



VIRTUAL SCHOOL HEALTH

Children's Nebraska aims to bridge the gap in access to healthcare for students in both rural and urban areas by leveraging secure video conferencing technology. Virtual School Health connects students with pediatric experts and integrates virtual care into school health services, providing students with medical advice, diagnoses and treatment without leaving the school.

WHY CHILDREN'S NEBRASKA?

- Region's largest employer of board-certified pediatricians, pediatric nurse practitioners and pediatric physician assistants.
- More than 260 pediatric specialists who provide complex care for children with multiple special health needs.
- Last year, Children's served patients from 91 of Nebraska's 93 counties. Many of these patients receive care at Children's 13 outreach clinics across Nebraska, Iowa and South Dakota.
- Children's well-established School Health Program collaborates with more than 150 school districts, impacting more than 155,000 students annually.
- Children's is the only health system with a formalized partnership with the Nebraska Department of Education.

WHY VIRTUAL HEALTH IN SCHOOLS

Reduced Absenteeism: According to the 2024 Nebraska School Attendance Report, 42% of students statewide had more than 10 days of total absences, and 22% of students are chronically absent. Nationally, schools with virtual care programs saw more than 90% of students staying in school, minimizing missed class time and improving attendance.

Increase Accessibility: Virtual health provides students, especially those in remote or underserved areas, with access to medical care and mental health screenings.

Timely Intervention: Students can receive care quickly, reducing the risk of delayed treatment.

Enhance learning and student development: Physical and mental wellbeing directly impacts a student's ability to learn and participate. By prioritizing health, schools can create an environment where students thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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SCOPE OF SERVICES

The Virtual School health program provides the following services to support student health:

- Acute care: injuries and illness
- Assist with chronic conditions
- Medication orders and prescriptions
- Parent education about health conditions
- Answer medical questions
- Connection to care coordination
- Behavioral health screenings
- Before and after school hours
- Potential Service: point of care lab tests such as flu and COVID



SCHEDULE AND HOURS OF OPERATION

- Virtual School Health visits will be available Monday-Friday during school hours when school is in session, with an option to extend care to one-hour prior and one-hour after traditional school hours.
- The availability of visits during summer school will need to be coordinated between school officials and Children's.
- Children's Connect, Children's secure online portal, provides parents with 24/7 access to their child's medical information. They can also schedule appointments online, including for virtual care.

VIRTUAL SCHOOL HEALTH COLLABORATION

To ensure better health and educational outcomes for students, a strong collaboration between Children's and partner schools is essential. Throughout the planning process, Children's will collaborate with school administrators, school nurses and health aides, and assist with outreach to parents and local healthcare providers. To support the model, both Children's and our partner schools will play key roles in improving access to care for students and their families.

CHILDREN'S ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

- Manage clinical staff
- Coordinate outreach, education and visit planning with partnering schools
- Purchase and maintain medical equipment
- Identify and train school personnel on the proper use of equipment
- Bill for services as appropriate and available
- Support the continuity of care for students seen at school sites by offering care coordination when an in-person visit is warranted

SCHOOL'S ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

- Provide a private space in the school for telehealth visits and a trained adult to assist Children's Advanced Practice Provider (APP)
- House and secure the telehealth equipment
- Provide broadband internet connection
- Assist with Virtual School Health enrollment and support information sharing between the school and Children's
- Provide opportunities to share program offerings during school events, staff meetings, and in newsletters. Share consent forms on the school and/or district's website

Want to learn more about Virtual School Health? [Click here to submit "Let's Explore" request.](#)