

5. PAYING FOR NURSING CARE

5.5 Ensure adequate funding for public health nursing

Federal, tribal, state, local, and private payers and public health agencies should establish sustainable and flexible payment mechanisms to support nurses in both health care and public health, including school nurses, in addressing social needs, social determinants of health, and health equity.

FUTURE OF NURSING™
Campaign for Action

1. Key Strategic Stakeholders

Nursing Organizations

State School Nurse/Public Nurse Associations

Health Care

Hospital Associations; Hospitals; Major Health Systems (e.g. Nationwide in Ohio); 3rd party insurers (Healthy Community/Healthy Schools)

Non-profits

National Association of State Medicaid Directors; National Association of School Superintendents; National Governors Association;

Federal Organizations

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; Congressional Budget Office; Department of Education; Federally Qualified Health Centers; Legislators

State Organizations

Community and Economic Development; Health Departments; Legislators; Local budget overseers; Tribal & State Medicaid Director; Workforce Investment Boards

Other

Accountable care organizations

2. Top 3-5 Actions for 2021

- A. Assessment of state landscape on funding and billable services, managed care including documentation systems that capture billable services and alternative payment possibilities.
- B. Identify exemplars in funding for school nursing/public health (In Ohio-Columbus, Toledo, Akron hospitals pay for School Nurses) (Delaware School Nurses included in State Code with funding allocated).
- C. Understanding the funding stream process.
- D. Advocacy for current proposed funding for school nursing with strategic partners (e. g. Lauren Underwood).
- E. Create an advocacy plan regarding use of COVID-19 relief funds.

3. Top 3-5 Actions for 2022

- A. Research-what is the best staffing model for school nurse/public health nurses?
- B. Build upon partnership with CMS for billable services and identifying total cost of care which would pay for school nursing, including outcomes (mental health , asthma, preventive services, obesity), find and use current data sets.
- C. Advocacy and communication plan for sustainability of funding (especially COVID fund use).
- D. Federally require states to include school nurse care in all managed care plans.
- E. Tie in school nurses and public health nurses in community health plans.

4. Success Indicators

- Identify number of School nurses & public health nurses and increase benchmark yearly.
- Identify current funding and increase benchmark funding streams for school nursing /public health.
- Identify billable services and increased billable opportunities, highlight SN in alternative payment models.