

Have you ever wondered...Does my child's School Nurse have a role in the IEP?

[Accessed from the WSPEI Connector – January 2025](#)

Information about School Nurses to consider:

- ❖ School nurses have an important role in determining how student health conditions affect their education.
- ❖ A school nurses' role on Special Education Evaluation and IEP teams is not well understood and thus school nurses are often overlooked, or not invited to these meetings.
- ❖ Below are some of the roles school nurses play and resources school nurses use to document health needs and the interventions they or other staff will perform to keep students safe in school and to remove health barriers to education.
- ❖ Having a school nurse on your child's IEP team if they have a health condition, is important so they can advocate for your student and help determine appropriate accommodations and possible goals.

School nurses may be involved in:

- Determination of (health) disability needs.
- Providing in-service training for staff regarding the individual health needs of the child.
- Provide and/or delegate to unlicensed personnel to provide specialized healthcare services in the school setting (requires supervision).
- Assist with transition planning related to chronic health conditions of a student.
- Documentation and billing for Medicaid school based services.

It is considered best practice to incorporate some of the information from a health plan into the 504 plan or an IEP but the plans do not substitute for each other.

Under the Program Modifications or Support for School Personnel section of the IEP document, school nurses can include a statement to the effect that "School nurse develops and maintains an Individualized Health Plan (IHP-nursing care plan), Health Plan, or Emergency Action Plan (EAP) that addresses student health needs and the plan(s) is/are on file in the health office."

- Individualized Healthcare Plan (IHP) –nursing care plan for School Nurse
- Student Health Plan – summary of health and safety needs of student for school staff
- Emergency Action Plan (EAP) - used by lay staff in an urgent or emergency situation

[Comparison IHP/ EAP/504 Plan/IEP
School Nurse Documentation in the IEP
DPI School Nursing Website](#)

[Accessed from the WSPEI Connector – January 2025](#)