

HEALTH AND SAFETY

NEW: MENTAL HEALTH EDUCATION 120B.21

Starting in the 2026-27 school year, schools must provide mental health education

- To students in grades 4-12.
- Aligned to local health standards, until statewide health standards are developed

EFFECTIVE DATE – AUGUST 1, 2024

NEW: STATEWIDE HEALTH STANDARDS Laws 2024, Chapter 115, Article 2, Sec. 21

The MDE Commissioner, in consultation with the Health and Human Services Commissioners, must start formal rulemaking to develop statewide health standards. Required health topics include:

- Cardiopulmonary resuscitation and automatic external defibrillator education for grades 7 through 12
- Vaping awareness and prevent education for students in grades 6 through 8
- Cannabis use and substance use education in grades 6 through 12
- Sexually transmitted infections (no grade requirements)
- Mental health education for students in grades 4 through 12

The MDE Commissioner may consider including the following health education topics:

- Sexual abuse prevention
- Violence prevention
- Character development
- Safe and supportive schools
- Other topics identified during the rulemaking process

Local health standards will be in place until statewide standards are adopted under the rulemaking process.

EFFECTIVE DATE – AUGUST 1, 2024

NEW: ACCESS TO SPACE FOR MENTAL HEALTH CARE THROUGH TELEHEALTH
121A.216

Schools must provide secondary students with access to space to receive mental health care services through telehealth from a student’s licensed mental health provider during regular school hours. Schools must, to the extent staff are available, before or after the school day on instructional days, provide mental health telehealth space. The space must:

- Schools must develop a plan with procedures to receive requests to access the space
- The space must provide a student with privacy
- A student may use a school-issued device to receive mental health through telehealth if consistent with district policy
- A school may require parent signature or authorization from health professionals to confirm student is receiving services

EFFECTIVE DATE – OCTOBER 1, 2024

NEW: EATING DISORDER AWARENESS 128C.02

The Minnesota Highschool Sports League must provide school coaches with eating disorder prevention resources, developed specifically for school coaches about:

- Nature of eating disorders
- Risk factors
- Mitigation strategies
- Risks of undiagnosed eating disorders

EFFECTIVE DATE – AUGUST 1, 2024

NEW: NURSES ADMINISTERING EPINEPHRINE AUTO-INJECTORS 121A.2207 Subd.1

Licensed school nurses may administer in a school setting according to a condition-specific protocol. The protocol:

- Should not reference a specific patient
- Should specify the circumstances under which the epinephrine auto-injector is to be administered, when caring for a patient whose condition falls within the protocol

EFFECTIVE DATE – JULY 1, 2024

NEW: CARDIAC EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLANS 121A.035

Schools must add cardiac emergency response plans to their crisis management policy, which are currently developed to address potential violent crisis situations. They currently include among other things, school lock-down, tornado and fire drills.

The MDE Commissioner **must** make a model crisis management policy, which includes cardiac emergency response plans, available to schools.

EFFECTIVE DATE – JANUARY 1, 2025

NEW: UNSCHEDULED STUDENT REMOVAL POLICY 121A.612

Schools are encouraged to adopt a policy on parental notification for unscheduled student removals from class. In developing a policy, schools must:

- Consult with child abuse prevent experts to incorporate best practices
- Include the policy in the employee handbook
- Disseminate information to school staff on child abuse prevent in a school setting

EFFECTIVE DATE – 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR