

Students

Student Support Services ¹

The District provides a liaison to facilitate the enrollment and transfer of records of students in the legal custody of the Ill. Dept. of Children and Family Services when enrolling in or changing schools. ²

The following student support services may be provided by the School District: ³

1. Health services supervised by a qualified school nurse.⁴ The Superintendent or designee may implement procedures to further a healthy school environment and prevent or reduce the spread of disease.

¹ State or federal law controls this policy's content. The Children's Mental Health Act requires all districts to have a policy for incorporating social and emotional development into its educational program. 405 ILCS 49/15(b). The policy must address two areas: (1) teaching and assessing social and emotional skills; and (2) protocols for responding to children with social, emotional, or mental health problems, or a combination of such problems, that impact learning ability. *Id.* Sample policy 6:65, *Student Social and Emotional Development*, addresses the first required area and this sample policy addresses the second required area.

² Required by 105 ILCS 5/10-20.59. See f/n 16 in sample policy 7:50, *School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools*, for liaison responsibilities and requirements.

³ All districts are required to conduct a comprehensive needs assessment to determine the scope of student personnel services needs in the areas of: (1) guidance and counseling needs; (2) psychological needs; (3) social work needs; and (4) health needs. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.420(q). Endorsement requirements for various types of school support personnel are referenced in f/ns 3 through 6 below, and further information is available at: www.isbe.net/Pages/PEL-School-Support-Ed-Lic.aspx. Until 6-20-26, an individual who fails to meet the necessary qualifications for a specific school support personnel endorsement, but holds another professional license or certification approved by ISBE, may seek short-term approval for assignment to a position in situations where an unforeseen vacancy occurs. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §25.48. Short-term approvals are valid for three full fiscal years. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §25.432.

105 ILCS 5/2-3.147, added by P.A. 95-558 and repealed by P.A. 99-30, created the Ensuring Success in School Task Force. 105 ILCS 5/26A-15, added by P.A. 102-466, *a/k/a Ensuring Success in School (ESS) Law*, and scheduled to be repealed on 12-1-25, created a subsequent Ensuring Success in School Task Force. See f/n 1 in sample policy 7:255, *Students Who are Parents, Expectant Parents, or Victims of Domestic or Sexual Violence*, for further information.

⁴ School districts may employ non-professional-educator-licensed *registered professional nurses* to perform professional nursing services. 105 ILCS 5/10-22.23; 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.760(c). A *registered professional nurse* means any nurse who is licensed to practice professional nursing in Illinois under the Nurse Practice Act (225 ILCS 65/) and whose license is active and in good standing with the Ill. Dept. of Financial and Professional Regulation. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.760(b).

A *school nurse* means any registered professional nurse who also holds a professional educator license endorsed for school support services in school nursing, or any registered professional nurse who does not hold the professional educator license but was employed in the school district of current employment before 7-1-76. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.760(c).

105 ILCS 5/10-22.23 provides that any nurse first employed on or after 7-1-76, whose duties require teaching or the exercise of instructional judgment or educational evaluation of students, must be licensed under 105 ILCS 5/21B-25.

A school nurse may hold a Professional Educator License with a school support personnel endorsement. 105 ILCS 5/21B-25(2)(G); 23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.760(c), 23.120, 25.245.

Health services may also be available through school based/linked health centers implemented by the Ill. Dept. of Public Health. 105 ILCS 129/; 77. Ill.Admin.Code Part 641. For further information, see: <https://dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/life-stages-populations/maternal-child-family-health-services/school-health#resources>.

2. Educational and psychological testing services and the services of a school psychologist⁵ as needed. In all cases, written permission to administer a psychological examination must be obtained from a student's parent(s)/guardian(s). The results will be given to the parent(s)/guardian(s), with interpretation, as well as to the appropriate professional staff.
3. The services of a school social worker.⁶ A student's parent/guardian must consent to regular or continuing services from a social worker.
4. School counseling⁷ services. The Superintendent or designee shall annually inform all school personnel and students 12 years of age and older, in writing, of the availability of counseling without parent/guardian consent under 405 ILCS 5/3-550.⁸

The Superintendent or designee shall develop protocols for responding to students with social, emotional, or mental health needs that impact learning ability.⁹ The District, however, assumes no liability for preventing, identifying, or treating such needs.

Erin's Law Counseling Options, Assistance, and Intervention ¹⁰

The Superintendent or designee will ensure that each school building's Student Support Committee identifies counseling options for students who are affected by sexual abuse and grooming behaviors, along with District and community-based options for victims of sexual abuse and grooming behaviors to obtain

⁵ A *school psychologist* means a psychologist who holds a Professional Educator License with a school psychologist endorsement per 105 ILCS 5/21B-25 and either: (1) has graduated with a master's degree or higher degree in psychology or educational psychology from an institution of higher education that maintains equipment, courses of study, and standards of scholarship approved by the Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE), has had at least one school year of full-time supervised experience in the delivery of school psychological service approved by the State Superintendent of Education, and has such additional qualifications as may be required by ISBE; or (2) holds a valid Nationally Certified School Psychologist credential. 105 ILCS 5/14-1.09. School psychologists hold a Professional Educator License with a school support personnel endorsement. 105 ILCS 5/21B-25(2)(G); 23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.760(a), 23.130, 25.235. The scope of school psychological services is described in 105 ILCS 5/14-1.09.1.

