

# SCHOOL NURSING

## KRS

KRS 314.021(2) indicates that nurses are responsible and accountable for making decisions that are based upon the individuals' educational preparation and experience in nursing and requires licensees to practice nursing with reasonable skill and safety. Nursing practice should be consistent with the Kentucky Nursing Laws, established standards of practice, and be evidence based.

ROLE OF A SCHOOL NURSE	WHO CAN BE A SCHOOL NURSE?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Provision of direct health care to students and staff</li> <li>● Provides leadership for the provision of health services</li> <li>● Provides screening and referral for health conditions</li> <li>● Promotes a healthy school environment</li> <li>● Promotes health</li> <li>● Serves in a leadership role for health policies and programs</li> <li>● Serves as a liaison between school personnel, family, community, and health care providers</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Registered Nurse</li> <li>2. Advanced Practice Registered Nurse</li> <li>3. Licensed Practical Nurse-under the supervision of a RN, APRN, MD, or Dentist. They may not delegate, train or supervise unlicensed school personnel (KRS 156.502 and 2014 KBN AOS # 15)</li> </ol> <p>The school nurse must...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> hold a current Kentucky license from the Kentucky Board of Nursing (KBN)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> know their individual scope of practice as defined in KRS 314.011</li> </ul>

School nurses serve as the only health care professional in a setting full of educators. Therefore, the school nurse is in a position to bring health and wellness to a higher level of understanding within a setting of educators. Through a comprehensive school health program, school nurses have the opportunity to remove or modify health related barriers that impact academic success. School nurses should be highly valued and regarded for the unique interdisciplinary role in bridging health care and education.

## SCHOOL NURSE VISITS

Newport Independent School District had 13,209 reported school nurse health visits during the 2023-2024 school year.

### Newport High School specifically had...

- 140 students identified with health conditions on their yearly enrollment. This represents 25% of the school population.
- 3882 total school nurse health office visits during the 2023-2024 school year. During this school year, a school nurse was not available every day that school was in session due to the resignation of the school nurse and the position being filled by a substitute registered nurse.
- 29.4% of all health visits in 2023-2024 at Newport Schools are by students attending Newport High School. Students from Newport Primary School contributed to 36.6% of all health visits in 2023-2024. Students from Newport Intermediate School contributed to 34% of all health visits in 2023-2024. Therefore, school health visits are relatively proportional between school settings.
- In 76.2% of the school nurse health visits at Newport High School, students were sent back to class. In theory this percentage would be lower if a school nurse was not present to assess student vitals and symptoms. This would impact average daily attendance resulting in a loss of funding.

Number of Health Office Visits	
	Newport High School
2023-2024	3882
2022-2023	5362
2021-2022	3357
2020-2021	149
2019-2020	2101
2018-2019	1698

The following chart and line graph illustrates the six year comparative data beginning with the 2018-2019 school year (pre-Covid 19) through the previous school year (2023-2024). The data shows a 189.6% increase in school nurse visits over the last six years. When comparing data from the 2021-2022 school year, the first year of returning to a traditional school model post pandemic, and the previous school year, district nurse visits increased by 29.86%.

School Nurse Health Office Visit												
Comparative District-Wide												
School Year	Health Office Visits	Discharges					Other Discharges					
		Back to Class	Sent Home	Left School for Medical Referral	911/EMS	Other	Called Parent	Left School for Other Referral	Return to Nurse if Feels Worse	Sent to Other Staff	Should Consult MD if Symptoms Continue	Visits with No Discharge Information
2023-2024	13,209	9065	439	55	8	3963	375	1	276	20	---	3291
2022-2023	14,902	7362	738	79	6	7819	1098	1	162	29	2	6527
2021-2022	10,172	5176	535	33	0	4924	493	1	81	20	---	4329
2020-2021	1693	614	62	3	0	1139	136	---	6	3	---	994
2019-2020	9586	5350	279	26	0	4542	588	1	72	30	2	3849
2018-2019	4561	2695	177	5	1	2073	409	1	6	2	2	1653

