
42 U.S. Code § 280h–5

School-based health centers

(a) Definitions; establishment of criteria

In this section:

(1) Comprehensive primary health services

The term “comprehensive primary health services” means the core services offered by school-based health centers, which shall include the following:

(A) Physical

Comprehensive health assessments, diagnosis, and treatment of minor, acute, and chronic medical conditions, and referrals to, and follow-up for, specialty care and oral and vision health services.

(B) Mental health

Mental health and substance use disorder assessments, crisis intervention, counseling, treatment, and referral to a continuum of services including emergency psychiatric care, community support programs, inpatient care, and outpatient programs.

(2) Medically underserved children and adolescents

(A) In general

The term “medically underserved children and adolescents” means a population of children and adolescents who are residents of an area designated as a medically underserved area or a health professional shortage area by the Secretary.

(B) Criteria

The Secretary shall prescribe criteria for determining the specific shortages of personal health services for medically underserved children and adolescents under subparagraph (A) that shall—

- (i) take into account any comments received by the Secretary from the chief executive officer of a State and local officials in a State; and
- (ii) include factors indicative of the health status of such children and adolescents of an area, including the ability of the residents of such area to pay for health services, the accessibility of such services, the availability of health professionals to such children and adolescents, and other factors as determined appropriate by the Secretary.

(3) School-based health center

The term “school-based health center” means a health clinic that—

- (A) meets the definition of a school-based health center under section 1397jj(c)(9)(A) of this title and is administered by a sponsoring facility (as defined in section 1397jj(c)(9)(B) of this title);
- (B) provides, at a minimum, comprehensive primary health services during school hours to children and adolescents by health professionals in accordance with established standards, community practice, reporting laws, and other State laws, including parental consent and notification laws that are not

inconsistent with Federal law; and
(C) does not perform abortion services.

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