

Frequently Asked Questions about School-Based Health Centers (SBHCs)

Why are SBHCs needed?

- SBHCs provide a comprehensive range of services that meet the physical, behavioral, and oral health needs of young people.
- SBHCs offer convenient access to care - students who don't get medical treatment anywhere else can get it at school, regardless of their ability to pay.
- SBHCs give students medical attention when they need it, catching problems early on and preventing bigger problems later in life.
- SBHCs keep students in school, healthy, and learning, so they can lead successful, productive lives.

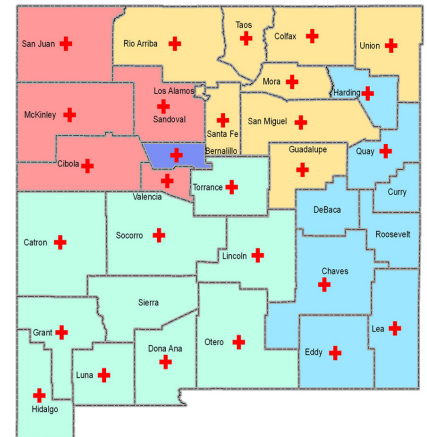
What services are typically provided through the SBHCs?

School-based health centers provide comprehensive services using a multidisciplinary health team. Services typically include:

- Medical: primary care for injuries and illnesses, well-child examinations, sports physicals, immunizations and laboratory tests, over-the-counter medications and prescriptions, and referrals to other providers.
- Behavioral: awareness and outreach, suicide prevention, alcohol and substance abuse counseling and treatment, screening for depression, individual, group, and family therapy, and crisis intervention.
- Prevention: health promotion and risk reduction education/programs, STD and HIV awareness and education, nutrition, sports, and physical activity counseling.
- Oral health: screening, cleaning, sealants, and education.

How many SBHCs are there in New Mexico?

- There are currently 80 SBHCs in New Mexico.
- For a complete listing of SBHCs in each county, visit the New Mexico Alliance for School-Based Health Care website at www.nmasbhc.org. On the website, the viewer will find a map of the state. One can click on a county, and a complete list of all SBHCs located in that area will appear. The directory also includes contact information, hours of operation, and services provided.



How are SBHCs funded?

- Most SBHCs operate through a patchwork of funding, and many are vulnerable to closing due to both finances and difficulty finding providers in rural areas.
- SBHCs are funded by both general state and federal funds, with 59 of 80 directly supported with funds from the Department of Health – Office of School and Adolescent Health (OSAH).
- General state funds for FY '09 = \$3,529,000. Federal Funds (JPA agreement with the Human Services Department for Medicaid administrative match) = \$341,000.
- The remaining SBHCs are supported through a variety of mechanisms, including the Indian Health Service, grants and other private philanthropy, and federal programs.
- DOH funding to each SBHC is based on level of operation and productivity:
 - \$60,000 – 8 hours primary care and 8 hours of behavioral health
 - \$85,000 – 16 hours of primary care and 16 hours of behavioral health
 - \$150,000 – Full service, both primary care and behavioral health care are available 5 days per week throughout the school year and in some instances throughout the summer months. NOTE: Some older, well-established SBHCs are funded at a lower level.
- A total of 45 SBHCs receive Medicaid reimbursement for primary care and behavioral health services provided to students. New Mexico managed care organizations also continue to provide important support.