



School Based Health Clinics in Hawkins County Schools

Through a partnership with Rural Health Services Consortium, Hawkins County Schools now has two School Based Health Clinics available at Volunteer and Cherokee High Schools. A mobile medical clinic will visit all middle schools this spring. Elementary Schools will be added to the schedule this fall.

What is a School Based Health Clinic?

A School Based Health Clinic provides the services of a Nurse Practitioner, a Registered Nurse, and a Receptionist.

How will a School Based Health Clinic benefit my child?

The School Based Health Clinics will ultimately increase instruction time for students and staff, which will help improve grades, test scores, and graduation rates.

Think of the School Based Health Clinic as a Doctor's office at school.

- If your child needs medical care, they no longer have to leave school to be seen at a Doctor's office.
- Parents no longer have to take off of work to take their child to the Doctor.
- Staff attendance will increase due to school staff taking fewer sick days for Doctor's appointments.

Will the services of the Regular School Nurse change?

Your child's regular school nurse will continue to perform all of her normal duties. If a student comes to the clinic with an issue that the school nurse would normally refer to a physician, the School Based Health Clinic will be of assistance.

What should parents do to ensure that their child can receive services at the School Based Health Clinic?

Parents and/or guardians must first complete the Patient Information Packet that was sent home in late fall. If this packet cannot be located, parents can go to www.hck12.net and find it in the parent section. If you do not have internet access, please let your school know you need a copy of the packet. Students who are already patients of Rural Health Services Consortium do not need to complete the packet.

Will my child's health insurance be billed for services?

The School Based Health Clinic will bill insurance for services, as would a Doctor's office, however no child will ever be treated without contacting the parent first. However, if a parent desires to be seen by their established primary care provider, Rural Health Services Consortium respects the parent's wishes. For students who do not have health insurance, a sliding scale will be used, which means Rural Health Services Consortium will work with parents based on their ability to pay. No child will ever be turned away due to inability to pay. Rural Health Services Consortium will send all medical information pertaining to services rendered to the student's primary Doctor.

What other services will the School Based Health Clinics provide?

Rural Health Services Consortium will also work to facilitate the Early and Periodic Screening and Detection (EPSDT) program. Designed for Tenn-care recipients, this program provides medical, vision, hearing, and developmental screenings in addition to immunizations. Likewise, the School Based Health Clinics will assist with TSSAA required sports physicals.