

SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTERS:

A SHARED COMMITMENT FOR THE GOOD OF HEALTHY STUDENTS

What is a School-Based Health Center (SBHC)? A shared commitment between a community's schools and healthcare sponsor organizations to support its students' health, well-being, and academic success. Onsite health care professionals collaborate with schools to address a broad range of concerns and adverse experiences that can affect healthy development. Their goal is to give students meaningful access to care in a safe, convenient location, and ensure all young people, no matter their zip code, have equal opportunities to learn and grow.

6.3

MILLION STUDENTS
NATIONWIDE HAVE
ACCESS TO SBHCS



SBHCs lead to improved educational outcomes including school performance, grade promotion, high school completion, as well as the decreased illness and hospitalization rates.



✓ Establish the purpose of your SBHC

Review local child health and education data trends to tailor your SBHC to your specific community needs.

✓ Secure project support

Secure partnerships with local healthcare sponsors and school districts while cultivating support with community members.

✓ Choose your service model

SBHCs can be fully or partially staffed by sponsoring healthcare agency or include additional staffing from community partners. Services delivery models include in-person, via telehealth, or mobile units.

✓ Determine the budget

State and federal reimbursement are widely available for SBHC services, along with support from federal grants, private donors, and other support agencies.

How to Get Started:

Most states have their own set of guidelines and procedures. For a step-by-step guide, please visit the School-Based Health Alliance's [website](#). We are here to support you every step of the way.



Going Forward

Healthcare organizations can launch new partnerships with schools based on identified needs (sports physicals/well-child visits, routine vaccines, COVID-19 vaccine administration). Consider approaching the school district's central office. The administrator of the school district, often referred to as the superintendent, has the power, authority, and holds the final level of support to sign off on needed agreement(s) between the district and the health center. Or consider approaching an individual school to identify a champion with whom to help your health center navigate approval through the district.

Learn more at sbh4all.org or aap.org.