Students
SPECIALIZED HEALTH CARE SERVICES

Definitions

Specialized physical health services means those health services prescribed by the student's licensed physician requiring medically related training for the individual who performs the services and which are necessary during the school day to enable the student to attend school. These services include catheterization, gastric tube feeding, suctioning, or other services that require medically related training. (Education Code 49423.5; 5 CCR 3051.12)

Qualified means the ability to demonstrate competence in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation, current knowledge of community emergency medical resources, and skill in the use of equipment and performance of techniques necessary to provide specialized physical health care services for individuals with exceptional needs. In addition, for designated school personnel, qualified means trained in the procedures to a level of competence and safety which meets the objectives of the training as provided by the school nurse, public health nurse, licensed physician, or other programs which provide the training. (Education Code 49423.5; 5 CCR 3051.12)

Training means preparation in the appropriate delivery and skillful performance of specialized physical health care services. (5 CCR 3051.12)

Supervision means review, observation, and/or instruction of a designated school person's performance and of physical health care services, but does not necessarily require the immediate presence of the supervisor at all times. (5 CCR 3051.12)

Provision of Services

A student with disabilities who requires specialized health care services during the school day, as identified in his/her individualized education program (IEP), may be assisted by any of the following individuals: (Education Code 49423.5, 56345)

1. Qualified persons who possess an appropriate credential pursuant to Education Code 44267 (service credential with specialization in health), Education Code 44267.5 (service credential with specialization in health for school nurse), or a valid certificate of public health nursing issued by the Board of Registered Nursing.

2. Qualified designated school personnel trained in the administration of specialized physical health care if they perform those services under the supervision of a credentialed school nurse, public health nurse, or licensed physician and surgeon and the services are determined by the credentialed school nurse or licensed physician and surgeon, in consultation with the physician treating the student, to meet all of the following criteria:

   a. Routine care for the student.
b. Pose little potential harm for the student.

c. Performed with predictable outcomes, as defined in the student's IEP.

d. Do not require a nursing assessment, interpretation, or decisionmaking by the designated school personnel.

Specialized health care or other services that require medically related training shall be provided pursuant to Education Code 49423.  (Education Code 49423.5)

County Superintendent/County Board schools shall provide appropriate accommodations for safety and necessary physical care services. The student's personal privacy and dignity shall be assured.  (5 CCR 3051.12)

A qualified school nurse, public health nurse, or licensed physician responsible for supervising the physical health care of students with disabilities in the school setting shall:  (5 CCR 3051.12)

1. Coordinate the health care services to individuals with exceptional needs on the school site.

2. Consult with appropriate personnel regarding management of health care services for individuals with exceptional needs.

3. Make appropriate referrals and maintain communication with health agencies providing care to individuals with exceptional needs.

4. Maintain or review licensed physician and parent/guardian requests and daily documentation records.

Written licensed physician and surgeon and parent request, as well as the specific standardized procedures to be used if physical health care services are provided, shall be maintained for each individual with exceptional needs. Any student who is required to have specialized physical health care services during the school day, prescribed to him or her by a licensed physician and surgeon, may be assisted by a qualified school nurse, qualified public health nurse, or other qualified school personnel, if the County Superintendent/County Board school receives:  (5 CCR 3051.12)

1. A written statement from the license physician and surgeon stating the procedure and time schedules by which such procedures are to be given; and

2. A written statement from the parent/guardian of the student, indicating the desire that the County Superintendent/County Board school assist the student in the matters set forth in the physician or surgeon's statement, and granting consent for the delivery of such services.
Along with the written physician and surgeon statement and parent request, daily documentation of specific services provided shall be maintained on a County Superintendent-approved form which shall include the signatures of the school personnel who performed the procedure. This documentation shall be maintained in accordance with the requirements for confidentiality of student records and shall be classified as mandatory interim student records. (5 CCR 3051.12)

Adopted: undated
Amended: 10/15/2020

LEGAL REFERENCE

Education Code
44267 Services credential with specialization in health
44267.5 Services credential with specialization in health for school nurse
49423 Administration of prescribed medication for student
49423.5 Specialized physical health care services
49426 School nurses
56000-56606 Special education programs, especially:
56345 Individualized education program contents

Business and Professions Code
2700-2837 Nursing, especially:
2726 Authority not conferred
2727 Exceptions in general

Code of Regulations, Title 5
3051.12 Health and nursing services

United States Code, Title 20
1232g Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974
1400-1482 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

Code of Federal Regulations, Title 34
300.1-300.818 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, especially:
300.34 Related services

Court Decisions
Taylor v. Honig (1990) 910 F.2d 627

MANAGEMENT RESOURCES

Websites
California Department of Education, Health Services and School Nursing: http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/hn
California School Nurses Organization: http://www.csno.org

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