



Healthy Kids Make Better Learners

The Connecticut Association
of School Based Health Centers

School Based Health Centers (SBHCs) are a model that works. *SBHCs integrate primary medical care with behavioral health services* and in some cases, dental services. SBHCs are located within or on school grounds and serve students in grades Pre K – 12. Services are provided by licensed medical clinicians, licensed mental health clinicians, dental hygienists, and dentists. SBHCs are licensed by the Department of Public Health as outpatient clinics or hospital satellite clinics.

Myths

- SBHCs rely solely on state funds to operate
- With the ACA, all students are insured
- All health facilities in schools licensed as outpatient clinics are School Based Health Centers

Facts

- All SBHCs in CT have been billing HUSKY since 1996. While CT SBHCs utilize State funds to partially support program services, other revenue sources, including billing Medicaid and private insurances, foundation grants, and private donations are sought to support the health centers.
- Some students that use SBHC services are uninsurable. Additionally, many ACA plans have high deductibles (\$3,000 or more). The SBHC may provide services throughout the school year and not get paid because the deductible is not met.
- According to Public Act 15-59, an licensed outpatient clinic using the title “School-Based Health Center” (SBHC) must provide on-site medical *and* behavioral health services. However, many outpatient clinic licenses are for mobile dental services only, or behavioral health only, are present in school intermittently with limited days or hours, and are licensed as expanded school health sites (even though they may refer to it as an SBHC).

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www.ctschoolhealth.org





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Myths

- There are 205 school based health centers in CT schools
- You can operate a comprehensive, full time SBHC without state funds



Facts

- There are 205 outpatient clinic licenses granted by DPH for various 'health services' in schools. There are 93 state funded SBHCs that provide medical *and* behavioral health services (PA15-59) licensed as outpatient clinics. Additionally, outpatient clinic licenses are granted for expanded school health service sites that may offer only one service, such as mobile dental on a limited basis, or behavioral health only.
- Even with a higher rate of reimbursement, FQHCs state that it is nearly impossible to provide integrated medical *and* behavioral SBHC services funded solely on reimbursements. Providing only one service or the other fragments care. Every other part of the healthcare system is striving to integrate medical and behavioral care for the best health outcomes. SBHCs have always integrated care.



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