



School Nurse UPDATE

#6 October 27, 2022

FEATURED STORIES

PRACTICE POINTS –
Unprecedented

Confidentiality, Consent,
and Student Records (DPI
News)

Self-harm Article (p. 8)

Red Ribbon Week (p. 12)

Baseline Concussion
Testing (NASN News)

SAVE THE DATES

DPI Consultant Office
hours 11/18/22 8-8:45
AM

DiSH Session on CGMs
11/16/22 3-4 PM

WASN Annual
Conference April 26-28,
2023

DPI supports best practices/evidence-based resources, but does not vet or endorse products/services. User is responsible to evaluate the resource and how it meets local needs.

Greetings!

Last week I shared information with school nurses regarding the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Public Health Workforce Grant awarded to the state public health agencies, including our Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS). **DHS received approximately \$35 million with \$8.7 million targeted to school health services.** Please read Practice Points which further describes the grant funding. The Department of Public Instruction's involvement has been to offer suggestions on use of the funding and implementation measures. The Cooperative Educational Service Areas (CESA) are the distributing the funding for DHS. **Each CESA is determining how best to communicate with school district administrators regarding this funding.**

I highly recommend watching the recordings of two webinars I viewed last week. One was the **Asthma & Allergy Network's webinar discussing food allergies from different developmental levels** (p.7). The other was the **Our Choice Prevention Education Webinar Vaping and Marijuana- Drug Trends For Teens In 2022** (p.10).

During the food allergy presentation, it was mentioned **that sending out list of "safe snacks" can be misleading.** So, while I urge caution, I also note this highly used resource that indicates the lists are reviewed and updated regularly [SnackSafely.com](https://www.snacksafely.com)

As was discussed on the DHS/DPI webinar this week, COVID is not "over." This update contains information regarding **new variants, possible fall COVID scenarios,** and information **on getting free at home test kits and child-size masks** from DHS.

DPI News



DPI School Health Services Adds Resources

- [Seizure Training for School Nurses: Caring for Students with Psychogenic Seizures \(PNES\)](#) is a program designed to provide the school nurse with information and resources to gain a better understanding of caring for students with psychogenic seizures. By the end of this course, participants will have tools and knowledge to help children and youth with PNES.

The program consists of four modules to assist the school nurse in learning to effectively care for students with psychogenic seizures. The link is located on the [Chronic Health Conditions/Epilepsy or Seizure Disorder webpage](#).

- [American Academy of Allergy Asthma & Immunology Food Allergy Stages Handouts](#) link is located on the Chronic Health Conditions/Anaphylaxis [webpage](#). The Food Allergy Stages handouts were designed to help families manage food allergies and teach children about food allergies at different developmental stages.
- Headlice resources added under Resources/Headlice include [AAP 2015 Clinical Report](#) and [Head Lice What Parents Need to Know- AAP](#)
- [Wisconsin Department of Health Services Naloxone Training](#)

Updated Webpage: Confidentiality, Consent, and Student Records

The [Confidentiality, Consent, and Student Records webpage](#) has been updated to provide the field with various links to instructive resources from the state and federal levels. Here you can find links to Wisconsin Pupil Records Information, FERPA & IDEA Confidentiality, HIPAA v FERPA, Confidential Youth Services, and resources related to Parent, Guardian, and Custodial Rights.

LGBTQ+ History Is Wisconsin History

Wisconsin has a rich, important LGBTQ+ history often left out of traditional history textbooks.

[View LGBTQ+ History Story](#)

Save the Date: UW Oshkosh Adolescent Health Symposium

Join this online annual conference on health education and adolescent wellness. [Read more.](#)

The Confidentiality, Consent, and Student Records webpage has been updated to provide the field with various links to instructive resources from the state and federal levels.

DPI News

2021 Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) Statewide Sample Data Available

DPI is pleased to release its 2021 Statewide YRBS Data on the [YRBS webpage](#). Some documents posted include overall summary tables and graphs for all variables, trend reports, an Academic Achievement Report, and the Sexual Identity Report. The Centers for Disease Control produced each document in partnership with DPI, and a statewide summary report based on this data is forthcoming.

Notably, DPI has identified continued high rates of mental health issues, with 52.2 percent of students self-reporting problems with anxiety and 33.7 percent of students self-reporting problems with depression. Suicidal ideation remains high, with 18.1 percent of students reporting that they seriously considered attempting suicide in the 12 months prior to the survey. Beyond this, rates remain unchanged across nearly all Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse (AODA)/tobacco prevalence questions. Finally, DPI has continued to identify students of color, females, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) students generally reporting fewer supports and more challenges.

