

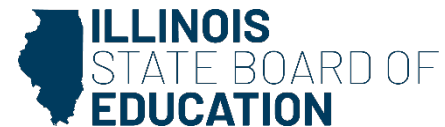
School Nursing: Guide to Practice

Rebecca Doran, MSN, RN, PEL-CSN, NCSN

Michelle Wilcoxson, M.Ed, BA, BSN, PEL-CSN

Wellness and Student Care Department

August 12, 2025



What guides a school nurse's practice?



ILLINOIS [SCHOOL
CODE](#)



RELATED RULES,
[ADMINISTRATIVE
CODE](#)



[NURSE PRACTICE ACT](#)
(APPLICABLE TO
SCHOOL NURSES)



DISTRICT POLICY

Links for School Code

- Illinois School Code
 - Administering medications
 - [105 ILCS 5/10-22.21b](#)
 - Anaphylactic policy for school districts
 - [105 ILCS 5/2-3.190](#)
 - [Model Anaphylaxis Response Policy for Illinois Schools](#)
 - Self-administration and self-carry of asthma medication and epinephrine injectors, administration of undesignated epinephrine injectors, administration of an opioid antagonist, administration of undesignated asthma medication
 - [105 ILCS 5/22-30](#)

Links for School Code

- Illinois School Code
 - Home hospital instruction
 - [105 ILCS 5/14-13.01](#)
 - [Medical Certification for Home/Hospital Instruction \(ISBE Form 34-58\)](#)
 - [Home-Hospital Instruction FAQ](#)
 - Endorsement on licenses
 - Professional Educator License School Support Personnel
 - PEL School Nurse
 - Job description and responsibilities
 - [105 ILCS 5/21B-25](#)
 - Psychotropic or psychostimulant medication, disciplinary action
 - [105 ILCS 5/34-18.25](#)

Links for School Code

- Illinois School Code
 - Required health exams
- Physical fitness and professional growth (employee physical exam, other tests)
 - [105 ILCS 5/24-5](#)
- Institutes or in-service day shall include instruction on prevalent student chronic health conditions
 - [105 ILCS 5/3-11](#)
 - [Mandated Trainings for Public Schools](#)

Health Condition Links in School Code

- Care of Students with Diabetes Act
 - [105 ILCS 145/5](#)
 - Delegated care aide
 - Diabetes Care Plan basis for 504 Plan
 - Accommodations
 - Training
 - Permits undesignated glucagon
- Seizure Smart School Act
 - [105 ILCS 150/1](#)
 - Delegated care aide
 - Accommodations
 - Training

Required health exams

- Illinois School Code [105 ILCS 5/27-8.1](#)
Health examinations and immunizations
 - Exclusion if not in compliance
- Public Health Code [Section 665](#)
 - Requirements
 - Intervals
 - Components

