

School-Based Health Centers in Louisiana



What Is a SBHC?

School-based health centers (SBHCs) are healthcare centers located in schools or on school grounds. They offer medical and behavioral health services to students whose parents/legal guardians have provided consent. Many of these are the same services found at a doctor's office or behavioral health specialist's office.

- Physical exams and checkups, including sports physicals
- Treatment for minor injuries and illness
- Counseling for students who show signs of stress, depression, sadness, grief, and more
- Help for chronic conditions, such as asthma, allergies, and diabetes
- Vaccines/shots
- Routine lab tests
- Prescriptions and medications
- Referrals to outside services when needed

What Can You Get at a SBHC?

Why Are SBHCs Important?

SBHCs make it easier for students to get the care they need. They reduce the amount of time students are away from school and parents/guardians are away from work. SBHCs help students live healthy lifestyles and spend more time on school, activities, and friends.

Frequently Asked Questions: School-Based Health Centers in Louisiana

Do students need their parent/legal guardian's permission to receive services at the SBHC?

Yes, SBHC services are available to all students who have a signed consent form on file. The consent form gives the SBHC permission to provide medical and behavioral health services to the child without contacting the parent/legal guardian each time the child visits the SBHC. Parents/legal guardians are welcome to be present during visits.

Do students need to pay to receive services at the SBHC?

No, there are no out-of-pocket costs (co-payments) for a child who receives services at the SBHC. SBHCs bill Medicaid and insurance companies for the services provided. Students with and without insurance receive the same level of care. Families who do not have insurance will receive information on how to apply for insurance.

Who works at the SBHC?

Qualified and licensed healthcare professionals work at the SBHCs. Staff typically includes:

- Primary Care Provider (Nurse Practitioner, Medical Doctor, or Physician Assistant)
- Behavioral Health Provider (Counselor/ Social Worker)
- Registered Nurse
- Director/Coordinator
- Medical Director
- Office Assistant

Why do parents like SBHCs?

Parents/legal guardians appreciate SBHCs because:

- SBHCs help students stay healthy and in school.
- Parents/legal guardians do not have to miss work or change their daily routines to take their children to appointments. They can remain at work or home.
- SBHC providers work with the parent/legal guardian and child to resolve health issues and promote strong family communication.

To learn more and locate your School-Based Health center, please
visit: partnersforfamilyhealth.org/sbhc/
For questions, please email: AdolescentHealth@la.gov