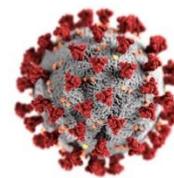




Tips for Implementing School Health Screening During COVID-19



The purpose of this document is to provide general recommendations for student and staff safety as schools make plans to conduct the required school health screenings for hearing, vision, dental and height and weight.

- Find the full text of the school health screening rules and regulations here: Title 173 Chapter 7 https://www.nebraska.gov/rules-and-regs/regsearch/Rules/Health_and_Human_Services_System/Title-173/Chapter-07.pdf

Students:

- **Hand hygiene:** Have students wash hands or use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol prior to screening
- **Cloth face coverings:** Students who are able to wear cloth face coverings should do so for screening.
- **Symptom screening:** Consider conducting temperature checks and ask students about symptoms and exposure, such as is listed on the CDC [Daily Home Screening for Students](#) checklist, before being screened.

Nurses and other screeners:

- **Hand hygiene:** Wash hands frequently or sanitize them frequently
- **PPE:**
 - Height/weight, hearing, and vision screening: Screener should wear a surgical mask. Gloves and eye protection are considered optional but may be used. Wearing a face shield in addition to a mask is recommended when screening students that cannot wear a cloth face covering.
 - Dental screening: the screener should wear gloves, the highest level mask available, and eye protection goggles and/or face shield (glasses are not an acceptable substitute). Isolation gowns may also be considered.
- **Symptom screening:** School staff should consider doing temperature checks and/or symptom screening on community partners or volunteers doing school health screening, Nurses should consider doing self screening before screening students.

Cleaning and Disinfecting:

- Surfaces in direct contact with students should be disinfected between uses
- Consult the manufacturer's directions for the best solutions for cleaning and disinfecting screening equipment. Any [EPA-registered disinfectant](#) is acceptable however, know the contact time needed for proper disinfection. Considerations should be made to use disinfectants that are [safer for students with asthma](#), such as using hydrogen peroxide or alcohol wipes rather than bleach
- Disposable eye occluders may be used for vision screening
- For weight screening, students should take their shoes off. Consider having each student place a paper towel on the scale before stepping on.
- Detailed recommendations on cleaning and disinfection can be found in the following guidance documents:
 - [Considerations for Children's Vision Screening Programs During the Covid-19 Pandemic](#)
 - [Pediatric Vision Screening Guidance during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
 - [Infection Prevention and Control for Audiology Equipment](#)

Spacing and Environment:

- Schools may choose to screen smaller groups of students and space them throughout the year.
- Conduct screenings in a space large enough to accommodate physical distancing, is well ventilated, and has not been occupied by any sick student or staff.
- Rooms where screenings are conducted should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected prior to use and after use.
- Use rooms with a separate entrance and exit when possible.
- Screenings can be conducted in the classroom so the students stay in place.
- Height/weight and dental screening may be conducted outside. Vision screening may be conducted outside out of direct sunlight. Hearing screening should not be conducted outside.
- Document the date, time, and location where screenings occur

Reminders:

- Screening results may be taken from physical examination, visual evaluation, or dental examination reports if equivalent screening results are available and documented.
- The student may be excused from hearing, vision, and/or dental screening if the parent brings a signed statement from a physician, PA, or APRN stating that the child has had these screenings done in the past 6 months. Parents may refuse

height and weight screening if they bring in a signed and dated statement of refusal (this must be done annually).

- Students opting for year-long remote learning **still need to comply with screening regulations**. They either need to come to school for screening or have a signed statement (see above).
- Districts implementing short-term remote learning may wait until students are on site to begin screening.

For further information:

- [Nebraska School Health Screening Regulations](#)
- [Planning a Safe Return to School in Nebraska](#)

Cleaning and Disinfection:

- [Cleaning, Disinfection, and Hand Hygiene in Schools](#)
- [List N: Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2](#)
- [Infection Prevention and Control for Audiology Equipment](#)
- [CDC: Common Asthma Triggers](#)

Dental Screening Guidance:

- [NASN and ASTDD: Considerations for School Nurses in Return to School: Dental Screening](#)

PPE Recommendations:

- [National Association of School Nurses \(NASN\): Guidance for Healthcare Personnel on the Use of Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\) in Schools During COVID-19](#)
- [CDC: Interim Infection Prevention and Control Guidance for the Dental Settings During the Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Pandemic](#)
- [American Dental Association: Interim Mask and Face Shield Guidance](#)

Vision Screening Guidance:

- [Pediatric Vision Screening Guidance during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
- [Considerations for Children's Vision Screening Programs During the Covid-19 Pandemic](#)

