



Office of School Health

Medical Room Standards for - NYC Public and Non-Public Schools– 2020

NEW CONSTRUCTION AND NEW REQUESTS FOR OSH SERVICES

Minimum Requirements:

- Dedicated space with no through traffic
- Central building location
- Appropriate waiting area
- Nursing office/treatment area (specific standards below)
- Bathroom internal to or adjacent to the medical room
- Holding area for a student awaiting transportation or pick-up (80 square feet)
 - Such an area is needed to provide a space for a student awaiting transportation or pick-up. If such a space is not provided these students will have to wait elsewhere.

Nursing office/treatment area standards:

- 1) Minimum of 200 square feet in buildings planned for up to 800 students and 300 square feet in larger buildings to accommodate more staff. The room must accommodate a work station, treatment area, medical cabinet, filing cabinet, storage cabinet, medication refrigerator, exam table and scale
- 2) Sink with hot and cold running water
- 3) Floor-to-ceiling walls (substantial enough to maintain privacy).
- 4) Easy to clean surfaces (no carpeting)
- 5) Internet access and adequate electrical power (multiple outlets) for computers and medical equipment.
- 6) Telephone line able to make direct calls out of building (e.g. 911 calls) and to send faxes
- 7) Adequate heating and air conditioning, lighting and ventilation
- 8) A window that can be opened for ventilation
- 9) Secure lock that cannot be opened by other school keys (excluding master key)
- 10) Safety button to enable nurse to have immediate access to security in the event of an emergency.
- 11) The medical room should be wheelchair-accessible and on a lower floor.

OSH programs, initiatives, or high acuity schools (i.e. D75 services or CATCH) may require additional or separate space to accommodate additional staff.

The medical room provisions were adopted by the NYC Board of Health - Section 49.07 and are now legal requirements in the Health Code.

Schools with existing substandard medical rooms that do not meet the criteria above must continue to work with their respective OSH Clinical Team towards finding an appropriate space for the medical room within their building.