The YRBS was administered in the Fall of 2021. Fifty high schools were selected for the State of Wisconsin sample. Of those schools, 43 chose to participate, and 1,838 students took the survey. These schools were vital in ensuring Wisconsin had a statistically sound, representative sample for the YRBS data collection.

To find out when these resources are available, please continue to visit the [YRBS webpage](#) and subscribe to the YRBS listserv by emailing subscribe-wi_yrbs_general@lists.dpi.wi.gov with the word "Subscribe" in the heading.

2022-2023 Wisconsin School Health Program Award and Coaching

We are excited to announce that in 2022, the [Wisconsin School Health Award](#) will evolve! This evolution will include a continuation of the Wisconsin School Health Award Program and an addition of the Coaching Program. This coaching opportunity will help schools identify and address health disparities present in their school environment and receive assistance in implementing their action plan.

Both programs (award and coaching) will utilize the [Registration Form](#), [Action for Healthy Kids Assessment](#), [DPI Supplemental Questions](#), and [Application](#). The Award Program will use a portfolio of evidence (attached) and the Coaching Program will use an [action plan template](#). All parts will be due by **12/31/22**.

Schools eligible for coaching will demonstrate the following criteria:

- Completion of registration, assessments, action plan and application.
- Action for Healthy Schools Assessment Score below 85 percent.
- Demonstrated need in two or more areas of the Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child Model.

Schools eligible for an award will demonstrate the following criteria:

- Completion of registration, assessments, portfolio of evidence, and application.
- Action for Healthy Schools Assessment Score above 85 percent.
- Demonstrated success in eight or more components of the Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child Model.

Reach out to Tacara Lovings, Tacara.lovings@dpi.wi.gov with any questions!

DHS News



Respiratory Report

[The Weekly Respiratory Report](#) is available and updated bi-weekly.

State Health Department Introduces New Flu Vaccine Data Dashboard and Report on Vaccine Coverage in Wisconsin

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) released its [Influenza Vaccine Update](#) and launched a new online [flu vaccine data dashboard](#). Together, the report and data dashboard provide a look at previous and current flu vaccine rates statewide and highlight communities and areas of the state more vulnerable to the seasonal flu.

Free Fentanyl Test Strips Now Available Statewide

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) today announced that 120,600 fentanyl test strips have been distributed to organizations across the state to help prevent drug overdose deaths. Drugs mixed with [fentanyl](#) are the leading cause of overdose deaths in Wisconsin.

“Wisconsinites who use drugs are more likely to encounter fentanyl than ever before,” said DHS Secretary-designee Karen Timberlake. “Tragically, many people who use drugs have no idea they are ingesting fentanyl until it’s too late. That’s why we need to empower our family members, friends, and neighbors who use drugs to have as much information as possible to protect their safety. Fentanyl test strips are a critical tool in our efforts to save lives.” View the entire [news release](#).

State Agencies Launch Real Talks Campaign to Prevent and Reduce Substance Use

In response to rising rates of substance use across Wisconsin, Gov. Tony Evers, the Department of Health Services (DHS) and Department of Justice (DOJ) have unveiled [Real Talks Wisconsin](#), an effort to give residents the information they need to keep themselves, their families, and their communities healthy and safe.

Real Talks Wisconsin promotes frequent conversations to prevent and reduce substance use through supportive relationships. Real talks are based on asking open-ended questions, having empathy, and helping problem solve. View the entire [news release](#).

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DHS News

Districts/Schools Can Place Additional At-home Test Orders

Districts/schools are now able to place additional orders of at-home COVID-19 antigen tests [through the DHS website](#). Schools/districts were first able to order at-home antigen tests for distribution in August.

These tests are intended for K-12 schools to distribute to students and staff. At-home test orders should not exceed the population of students and staff for each district/school. Schools/districts do NOT have to be enrolled in the K-12 COVID-19 Testing Program to order at-home antigen tests. Updated guidance from DHS allows at-home tests to be [used in certain public health decisions](#), including “determining if someone has COVID-19 for the purposes of returning to work or school.” A confirmatory PCR test may be required in certain scenarios.

