

NEED-TO-KNOW FACTS ABOUT SCHOOL-BASED SERVICES

Despite being young, children experience a whirlwind of emotion and stress – as much as the adults in the world. Sometimes they aren't equipped with the tools to handle the roller coaster of emotions that comes with balancing school, extracurricular activities, friends, and family. The Kentucky Department of Education and Cabinet for Health and Family Services offers a School-based Health Services (SBHS) program that exists to provide every student access to in-school health care, including speech, physical, and occupational therapy; mental health services; and nursing care at no-cost to the students and their families.

This program ensures students can access critical health care services within their schools, reducing barriers to care and improving their overall well-being. Here are some facts about school-based services:

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH SERVICES?

Every student enrolled in a school that offers SBHS is eligible to receive the services at no cost to their parents or guardians.

HOW CAN I ENROLL MY STUDENT INTO SBHS?

For a student to receive any of the listed services offered by their school, parents and/or guardians must fill out the consent and enrollment form provided by your student's school.

WILL CARE FROM AN SBHS PROVIDER IMPACT MY STUDENT'S ELIGIBILITY FOR OTHER STATE-FUNDED CARE?

No, receiving care through SBHS will not impact your student or your eligibility in other federal- and state-funded programs like KCHIP, Medicaid, and SNAP.

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF MY STUDENT'S SCHOOL DOESN'T OFFER SBHS OR DOESN'T HAVE THE SERVICES MY STUDENT NEEDS?

The Family Resource and Youth Services Centers in your child's school district may be able to direct you to community resources. If you need help finding a health care provider for your child or have questions regarding benefits, you may contact your insurance company or MCO or the Kentucky SBHS center at shineky@ky.gov for assistance.

WILL I BE NOTIFIED IF MY STUDENT RECEIVES CARE FROM AN SBHS PROVIDER?

Yes, before receiving care, a consent and enrollment form must be signed by a student's guardian. All visits with providers will be recorded and shared with the student's parent and/or guardian.

