School Nurse

I. Knowing the Content

The professional education program provides evidence that candidates for School Nurse certification have a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree, current license as a Registered Nurse, and have demonstrated their knowledge of and competence in providing for the health care needs of children and youth (K-12) including:

I.A. Providing information and services in school health related areas including:

- promotion of health education and health practices,
- assessment of community and school health needs,
- physical and mental health assessment of children and youth,
- development, management, and evaluation of the school health program,
- prevention, identification, and control of communicable diseases,
- counseling techniques, referral, and health care management of children and youth,
- case management of health needs of children and youth,
- competence in dealing with health related issues of diverse populations**,**
- child and adolescent development,
- educational psychology

I.B. Recognizing symptoms and consequences of safety and environmental factors including:

- child abuse,
- substance abuse,
- teenage pregnancy,
- violence,
- homelessness and poverty,
- emergency response and crisis intervention planning,
- safe and healthy school environment

I.C. Assessing, documenting and managing the health care needs of children and youth with disabilities in the least restrictive environment including:

- technological care,
- nutrition,
- medication,
- participation in multidisciplinary meetings,
- development of an individualized plan of health care

I.D. Regulatory, ethical and professional issues and responsibilities governing the provision of health care services in the schools including:

- Federal, state and local laws and regulations which impact children and youth,
- Pennsylvania State Professional Nurse Law,
- Pennsylvania school code and regulations,

- American Nursing Association/National Association of School Nurses code of ethics,
- privacy and confidentiality,
- child and parental rights

II. Performances

The professional education program provides evidence that each School Nurse certification candidates are assessed and demonstrate competence in the above content areas during participation in early field experiences and a required practicum. The early field experiences and practicum must be in diverse settings and educational levels while under the supervision of a certified school nurse.

III. Professionalism

The professional education program provides evidence that each School Nurse certification candidate demonstrates knowledge of and competencies in promoting professionalism in school and community settings including:

III.A. Professional journals, organizations and other sources of professional development

III.B. Integrity and ethical behavior, professional conduct as stated in Pennsylvania's Code of Professional Practice and Conduct for Educators; and local, state, and federal laws and regulations

III.C. Collaboration with other professionals

III.D. Effective communication with parent/guardians, other agencies and the community at large to support learning by all students