Schools Can Order Child-size Masks, Other Items From State PPE Stockpile

Schools are still able to order child-size KN95 masks for children aged 2-12 from the Wisconsin PPE stockpile. Schools are also temporarily able to request adult face masks and vinyl gloves.

School districts may continue to submit requests via the DHS Stockpile Request form. The child-size masks should only be provided in response to requests and not for general distribution, and the quantity requested should not exceed enrollment of children at each facility. Ordering instructions can be found on this DHS web page:

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/ppe.htm>

Please take and help share the Diabetes Action Plan Survey!

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services is working to develop the next Diabetes Action Plan. In March 2020, Wisconsin enacted the Diabetes Care and Prevention Action Program Act, Wis. Stat. § 255.085 to assess the impact and reach of diabetes in Wisconsin. In response to this legislation, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services created the [Wisconsin Diabetes Action Plan 2021: Report to the State Legislature P-03154](#).

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services is working to develop the next Diabetes Action Plan. This action plan will be presented to the Wisconsin Legislature and could influence policy surrounding diabetes. If you or someone you know or care for has diabetes, or you work in the same or similar field as those with diabetes, we would love to gather your input on how to address diabetes in the state. Take the DHS survey available in [English](#), [Spanish](#), and [Hmong](#).

For any questions regarding the survey, please contact the [Chronic Disease Prevention Program](#).



Please take and help share the Diabetes Action Plan Survey! The Wisconsin Department of Health Services is working to develop the next Diabetes Action Plan.

Medscape Nurses



New COVID Subvariants Rising: How Concerned Should We Be?

Move over, BA.5. There are some new kids in town and no one is sure yet if we should be worried. But there is concern that COVID-19 virus subvariants BQ.1 and BQ1.1 will become a major threat in the U.S. and that XBB could alter the COVID picture globally.

At this point, infectious disease experts have only predictions. [Read article.](#)

US Extends COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Declaration

The United States extended the COVID-19 pandemic's status as a public health emergency for another 90 days, thereby preserving measures like high payments to hospitals and expanded Medicaid. [Read article.](#)

Three COVID Scenarios That Could Spell Trouble for the Fall

As the United States enters a third fall with COVID-19, the virus for many is seemingly gone – or at least out of mind. But for those keeping watch, it is far from forgotten as deaths and infections continue to mount at a lower but steady pace.

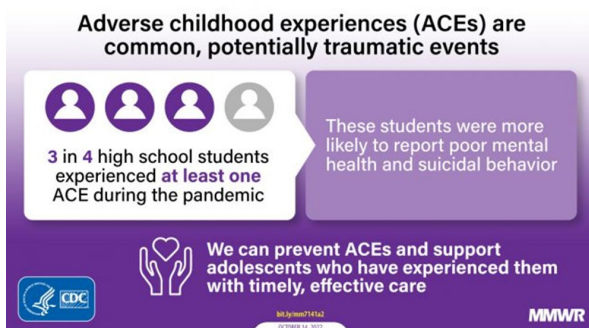
What does that mean for the upcoming months? Experts predict different scenarios, some more dire than others – with one more encouraging. [Read article.](#)

MMWR

[Adverse Childhood Experiences During the COVID-19 Pandemic and Associations with Poor Mental Health and Suicidal Behaviors Among High School Students – Adolescent Behaviors and Experiences Survey, United States, January–June 2021](#)

The prevalences of poor current mental health and past-year suicide attempts among adolescents reporting four or more adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) during the COVID-19 pandemic were four and 25 times as high as those without ACEs, respectively.

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Asthma and Allergy Network

Food Allergy Stages: Effective Age-Based Food Allergy Guidance Webinar Recording and Resources

Here is the video recording and slides available from the webinar:

<https://allergyasthmanetwork.org/webinars-updates/food-allergy-stages/>

Here are the links to the additional resources related to the topics in the webinar:

All About Food Allergies <https://allergyasthmanetwork.org/allergies/food-allergies/>

Food Allergy Stages Handouts – English

<https://www.aaaai.org/tools-for-the-public/conditions-library/allergies/food-allergy-stages-handouts>

Folletos sobre las etapas de la alergia alimentaria (Food Allergy Stages Handouts)

<https://www.aaaai.org/Tools-for-the-Public/Biblioteca-de-condiciones/Biblioteca-de-alergia/folletos-sobre>

Planning for School with Food Allergies

<https://allergyasthmanetwork.org/allergies/food-allergies/planning-for-school-with-food-allergies/>

Living with Food Allergies

<https://allergyasthmanetwork.org/allergies/food-allergies/living-with-food-allergies/>

Upcoming webinars & virtual events - for more information and to register:

<https://allergyasthmanetwork.org/allergy-asthma-webinars/>

October 27: Atopic Dermatitis: Diversity in Presentation

November 8: Navigating the Holidays with Allergies & Asthma

November 11: US Asthma Summit – Save the Date!

