



School-based health care support toolkit: Information on data sharing between parties



Ohio | Governor's Office of
Health Transformation

Further data sharing considerations

The purpose of parental consent is to assure that a student's family both acknowledges and approves of interaction(s) between the education system and healthcare providers, which can include:

- 1) Assessing and treating the patient**
- 2) Keeping the community of care in the loop**
- 3) Getting reimbursed**
- 4) Evaluating program outcomes**

Guidelines for data sharing use cases

Assessing and treating student patient

- Consent is sought in medical settings to assure that healthcare services are both acceptable and allowable to the recipient - parental consent typically consists of a short form that requests the ability to treat a student
- Consent can either be a blanket consent to deliver any needed healthcare services over a given period of time (e.g., a school year, or the enrollment span of a student in a district), or can be per encounter (e.g., each time a student seeks health services)¹

Keeping the community of care in the loop

- Both the healthcare and education realms are governed by specific guidance that limits the use of data outside that specific realm, HIPAA and FERPA respectively
- Sharing between providers and school community
 - Providers should obtain parental consent to share health information protected by HIPAA (no different than what is sought for non-student patients)
 - Providers do not need parental consent to share information with a school nurse (as per HIPAA allowances), or general information that does not contain a student's protected health information (PHI)
- Sharing between school community and providers
 - School staff should obtain parental consent to share and FERPA protected data that normally is not shared outside the school setting
 - School staff does not need parental consent to share longitudinal data that does not contain a student's protected health information (PHI)

Getting reimbursed

- Schools offer a range of services that are expected to be of no cost to the student; however, health services beyond that basic level of coverage may require access insurance to cover services normally available outside a school setting
- Providers should discuss insurance access with families as they may incur out-of-pocket expenses to offset deductibles and co-pays
- Consent is required to allow provider access to 3rd party insurance

Evaluating program outcomes

- See the full guidance later in this section

¹ Toolkit resources to support these efforts: State of Ohio consent permission, State of Ohio service agreement (includes data sharing allowance)

Key roles in school-based health efforts and how they share confidential health data

- Personal health information
- - - - - Summary health information
- Within school-based health team

