



THE SCHOOL NURSE BULLETIN

February 2012



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Special Point of Interest:

- *Annual Identification of Students Without Health Insurance*
- *Ordering School Health Records for 2012-13 School Year (HAR-3 and CHR-1)*
- *School Nurse Supervisor Conference - Tuesday, April 3, 2012*
- *Critical Issues in School Nursing Conference - Thursday, March 29, 2012*



2011-12 Annual Identification of Students without Health Insurance

In May 2008, the Connecticut State Department of Education, in collaboration with the Department of Social Services, requested that school districts establish a systematic approach to identify students who lack health insurance and develop a system to consistently provide families of students identified as lacking health insurance with HUSKY information. This ongoing effort fulfills Section 10-206c of the Connecticut General Statutes' requirement that local school districts identify children who lack health insurance and provide information to their parents about the HUSKY plan. This memo serves as a reminder to school districts of the mandate to annually identify students without health insurance.

Approaches to identifying students who lack health insurance include capturing information from:

- the required health assessment form for students entering school and again in 6th or 7th grade and 9th or 10th grade; and
- the annual emergency contact forms for all students enrolled in your district.

In addition to these approaches, your individual school district may have other systems in place, such as parent liaisons, school-based health centers and family resource centers that may be critical partners in providing families with HUSKY information.

Questions about the HUSKY plan, enrollment or applications, should be directed to the HUSKY information hotline at 1-877-CT-HUSKY or visit their Web site at www.huskyhealth.com. If you have questions regarding annual identification of students without health insurance, please contact Stephanie Knutson, School Health Consultant at 860-807-2108 or stephanie.knutson@ct.gov.



Connecticut State Department of Education Health Promotion Services/School Nurse Web site Updates

<http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2678&q=320768>

1. 2012-13 Immunization Requirements
2. Sample Medication Authorization Form
3. HUSKY School Form
4. Guidelines for the Sexual Health Education Component of Comprehensive Health Education

Ordering School Health Records for 2012-13

Attention School Nurse Supervisors:

It is time to order Cumulative Health Records (CHR-I) and Health Assessment Records (HAR-3) for delivery in May and use in the 2012-13 school year. Each district must determine the number of CHR-I and HAR-3 forms needed based on its student population and number of forms currently in stock. Please order sufficient numbers to share with charter, private and parochial schools served by your district and with all health care provider offices in your community. The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) only distributes CHR-I and HAR-3 forms to public school districts. You are responsible for providing the health care providers in your community with forms.

Please complete the order form below for your district and return it to Glenda Stuckey **before March 1, 2012**. We do not stock an excess of extra forms at the CSDE, therefore please order enough to cover your needs for one year. **Please remember your district needs to share its supply with appropriate medical practitioners and other schools in its community.** Orders will be sent to the school district by the end of May 2012.

Please print or type clearly and return by **March 1, 2011**, to Glenda Stuckey at glenda.stuckey@ct.gov.

Contact Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

District: _____

Mailing Address: _____

CHR-I folders (Number of packets): _____
(50 folders per packet)

HAR-3 blue forms (Number of packets): _____
(100 blue forms per packet)

Please note: We do not supply the Early Childhood Health Assessment Record (Yellow Form). You may download and print it from the Health Promotion Services/School Nurse Web site at http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/PDF/deps/student/health/EC_HAR.pdf.

Guidelines for the Sexual Health Education Component of Comprehensive Health Education

Today's students are faced with a myriad of health and mental health issues, such as unplanned teen pregnancy, suicide, depression, asthma and obesity. These health issues impede academic outcomes. Research consistently concludes that student health status and student achievement are directly connected, and that student health is one of the most significant influences on learning and achievement. Therefore, it is imperative for health education to be a prominent program of study within Connecticut schools, as outlined in Connecticut General Statutes Sections 10-16b, 10-16c, 10-19(a) and 10-19(b). Sexual health education is one vital component of a planned, ongoing and systematic health education program. These planned health programs provide an opportunity for students to receive information that promotes their health and well-being.

To help districts address sexual health education, the State Board of Education directed the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) to develop a resource guide. The **Guidelines for the Sexual Health Education Component of Comprehensive Health Education (CT Guidelines)** is a companion document to the *Healthy & Balanced Living Curriculum Framework* and provides guidance to school districts when developing policies, programs, curriculum and instruction in sexual health education.