Health Exam Requirements

School Code

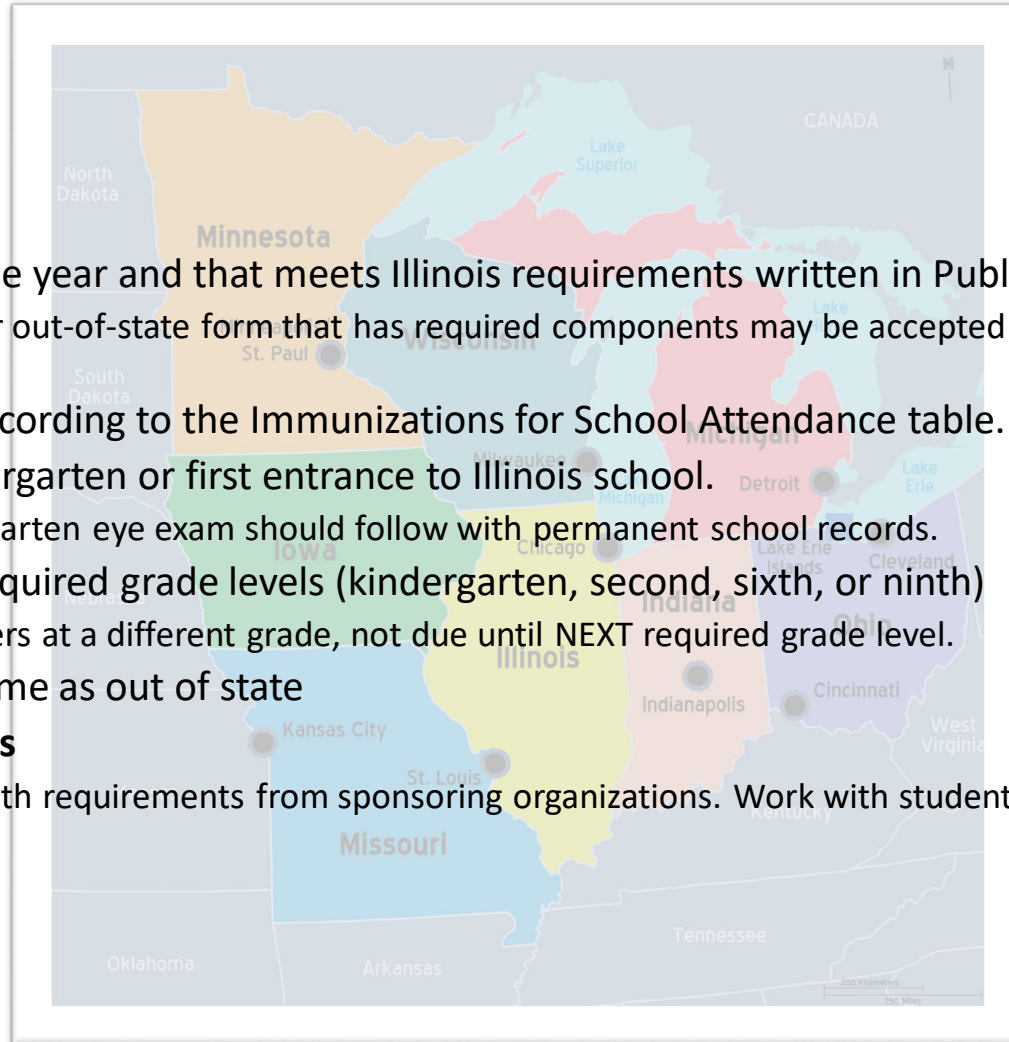
- Required health exams
 - Child Health Exam and Immunizations
 - Eye Exam
 - Dental Exam
- Dates to be submitted to school
- Consequences of non-compliance

Public Health Code

- Components of exams
- Timetable
- Report forms
- Proof of examination
- Basic immunizations/proof of immunity/boosters
- Keeping list of non-immunized attendees
- Exemption or objection

What to do if a student is new to Illinois?

- **Physical** within one year and that meets Illinois requirements written in Public Health Code.
 - Illinois form or out-of-state form that has required components may be accepted for first entrance to Illinois school.
- **Immunizations** according to the Immunizations for School Attendance table.
- **Eye exam** at kindergarten or first entrance to Illinois school.
 - Illinois kindergarten eye exam should follow with permanent school records.
- **Dental exam** at required grade levels (kindergarten, second, sixth, or ninth)
 - If student enters at a different grade, not due until NEXT required grade level.
- **Out of country** same as out of state
- **Exchange students**
 - There are health requirements from sponsoring organizations. Work with student and host family to obtain copies.



This Photo by Unknown author is licensed under CC BY-SA.

–Child Health Exam and Immunizations

- Pre-K
- Kindergarten
- Sixth Grade
- Ninth Grade

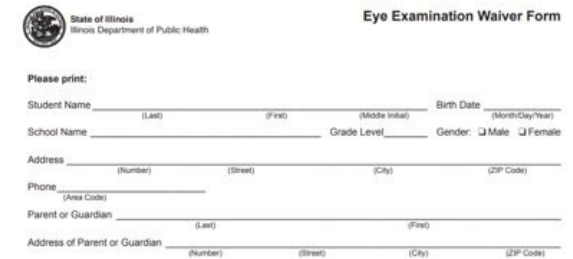
[illegible]

- Immunization Data Entry Worksheet

Health Exams

— Eye Exam

- Kindergarten
- First entrance into an Illinois School [105 ILCS 5/27-8.1 (1.10)]
- Waivers per Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH)
- [Eye Examination Data Entry Worksheet](#)



State of Illinois
Illinois Department of Public Health

Eye Examination Waiver Form

Please print:

Student Name _____ Birth Date _____
(Last) (First) (Middle Initial) (Month/Day/Year)

School Name _____ Grade Level _____ Gender: ☐ Male ☐ Female

Address _____
(Number) (Street) (City) (ZIP Code)

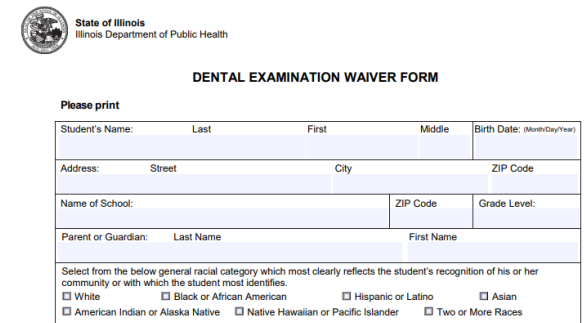
Phone _____
(Area Code)

Parent or Guardian _____
(Last) (First)

Address of Parent or Guardian _____
(Number) (Street) (City) (ZIP Code)

— Dental Exam

- Kindergarten
- Second Grade
- Sixth Grade
- Ninth Grade
- Waivers per IDPH
- [Dental Information Data Entry Worksheet](#)



State of Illinois
Illinois Department of Public Health

DENTAL EXAMINATION WAIVER FORM

Please print

Student's Name:	Last	First	Middle	Birth Date: (Month/Day/Year)
Address:	Street	City	ZIP Code	
Name of School:	ZIP Code		Grade Level:	
Parent or Guardian:	Last Name		First Name	

Select from the below general racial category which most clearly reflects the student's recognition of his or her community or with which the student most identifies.

☐ White ☐ Black or African American ☐ Hispanic or Latino ☐ Asian
☐ American Indian or Alaska Native ☐ Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander ☐ Two or More Races

Actions if Not Submitted

Child Health Exam and Immunizations

- Shall exclude from school attendance (School Code)

Eye Exam

- May hold report card

Dental Exam

- May hold report card

Reporting Dates to Remember

ISBE Student Health Data Important Dates	
Immunization/Health Examination	
Students submit to school by	October 15 annually or an earlier exclusion date set by the district
MyISBE system becomes available for data entry	September 1 annually
Must be submitted in MyISBE to be considered complete BY	November 15 as written in School Code
Eye Examination	
Students submit to school by	October 15
MyISBE system becomes available for data entry	September 1
Must be submitted in MyISBE to be considered complete by	June 30 at 11:59 p.m.
Dental Examination	
Students submit to school by	May 15 annually
MyISBE system becomes available for data entry	May 16 at midnight
Must be submitted in MyISBE to be considered complete by	June 30 at 11:59 p.m.

This table lists annual dates. Systems become available on that date and data must for completion must be submitted before the end date..

Knowledge of Agencies

IDPH

School Health Programs

Communicable Disease

Chronic Health Conditions

Vision and Hearing Programs

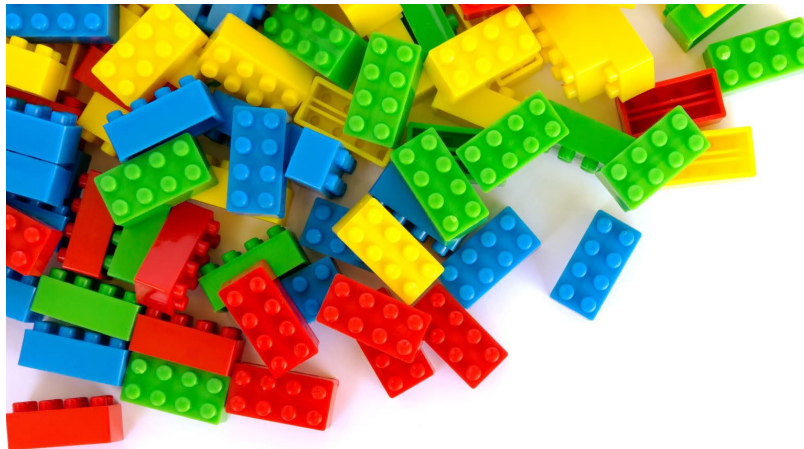
Illinois High School Association

Illinois Elementary School Association

Illinois Department of Human Services

Division of Mental Health

Illinois Department of Children and
Family Services



Additional Health Requirements

- Communicable Disease Code [Section 690](#)
 - Contact your Local Health Department for guidance
 - Notifications
 - Keep a susceptibility list
 - [IDPH Infectious Disease](#) Reporting
 - Illinois National Electronic Disease Surveillance System (I-NEDSS)
 - *Illinois Department of Public Health*

Vision and Hearing Screening

- [Vision and Hearing Test Act](#) (410 ILCS 205)
- Hearing screening: [77 Ill. Admin. Code 675](#)
- Vision screening: [77 Ill. Admin. Code 685](#)
— *Illinois Department of Public Health*

**Hearing and vision screening reports are due to IDPH by June 30th of each year

ISBE Rules Currently in Effect

- Joint Committee on Administrative Rules
- ISBE.net
 - Rules Currently in Effect [Webpage](#)
 - 1 Public Schools Evaluation, Recognition and Supervision
 - [1.520: Home and Hospital Instruction](#)
 - [1.530: Health Services \(policy and procedures relative to injury or sudden illness of students and staff\)](#)
 - [1.540: Use of Undesignated Epinephrine, Asthma Medication, and Naloxone](#)
 - 23 Standards for School Support Personnel Endorsements
 - [1.760: Standards for Student Support Personnel \(Sections b-h, school nurse\)](#)
 - 25 Educator Licensure
 - [25.432 Short-term Approval School Support Personnel](#)

ISBE Rules Currently in Effect

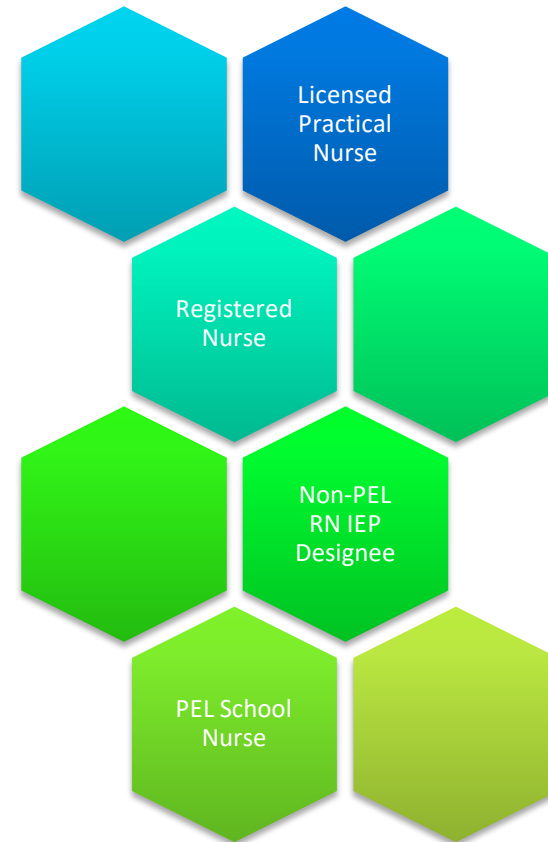
- Joint Committee on Administrative Rules
- ISBE.net
 - 375 [Illinois School Student Records Act](#) (105 ILCS 10/)
 - Permanent record
 - » Health record
 - Temporary record
 - » Health related information
 - » Accident reports
 - 226 [Special Education](#)
 - [ISBE rule 226.800: Personnel required to be qualified](#) (nursing interventions)
 - [ISBE rule 226.820 Authorization for Assignment](#) (requires ISBE approval)
 - [ISBE rule 226.160: Medical review](#): performance of health evaluation for student for Individualized Education Program (IEP)
 - » Non-PEL Registered Nurse IEP Designation
 - Job description and responsibilities

ISBE Rules Currently in Effect

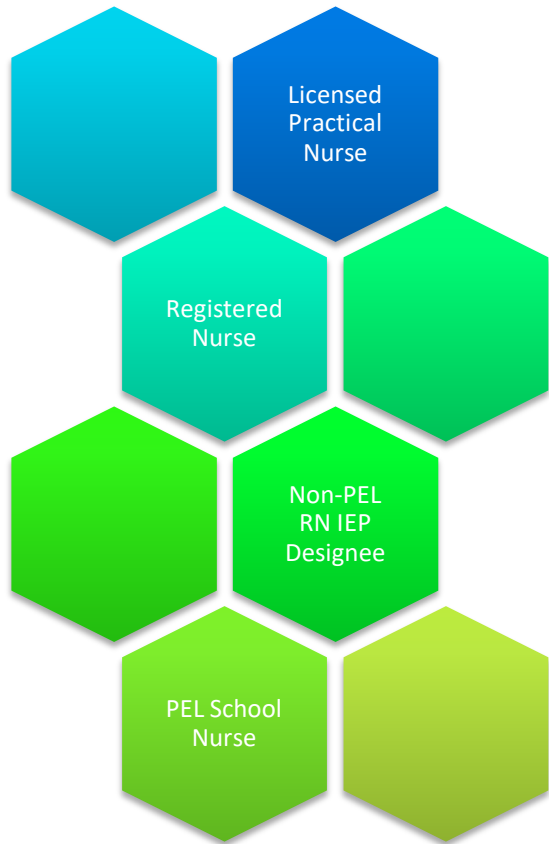
- **Joint Committee on Administrative Rules**
- **ISBE.net**
 - [Critical Health Problems and Comprehensive Health Education Act](#) (105 ILCS 110/)
 - [School Health Advisory Committee](#)
 - [School Breakfast and Lunch Program Act](#) (105 ILCS 125/)
 - [School Safety Drill Act](#) (105 ILCS 128/)
 - [School Health Center Act](#) (105 ILCS 129/)

Nurses Working in Schools

- Licensed Practical Nurse
 - Able to report to the IEP team subjective and objective data about interactions with student
 - Job description and responsibilities
- Registered Nurse
 - Work in the school health office
 - Day-to-day encounters with students
 - Provide direction for LPN



Nurses Working in Schools



- Non-PEL RN IEP Designee
 - RN (2014; 2016 and after) minimum education requirements of bachelor's degree in nursing, education, or a related field
 - Has completed ISBE-sponsored medical review course
 - Able to participate in IEP team assessment through evaluation
- PEL SN
 - RN with graduate level education in specialty of school nursing
 - Able to participate in IEP team fully (assessment through evaluation)

Thank you!

- Wishing a healthful 2025-26 school year!
- Questions may be directed to:
schoolnurse@isbe.net