



New Hampshire

Department of Education

Serving New Hampshire's Education Community

Technical Advisory

School Health Services

Ed 306.12

This Technical Advisory provides information regarding School Health Services

I. Actual Text Ed 306.12 School Health Services

(a) In accordance with federal and state law, including, but not limited to, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, RSA 141-C, RSA 169-C, RSA 200:26-41, and RSA 326-B, the local school board shall require that each school provides qualified personnel to carry out appropriate school health-related activities.

(b) Each school nurse employed by a school district shall hold a current license as a registered nurse under RSA 326-B. Each licensed practical nurse or certified nursing assistant employed by a school district shall hold such current certification under RSA 326-B. If a school nurse or licensed practical nurse is not available to a school for any reason, at least one other person who has a current first aid and cardiopulmonary certification (CPR) certification shall be available.

II. The following replaces the section on Department Discussion in the Technical Advisory School Health Services:

Licenses are required by the Board of Nursing, not certification. Certified Nursing Assistants are now called Licensed Nursing Assistants (LNA). When a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) or LNA works in the public school setting, she or he must work under the supervision of the School Registered Nurse (RN) as per RSA 200:31. Per New Hampshire Board of Nursing, Nur 404.01 Purpose. (a) The purpose of Nur 404.01 to Nur 404.07 is to regulate the delegation of tasks of client care by licensed nurses to licensed and unlicensed persons, pursuant to RSA 326-B:28 and RSA 326-B:29. NUR 404.07 (c) A delegating licensee shall: (1) Introduce the delegatee to the client; and (2) Supervise the delegatee's performance of the delegated task on either a continual or an intermittent basis, as warranted by the following:

- a. The complexity of the delegated task of client care;
- b. The condition of the client;
- c. The degree of the competency of the delegatee; and
- d. The familiarity of the delegatee with the environment in which the task is to be performed.

Issued by:

Virginia M. Barry, Ph.D.

Date Issued:

February 9, 2016

Supersedes

issue dated:

September 4, 2008

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A school nurse and LPN/LNA can work as a team in the same health office. The school nurse has a multi-faceted role in the school setting by supporting physical, mental, emotional, and social health of all students in order to maximize success in the learning process. The school nurse has the health expertise essential to school educational teams, reducing the health-related barriers to learning, as well as, ensuring a safe environment for the school community. It is the breadth of the nursing activities contained in the school nurse role in the unique non-medical setting of a school that differentiates the professional registered nurse. The school nurse assigns specific tasks. An LPN/LNA cannot work alone to run the health office. A school health office is a walk-in clinic for unpredictable emergencies and illnesses and the assessment required and evaluation of implemented health care is at the RN level. LPN's are, per scope of practice under RSA 326-B:13, "(b) planning nursing care for clients with stable conditions". For example, the school nurse has written a health care plan for a student with diabetes and delegates which aspect of the plan is appropriate for the LPN to implement. If the school nurse determines the student with diabetes is stable, then an LPN could provide the nursing services on a field trip with the student's written health care plan. The LPN would plan the nursing care for the field trip from the written health care plan. The School Nurse must keep in mind the younger the student, the more difficult the student's ability to communicate their health care problem.

"School Activities" are field trips, school sports events and other such gatherings that are planned for students. Medication Administration is detailed in the Ed 311.02 Medication During School Day Advisory.

When an RN or LPN is not available to a school, at least one other person who has a current first aid and CPR certification shall be available. For clarification, the LPN scope of practice does not allow independent practice. If an LPN is working in the school, the school nurse provides supervision in the same health office or assigns LPN specific health care task of individual student based on the care plan. In order to ensure that one trained person is indeed available to students during school hours and during scheduled school activities, it may necessitate training a variety of personnel. Being available means they must be on school grounds during school hours or present at scheduled school activities so that they can provide emergency care immediately.

III. For more information on this technical advisory, contact:

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Issued by:

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February 9, 2016

Supersedes

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