⁶ A *school social worker* means a social worker who has graduated from an accredited graduate school of social work and has such additional qualifications as may be required by ISBE and who holds a Professional Educator License with a school support personnel endorsement for school social work per 105 ILCS 5/21B-25. 105 ILCS 5/14-1.09a. See 105 ILCS 5/10-22.24a and 5/21B-25(2)(G); 23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.760(a), 23.140, 25.215. School social workers may not provide services outside of their district employment to any student(s) attending school in the district. 105 ILCS 5/14-1.09a.

School marriage and family therapists are another type of school support personnel; they hold a Professional Educator License with a school support personnel endorsement. 105 ILCS 5/21B-25(2)(G); 23 Ill.Admin.Code §§23.150, 25.260. The scope of school social worker services is described in 105 ILCS 5/14-1.09.2.

⁷ *School counselors* hold a Professional Educator License with a school support personnel endorsement. 105 ILCS 5/21B-25(2)(G); 105 ILCS 5/10-22.24a; 23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.760(a), 23.110, 25.225. *School counselors* refers to district employees that work in high schools to offer students advice and assistance in making career or college plans. 105 ILCS 5/22-93, amended by P.A. 103-1020. School counseling services may include, but are not limited to, the numerous services detailed in 105 ILCS 5/10-22.24b, amended by P.A.s 103-542 and 103-780.

In contrast, *professional counselors* and professional counseling practice in Illinois are governed by the Professional Counselor and Clinical Professional Counselor Licensing and Practice Act and its implementing regulations. 225 ILCS 107/; 68 Ill.Admin.Code Part 1375. The Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Code, 405 ILCS 5/, provides that minors 12 years of age or older may request and receive up to eight 90-minute sessions (previously five 45-minute sessions) of professional counseling services or psychotherapy (provided by a clinical psychologist) without the consent of the minor's parent, guardian, or person in loco parentis. 405 ILCS 5/3-550. Most school districts do not regularly provide *professional* counseling or *clinical* psychological services to students. Instead, most districts provide *school counseling* or *school psychological* services to students, and Illinois law does not specify any limits on the number of school counseling or school psychological sessions which a minor may have before obtaining parent/guardian permission. If your district seeks to regularly provide *professional counseling* or *clinical psychological* services to students, consult with your board attorney about potential changes to board policies and administrative procedures, as well as collective bargaining issues.

⁸ 105 ILCS 5/26A-40(h), added by P.A. 102-466, *a/k/a ESS Law*, eff. 7-1-25.

⁹ Required by 405 ILCS 49/15(b).

¹⁰ Required by *Erin's Law*, 105 ILCS 5/10-23.13(b)(2), (3), and (5). See sample policy 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting*, and sample administrative procedure 5:90-AP1, *Coordination with Children's Advocacy Center*, for more information on Children's Advocacy Centers.

assistance and intervention. Community-based options must include a Children's Advocacy Center and sexual assault crisis center(s) that serve the District, if any.

Article 26A Domestic or Sexual Violence and Parenting Resource Personnel ¹¹

The Superintendent or designee will ensure that at least one staff member in each school building is designated as a resource person (Article 26A Resource Person) for students who are parents, expectant parents, or victims of domestic or sexual violence and offers those services required by 105 ILCS 5/26A. See Board policy 7:255, *Students Who are Parents, Expectant Parents, or Victims of Domestic or Sexual Violence*. The Article 26A Resource Person may be a member of the building's Student Support Committee. The Superintendent shall ensure that this policy is implemented in a manner consistent with State and federal laws, including the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 42 U.S.C. §12101 *et seq.*, and that it is respectful of student privacy, including that student records are maintained and their confidentiality protected in accordance with Board policy and District procedures. ¹²

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-23.13(b), 5/10-20.59, 5/21B-25(G), and 5/26A.
405 ILCS 5/, Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Code.
405 ILCS 49/, Children's Mental Health Act.
740 ILCS 110/, Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Confidentiality Act.

CROSS REF.: 6:65 (Student Social and Emotional Development), 6:270 (Guidance and Counseling Program), 7:100 (Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students), 7:255 (Students Who are Parents, Expectant Parents, or Victims of Domestic or Sexual Violence), 7:280 (Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease), 7:340 (Student Records)

Approved:

¹¹ Required by 105 ILCS 5/26A-35, added by P.A. 102-466, *a/k/a ESS Law*, eff. 7-1-25. See sample policy 7:255, *Students Who are Parents, Expectant Parents, or Victims of Domestic or Sexual Violence*, and sample administrative procedure 7:255-API, *Supporting Students Who are Parents, Expectant Parents, or Victims of Domestic or Sexual Violence*.

¹² This policy text is based on recommendations of the second ESS Task Force. See pp. 13-14 of the June 2024 ESS Task Force final report, at: www.isbe.net/Documents_ESSTaskForce/Final-Report-ESS-Report-June-2024.pdf.