# Colorado School Health Services Program logo

# Colorado School Health Services Program – Parent’s Guide

Presented by the Colorado Department of Education and The Department of Health Care Policy and Financing

## I am concerned about confidentiality.

Who can see my child’s health information if I allow my school district to bill Health First Colorado for eligible IEP, 504 Plan, or other plan of care services provided to my child?

Two laws determine who can see student health information:

* Federal privacy laws state only school health service providers, your child’s private doctor, district Health First Colorado billing agent will see your child’s school health records.
* Colorado’s Health First Colorado Agency will see your child’s school health records.

## What is the School Health Services Program?

* The School Health Services Program allows school districts to seek reimbursement from Health First Colorado
* Partial reimbursement for health and medical services
* Provided to Health First Colorado-eligible students with an Individual Education Plan (IEP), 504 Plan, or other plan of care.
* Districts are required to use funds for additional or enhanced health/ health related services for all students

## Why are schools requesting Health First Colorado reimbursement?

* Federal special education laws require school districts to provide IEP health services to students
* Federal law allows school districts to seek reimbursement for health services provided to Health First Colorado eligible students with an IEP, 504 Plan, or other plan of care
* Funds are used to provide expanded health services to all students
* Expanded services can include vision/ hearing screenings, Health First Colorado/ Child Health Plan Plus, outreach to uninsured families, access to emergency medication/dental services for uninsured students.

## Which IEP health services are reimbursable through Health First Colorado?

Health and health related services listed in the IEP, 504 Plan, or other plan of care:

* Occupational therapy
* Physical therapy
* Speech language therapy
* Psychological/counseling/ social work services
* Nursing services
* Personal care services and
* Specialized transportation

## How do schools use the money they receive from Health First Colorado?

Colorado law requires reimbursement funds be used to provide enhanced health and health related services to all district students.

Services can include: additional nursing support, medical supplies and equipment, mental health support for students and families and vouchers to provide access to vision/dental/mental health services to uninsured students. Contact your school Health First Colorado Coordinator for details on how your district utilizes these funds.

## Will Health First Colorado services my child receives outside of school be affected?

No. IEP, 504 Plan, or other plan of care health services provided by the school and reimbursed to the district do not affect your child’s lifetime Health First Colorado benefits.

Students can receive health services at school on the same day they receive services outside of school.

## Do school districts need Parental consent to receive Health First Colorado reimbursements?

* Yes. Special Education law requires your one time consent on file.
* Your student’s case manager will provide the document for you to sign.
* Annually a Notification of Access to Benefits will be distributed to parents.

## My child is not eligible for Health First Colorado. Do I still need to sign the consent?

Yes. Your consent will be on file should your student become Health First Colorado eligible.

## For more information about this program contact:

[School Health Services Program School Health Services Consultant](https://www.cde.state.co.us/shs/medicaid_home#contact)

720-926-6135

[School Health Services Program Administrator](https://hcpf.colorado.gov/school-health-services)

School Health Services Program Provides Health Services to All Students.