December 1: New Studies on Long COVID-19: A Multi-System Disorder

Teva Discontinues ProAir® HFA Asthma Inhaler

If you use ProAir HFA (albuterol sulfate) for quick relief of asthma symptoms, you have options: talk with your doctor about getting an authorized generic inhaler. Be sure to check out our [Respiratory Treatments poster](#) for other available quick-relief inhalers.

When It's Anaphylaxis, Remember: Epinephrine First, Epinephrine Fast

Don't delay use of epinephrine when you experience symptoms of anaphylaxis, or a severe allergic reaction. Then keep watch for a sudden return of symptoms, called a biphasic reaction. Here's our revamped Anaphylaxis webpage -- complete with videos, Q&As and the Anaphylaxis at a Glance infographic.

[Read more](#)

NASN News



New NASN Position Brief: Medicaid and CHIP

NASN holds the position that promoting continuous and initial Medicaid and State Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) coverage provides health benefits and supports health equity for eligible children and adolescents. The Public Health Emergency resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic will end, thus activating Medicaid unwinding.

Students require health insurance to access care that promotes their health, safety, and readiness to learn. Communication from schools about Medicaid unwinding promotes this change in a timely way for students and families. [View Position Brief.](#)

Understanding Baseline Concussion Testing

Sports-related concussions (SRCs) are not uncommon among teen athletes. School nurses are in an ideal position to care for athletes affected with SRCs. This [NASN School Nurse](#) article, [Understanding Baseline Concussion Testing: A Resource for School Nurses as Members of Concussion Management Teams](#), briefly examines baseline concussion testing as a tool for assessing and managing the student athlete suffering from an SRC and explores the role of the school nurse on concussion management teams.

Sports-related concussions (SRCs) are not uncommon among teen athletes. School nurses are in an ideal position to care for athletes affected with SRCs.

Education Week™

Addressing the Link Between Anxiety, Depression, and Student Attendance

Anxiety and depression can have a direct affect on school avoidance and attendance. This is part of [a new special report on pandemic recovery](#). [Read more.](#)

American Academy of Pediatrics - HealthyChildren.Org

Featured Article of the Month: When Children and Teens Self-Harm

If a child is hurting so badly they're cutting or self-harming in other ways, their parents probably feel the pain, too. They may feel confused, angry and helpless when they see signs that their child or teen is engaging in self-harm. They realize their child needs immediate help, but many have no idea where to begin. Pediatricians Alia McKean and Maria H. Rahmandar share insights that address commonly held fears and misconceptions, along with ways parents can support their child. Read the [full article](#).

WI FACETS

Health Plans and How They Interface with IEPs

Please join us for a free webinar where we will describe how a health-related need translates into an “effect of disability” in an IEP. We will also locate in an IEP how a school plans to address a student’s health needs.

Wednesday, November 2 | 12:00-1:00 pm

Presenter: Louise Wilson MS, BSN, RN, LSN, NCSN, School Nursing/Health Services Consultant for the Wisconsin DPI

[Register Here](#)

Seclusion and Restraint Update

Wednesday, November 16 | 12:00 pm

Learn all about the requirements of the law and the new important changes that were put in place this year.

Presenter: Margaret Resan, School Administration Consultant, WI DPI

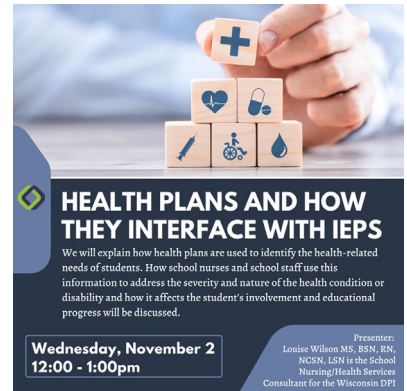
[Register Here](#)

Wisconsin Nurses Association

Registration is open for the Diabetes Care & Education Conference

The Conference is taking place IN-PERSON at the beautiful [Best Western Premier Waterfront Hotel and Convention Center](#) in Oshkosh on November 18th-19th, 2022!

