

INFANT and CHILD HEALTH

School Health

What is the purpose of the program?

To promote a coordinated school health program and to increase the awareness of the importance of health to academic achievement for Georgia's school children. A coordinated school health program consists of eight components: safe school environment; health services; health education; physical education; counseling, psychological, and social services; nutrition services, family and community involvement; and health promotion for staff.

What does the program do?

The Georgia School Health Program works to ensure:

- The provision of technical assistance, training, support, and consultation to school health programs, professional school nurses, and school districts for the development and implementation of coordinated school programs
- Collaborative partnerships among health and education organizations and agencies
- Evaluation of school health activities and monitoring best practices

How many people are helped by the program?

Approximately 1.5 million children in Georgia public schools in grades K-12 can benefit from school health programs.

Why is the program important?

Children and adolescents are exposed to significant health risks. Research indicates that these health risks affect student achievement. Schools are the center of activity for youth and offer an opportunity for health promotion and prevention programs that improve health status, prevent disease and reduce at-risk behaviors.

Who is eligible?

All services target school aged youth in grades K – 12.

Where are services located?

Statewide

Legislative authority

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<http://health.state.ga.us/programs/school/>



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