The **CT Guidelines** are based on the National Health Education Standards, the National Sexuality Education Standards, and supported by several state-level documents including the Department of Public Health's Adolescent Health State Strategic Plan and the CSDE's *Guidelines for a Coordinated Approach to School Health*.

The **CT Guidelines** are available on the CSDE's Web site at <http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/healtheducation>.

Professional Development Opportunities

The Thirty-Fourth Annual School Health Conference Critical Issues in School Health 2012

Hezekiah Beardsley, Connecticut Chapter American Academy of Pediatrics

Date: Thursday, March 29, 2012

Location: Crowne Plaza Hotel, Cromwell, Connecticut

Registration information and details located at the American Academy of Pediatrics Web site at www.ct-aap.org.

Central Connecticut State University (CCSU) Sports Medicine Symposium

From Head to Toe: The Latest in Sports Medicine

Date: March 6, 2012

Location: CCSU Student Center, Alumni Hall

Contact: Kathy Pirog at 860-832-3062 or

pirog@ccsu.edu.

Conference details and registration information located on the CCSU Web site at <http://web.ccsu.edu/athletictraining/sms12.pdf>.



Putting on AIRS Breathe Easy: Help is on its Way!




Refer students with asthma for a **free home assessment** from the Professional Asthma Action Team. Home visits include:

- keeping the home asthma-safe;
- avoiding asthma triggers;
- knowing asthma danger signs; and
- reviewing current medicines with a nurse.

The *Putting on Airs* program is funded by the Connecticut Department of Public Health and administered by the Central Connecticut Health District and Region II Asthma Coalition.


Contact: Hilary Norcia, Region II, Putting on AIRS Coordinator at 860-665-8571.

Professional Development Opportunities, cont'd


 The Connecticut State Department of Education presents the following opportunity for school nurses, nurse supervisors and administrators

Spring 2012 School Nurse Supervisor Conference

Tuesday, April 3, 2012, 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Crowne Plaza Cromwell, 100 Berlin Road,
Cromwell, Connecticut 06416 • 860-635-2000

 **Facilitator**..... Stephanie Knutson, MSN, RN,
School Health Consultant,
Connecticut State Department
of Education

Fee..... \$45.00 per person
CEUs..... 0.6
Register by..... 3/21/12
Course #..... 1125300674



This activity will provide school nurse supervisors with information on multiple state initiatives and trends in the state. Additionally, school nurse supervisors will have the opportunity to network with colleagues.

As a result of attending this conference, participants will:

- gain additional knowledge in health promotion of school nursing services;
- gain additional knowledge in state-mandated immunization regulations; and
- gain additional knowledge in the role of school health services in school reform.

Register online at www.registereastconn.org. Click on the event title. You will need to input your four-digit PIN number and a valid Purchase Order (P.O.) number from your school. Note: If you will be paying by a personal check and not using a P.O., you will receive an invoice via e-mail to send in with your check.

If you have questions regarding registration, or have difficulty using the online form, e-mail conferenceoffice@eastconn.org, or call 860-455-1533.

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Connecticut State Department of Education
Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services
and Adult Education
25 Industrial Park Road, Middletown, CT

...Keeping CT School Nurses
Informed and Involved!

Nondiscrimination Statement

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SERC - Professional Development for School Nurses

The State Education Resource Center's (SERC) online course directory includes the following online coursework and collaboration opportunities for school nurses:

1. **Nursing Assessment, IHCPs and IEPs: An Interactive Online Course for School Nurses** - This course was created to assist Connecticut school nurses as they support students' participation and success in school by defining, evaluating, and managing their health care needs.
2. **School Vision Screening: A Self-Paced Online Course for School Nurses** - This online learning opportunity will provide school nurses with the knowledge, skills, and procedures that are essential to developing a comprehensive vision screening program in schools. This course is a self-paced tutorial, designed for independent learning.
3. **Assessing Student Hearing: Screening Procedures for School Nurses** - SERC's online hearing screening course specifically created for Connecticut's school nurses to provide content about hearing, hearing loss, and hearing screenings required within a school nursing scope of practice. The course is a self-paced tutorial, designed for independent learning.

Contact: Kristy Giacco
(giacco@ctserc.org) 860-632-1485, ext. 249, to receive a registration form. You must register by mail or fax before enrollment can take place.

Additional information about these courses may be obtained on the SERC Web site at <http://learn.ctserc.com/>.