Registration Deadline: November 11, 2022 See flyer attached to this newsletter.



Please join us for a free webinar where we will describe how a health-related need translates into an “effect of disability” in an IEP.

Miscellaneous



Your Choice Prevention Education Webinar Vaping And Marijuana- Drug Trends For Teens In 2022

Presenter: Dr. Aaron Weiner- aaron@weinerphd.com

Recording of the presentation - will be posted at www.yourchoiceprevention.org/webinars

Webinars - Have you missed any of our webinars? We have a full library of webinars on topics ranging from meth to anxiety to marijuana and more! Get the first month free by using the code PARENTS at checkout. Scroll to the bottom of the page and hit "subscribe." www.yourchoiceprevention.org/webinars

Neurelis™ Offers Webinars to School Nurses Confidence in the Classroom

This free webinar is designed to support you in helping your students with epilepsy manage episodes of frequent seizures at school.

Register today to learn more about VALTOCO® (diazepam nasal spray) the *only* nasal spray seizure rescue for students with epilepsy ages 6 and older.

Britton Zuccarelli, MD
Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Neurology
University of Kansas School of Medicine
Child Neurologist
Salina Regional Health Center
Salina, KS

Tuesday, November 1
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM CENTRAL - [REGISTER](#)

Or

Thursday, November 3
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM CENTRAL - [REGISTER](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with important log-in information.

Infinite Campus Training

School Nurses are being offered an opportunity for free professional development on the use of Infinite Campus in the health room. Complete [this survey](#) to direct the content of this event that is tentatively scheduled for Monday, November 21, 2022. Location is yet to be determined. Feedback regarding interest in further trainings, including virtual options can be shared by completing the survey.

We have a full library of webinars on topics ranging from meth to anxiety to marijuana and more!

Miscellaneous



CDC Group Endorses Adding Covid Shots To Recommended Vaccine Schedule

NBC News/ [Read article](#)

The unanimous recommendation to add the vaccine to the annual schedule does not mandate the shots or preclude unvaccinated kids from attending school.

Therapeutic Plasma Exchange In Adolescent And Adult Patients With Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated With Streptococcal Infections

A new article published in the Journal of Apheresis discusses an "Institutional Review Board-approved retrospective chart review on all patients treated with TPE for PANDAS/PANS indications via a single outpatient apheresis service located in a medium-sized urban medical center."

According to the findings, "TPE appears to be a safe and potentially efficacious treatment option for symptomatic adolescent and adult PANDAS/PANS patients."

Prus, K., Weidner, K., & Alquist, C. (2022). Therapeutic plasma exchange in adolescent and adult patients with autoimmune neuropsychiatric disorders associated with streptococcal infections. *Journal of clinical apheresis*, 10.1002/jca.22023. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jca.22023>. [Access article](#).

New Videos Focus On Diseases

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia has a video series that focuses on diseases that are vaccine preventable with the goal of offering parents and other viewers information about diseases they likely have never seen because vaccines have made them less common. Find out more about the series, "[Doctors Talk Diseases](#)," including which other disease-specific videos will be produced, or check out the [YouTube playlist](#).

COVID Subvariants: What To Know And Should You Be Concerned?

ABC News/ [Read article](#)

Offshoots of the BA.4 and BA.5 omicron subvariants are increasing in the U.S.

The unanimous recommendation to add the vaccine to the annual schedule does not mandate the shots or preclude unvaccinated kids from attending school.

Responsibility.org

Red Ribbon Week Reminders

It's [Red Ribbon Week](#), which means conversations about keeping kids alcohol- and substance-free are happening in classrooms around the country. It takes a village to keep kids saying "NO" to harmful risky behaviors like underage drinking and underage cannabis use, and each of us plays an important role.

Prevention education is a collective effort during [Red Ribbon Week](#) and beyond. Continued conversations by parents, educators, and counselors help kids say "YES" to a healthy lifestyle and "NO" to underage drinking.

Consistent messaging and frequent conversations matter. And they work! Underage drinking levels are at historically low levels! That means together, we are doing a great job—and we need to keep up the good work!

Here are some things we can all keep doing to remind kids they have the power to say "NO" to underage drinking.

