least 20% leading those with authority over you and 15% leading your peers."
— Dee Hock, Founder and CEO Emeritus, Visa

Evaluating Leadership (OH)

Standard 12: Leadership

Emergent	Competent	Skilled	Accomplished
<p>* Is recognized as the health care member of the education team.</p>	<p>* Encourages lifelong practice of healthy behaviors for self and school community. * Maintains active member status in state and national professional organizations. * Demonstrates knowledge of the philosophy and mission of the school district.</p>	<p>* Convenes a multidisciplinary team, including relevant school and community members, to address health needs of students and the school community. * Promotes active member status and contributes to local, state and national professional organizations through committee work. * Serves in formal and informal leadership roles within the school community. * Pursues National Certification as a School Nurse.</p>	<p>* Organizes and facilitates a coordinated approach to school health by serving as a leader for the school health council. * Models the use of critical thinking skills, risk taking and data-driven decision making to foster a learning community. * Promotes National Certification as a School Nurse. * Serves in formal and informal leadership roles in professional organizations and committees at the local, state or national level.</p>

13: Collaboration:



The school nurse collaborates with the healthcare consumer, the family and others in the conduct of nursing practice.



14: Professional Practice Evaluation:

The school nurse evaluates one's own nursing practice in relation to professional practice standards and guidelines, relevant statutes, rules and regulations.

When there is no Formal Evaluation Tool, use:

- Position description
- District policies
- National, state, or local role statements
- State and federal law
- Evaluation instruments that closely reflect your practice situation found on line

Difficulties

- Work alone
- Supervised by a non-nurse
- School administration assumes that a nurse is a nurse
- Begin practice with little or no orientation

15: Resource Utilization:

The school nurse utilizes appropriate resources to plan and provide nursing services that are safe, effective, and financially responsible.

- Cost containment
- Efficacy of service
- Client safety

16: Environmental Health:

The school nurse practices in an environmentally safe and healthy manner.

What is a healthy school environment?

Air quality, available clean water, allergens, pets in classroom, bees in the playing field,

School nursing is rooted in public health. What comes to mind when you think of public health in the school setting?

Communicable disease, Immunizations, health screenings, access to care, insurance

Is your school Emotionally healthy? Diverse population?

Are your students protected from outside influences such as drugs and violence?

Evaluating Environmental Health (OH)

Standard 16: Environmental Health

Emergent	Competent	Proficient	Accomplished
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Recognizes emotional and physical issues that impact the school climate * Identifies the role of the school nurse in facilitating a positive environment that is safe and healthy. * Recognizes that the School Nurse is an active member of the Comprehensive School Health Program. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Demonstrates and contributes to the positive school climate by identifying resources and partnerships. * Active member of the Comprehensive School Health Team. (e.g., air quality, food safety, emergency plans, emotional/social health, disaster preparedness, Wellness Committee...) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Evaluates environmental health principles in school nursing practice. * Contributes to the Comprehensive School Health Team. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Advocates for implementation of environmental health policies. * Demonstrates leadership in the development of the Comprehensive School Health Program.

17: Program Management:

SCHOOL NURSE MANAGES SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES

Local School Wellness Policy



Each local educational agency that participates in the National School Lunch Program or other federal Child Nutrition programs is required by Federal law to establish a local school wellness policy for all schools under its jurisdiction.

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/local-school-wellness-policy>

Is no longer an issue of being at the table, we are in position to lead the discussion at the table

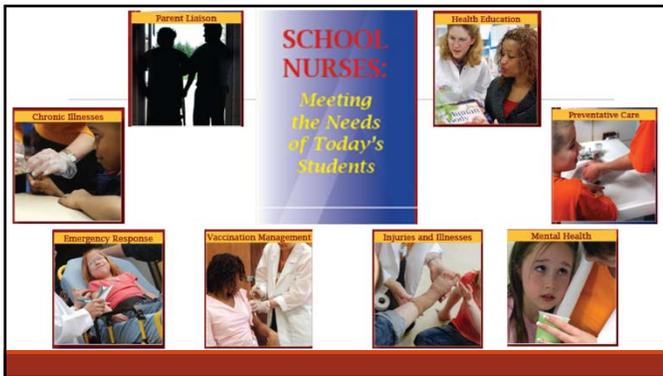
School nurses are on the Front lines of Public health

Are you involved enough in your schools that you could be the next Mary Pappas (NY)?

Need for better data collection and analysis

Better data provides evidence of the work we do, it helps policy makers better understand the value we bring to our constituents and clients.

Lina Rogers, our nations first school nurse, used data over 100 years ago to make the case for having a nurse in the school



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