Families and Caregivers

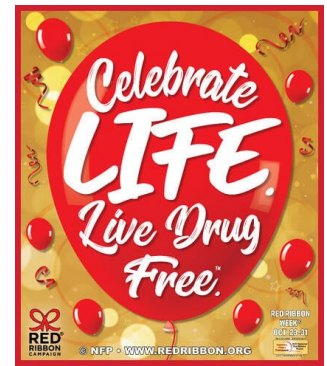
Keep talking! Even though it may seem like our kids aren't listening when we talk, parents continue to be the #1 influence on kids' decisions to drink—or not to drink—alcohol. Talking with kids about the negative effects alcohol can have on their developing brains has a big impact. As the number of conversations about alcohol goes up, underage drinking rates go down. If you're not sure how to start talking about alcohol in your home, our [conversation infographic](#) can help.

Educators

Maintain a [healthy classroom environment](#). You're dedicated to creating a workspace that's collaborative, encouraging, and geared towards student success, so Red Ribbon Week is a time to continue emphasizing these healthy living foundations. Talk about positive peer influence and use our [free lesson plans and videos](#) for fun and impactful learning during this week's lessons. In addition, you will find social and emotional learning foundations woven into these science-based lessons.

School Principals, Counselors, and Nurses

Share trusted resources to help others [lead the conversation](#) at home or school. Parents and colleagues can be hesitant to talk about underage drinking if they're not confident in communicating the facts. During Red Ribbon Week, share [classroom resources](#) with fellow teachers. Send an email to parents and caregivers sharing [how alcohol affects developing brains](#) so they feel confident continuing the conversation about underage drinking and underage cannabis use at home.



Talking with kids about the negative effects alcohol can have on their developing brains has a big impact. As the number of conversations about alcohol goes up, underage drinking rates go down.

Practice Points

By Louise Wilson

Unprecedented

At the time I am writing this, the “official” announcement from Governor’s Evers office regarding the \$8.7 million public health workforce grant money directed to school nurses and school health services has yet to be released. This public health workforce grant funding is a one-time funding source, yet the amount and scope is unprecedented for Wisconsin school nurses. The amount awarded to individual school districts will be publicly available once the official announcement is made.

It behooves Wisconsin school nurses to know about this grant funding as the intent is to build comprehensive and robust school health services in Wisconsin schools. Funds from this grant will address the staffing needs, qualification development, membership attainment, and mental health resources to ensure school nurses in Wisconsin are equipped and supported in serving the children of Wisconsin.


In the Spring of 2021 as part of the American Rescue Plan state public health departments received money from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to “expand, train, and sustain a response-ready public health workforce.” The CDC stated that it “expected at least 25 percent of the money would support school-based health programs including school nurses or other school-based health services personnel.” The money is intended to provide for “hiring school-based nurses, converting current nurses from part-time to full-time work, increasing hours, increasing nursing salaries or otherwise supporting retention efforts.” Wisconsin’s Department of Health Services (DHS) received approximately \$35 million with \$8.7 million targeted to school health services. The funding currently goes through June 30, 2023.

Since the Summer of 2021 DHS has been working on how to implement the grant and spend the money. The Department of Public Instruction (DPI) has offered suggestions on both. The fiscal agent for these funds are the twelve Cooperative Educational Service Areas (CESA). Each CESA has agreed to help distribute funds to school districts which use the money in accordance with the parameters DHS has set. The funds are available to every local public school, tribal school, and non-public school in Wisconsin to support school health services.

DHS used an intricate formula to determine how much money each school districts will receive. It is based on social vulnerabilities, current school nurse FTEs and number of students, geographic location (USDA rural rating), number of students with disabilities, among other factors. Every school (district) will receive some money. The total amount is based on the DHS formula.



Funds from this grant will address the staffing needs, qualification development, membership attainment, and mental health resources to ensure school nurses in Wisconsin are equipped and supported in serving the children of Wisconsin.



The CESAs are paid to administer the funds. Districts should be hearing from the CESAs regarding these funds as your district must opt in to receive them. If your district does not opt in the money will be redistributed to other school districts. Some CESAs may have timelines for opting in.

There are two primary “strategies” or uses for the money. Strategy 1 is for recruitment and retention of school health staff to include school nurses, aides, and other school health support staff. Strategy 2 is for wellness, training, and memberships. This is where the money for every school nurse to have their Wisconsin Association of School Nurses/National Association of School Nurses (WASN/NASN) membership dues paid fits. **Your district must opt in for the money for you to receive a free WASN/NASN membership for a year.**

District administrators will be working with CESAs on how best to utilize the one-time grant funding. Use of the funding may look different among Wisconsin school districts. While an administrative decision, I hope district school nurses are asked to provide input. Approximately \$7.6 million is directed to the recruitment and retention of school health staff. Staff positions hired before July 1, 2022 are not refundable. The DHS has told CESAs allowable activities include:

Hiring full time nurses for 1 year (2022-2023), including:

- ❑ Hiring full time RNs to perform the duties of a school nurse
 - Full time RN devoted to managing COVID-19 related needs for the school and/or district
 - Full time District Lead RN devoted to supervising school nursing staff, managing COVID-19 efforts and building strong school nursing infrastructure focused on retaining school nursing staff
- ❑ Increasing part-time school nurse positions to full-time positions for one year (2022-23), including:
 - Conversion of part time positions to full time positions
- ❑ Supporting recruitment efforts for school nurses, including:
 - Administrative staff, including human resources personnel; staff to track and report on to ensure rapid hiring and procurement of goods and services.
- ❑ Supporting retention of school nurses, including:
 - Retention bonuses
 - Schools must follow their documented policies for bonuses.
 - Registration for the WASN conference could be included as a retention strategy according to DHS.

Wellness activities are limited to fulltime (37 hours or more per week) RNs and LPNs. Interestingly, some of the activities DHS has listed here include:

- State and National Park passes
- Gym Memberships
- Fitness classes (virtual/in-person)
- Yoga classes (virtual/in-person)
- Physiotherapy and chiropractors

Any RN or LPN working in schools regardless of FTE status will be reimbursed for one year extension of their WASN/NASN membership, or to join for the first time. RNs can be active or associate members, while LPNs are automatically assigned associate membership in WASN/NASN. Associate members cannot vote or hold office but have access to all NASN professional development and national and state discussion lists. Make sure your district has opted in to work with your CESA and receive the grant money. Then apply to [become a member of WASN/NASN by clicking here](#) (your WASN “district” is the same as your CESA district.) The district can then complete forms with your CESA to get that membership fee reimbursed.

If you are already a member and your membership expires before June 2023 you can get reimbursed at the time you renew. If you already renewed your WASN/NASN membership between July 1 and now, you can seek reimbursement. Make sure your district pays for your membership if joining or renewing as they will get the money from the CESA not you personally.

Payment for some professional development or training is also included in this grant. Since some of the NASN training courses are free to NASN members and since all school nurses can now be NASN members, school nurses can get a financial “incentive” for completing NASN training. Two trainings mentioned include NASN’s health equity training (\$80) and NASN’s Narcan Training (\$50). I am working with DHS to find the links to this NASN training, so it is easily accessible. School nurses may have the fee for the [WI Prevent Blindness vision screening training](#) reimbursed (\$90). All trainings must be completed between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023.

This public health workforce grant funding is a one-time funding source. It is the first time in my three-decade career that money has been directed to ensure all school nurses in Wisconsin are equipped and supported in meeting the health needs of Wisconsin school children and adolescents. The School Nursing Standards of Practice of Education (13), Quality of Practice (15), and Resource Stewardship (17) are imbedded in this opportunity. I encourage school nurses to work with their district administration as more is shared and plans to utilize the money are made.



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This publication is available from:
Learning and Support
Student Services Prevention and Wellness Team
(608) 266-8857
<https://dpi.wi.gov/sspw/pupil-services/school-nurse>

October 2022 Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

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DIABETES CARE AND EDUCATION CONFERENCE

NOV 18-19, 2022 | OSHKOSH, WI 

Conference Registration NOW OPEN!

Registration is now open for the **Diabetes Care & Education Conference** taking place IN-PERSON at the beautiful **Best Western Premier Waterfront Hotel and Convention Center** in Oshkosh on November 18th-19th, 2022!

Join us IN-PERSON to:

- Listen and learn about best practices in clinical care and diabetes self-management
- Network with other nurses, advanced practice nurses, dietitians, certified diabetes care and education specialists
- Earn up to 10.25 continuing education contact hours
- Meet with exhibitors and vendors for 'hands-on' learning opportunities
- Review clinical and scholarly posters highlighting innovative practice

Registration Deadline: November 11, 2022

**To Register for the
Conference,
Click Here**

**For More
Information,
Click Here**

Questions? Email Faleasha Gallagher at faleasha@wisconsinnurses.org