

SB24-034: Increase Access to School-Based Health Care

Key Points of Bill:

- Increase access to comprehensive health care services across Colorado, especially in high-needs areas without school-based health centers (SBHCs), by permanently increasing dedicated state revenue by ~\$1 million.
- Add into CDPHE SBHC Program's authority to oversee new models of care, called school-linked services, to improve access in communities that may not be able to build a full SBHC.

What are School-Based Health Centers?

SBHCs are health care facilities located on school grounds. SBHCs provide primary care, behavioral health, health education, dental care, and health insurance enrollment. SBHCs serve youth with limited access to care in an accessible and trusted environment.

What are School-Linked Services?

School-linked services are smaller scale SBHCs, offering one or two service types with a referral system to a community clinic nearby. This could manifest as telehealth extensions, mobile units, or more. See next page for more detail.

What are the Benefits of Health Care at School?

- Serve every child regardless of income or health insurance status.
- Result in net savings to Medicaid, reduce inappropriate emergency room use, increase use of primary care, and result in fewer hospitalizations among regular users.
- Improve health and educational outcomes, and are a proven strategy to advance equity.

Sponsored by:

Senators Marchman and Kolker;
Representatives Garcia and Lindsay

DID YOU KNOW?

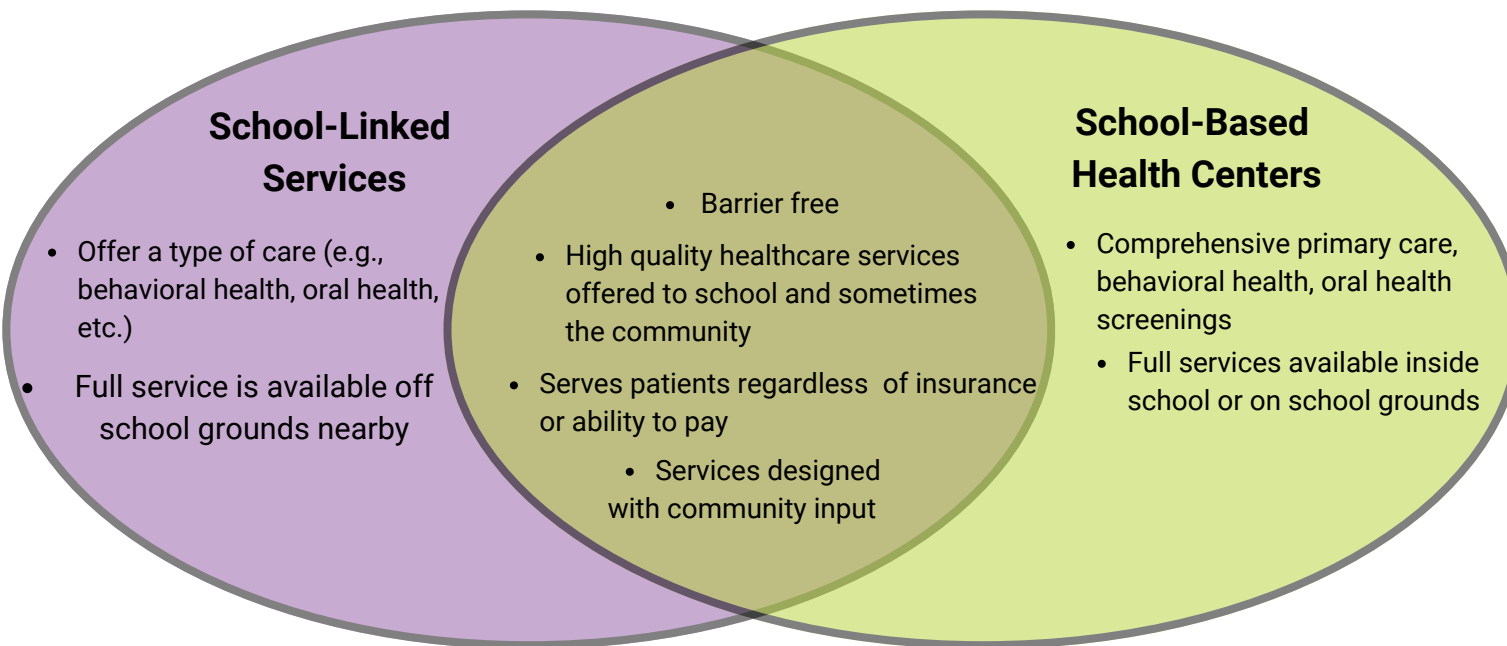
Communities throughout Colorado are planning to open SBHCs – 3 opened in 2023 alone and 5 more are being planned for 2024-2025.

The line item has not grown since 2014; however, Colorado has seen 3-5 new SBHCs every year. The recent Colorado Health Institute report identifies over 50 communities in Colorado that could benefit from a SBHC.

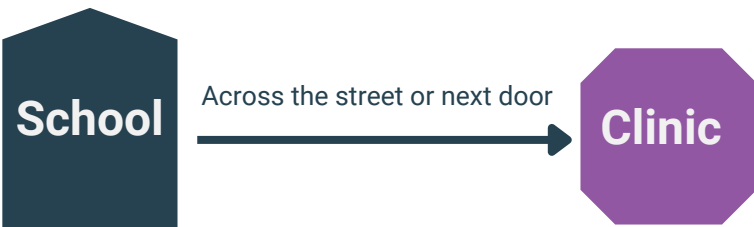
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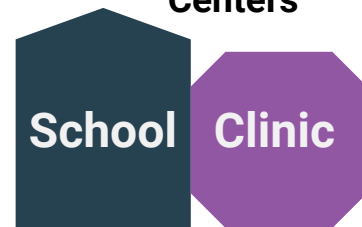


School-Linked Services



Medical assistant or other school-linked staff present at the school (initial screening visit or telehealth delivery of services)

School-Based Health Centers



Clinic is on or attached to the school, providers are on campus

WHY DO WE NEED THIS BILL?

- School-linked services are precluded from existing state programs and grant funds
- Communities have healthcare needs and needs to build upon existing assets within the community with limited resources and limited populations.
- School-linked is an opportunity to test-drive what a SBHC could look like before fully committing to a SBHC.
- As schools often are the hubs of communities, building up services at the school benefits the community.

WHAT ARE THE RESOURCES FOR?

- Funding is needed for non-billable services, including but not limited to:
 - Start-up costs
 - Operations
 - Capital (e.g., physical location inside school, mobile unit rental or purchases)
 - Marketing resources
 - Purchasing equipment (e.g., telehealth)
 - Support positions (e.g., health aide, nurse, medical assistant, patient educator or navigator, case worker)

SUPPORTERS OF SB 24-034:

- ACLU of Colorado
- Adams County Health Department
- AFT Colorado
- American Academy of Pediatrics - Colorado Chapter
- Children's Hospital Colorado
- Chronic Care Collaborative
- Colorado Academy of Family Physicians
- Colorado Association of Local Public Health Officials
- Colorado Association of School Nurses
- Colorado Behavioral Healthcare Council
- Colorado Center on Law and Policy
- Colorado Children's Campaign
- Colorado Community Health Network
- Colorado Consumer Health Initiative
- Colorado Hospital Association
- Colorado Psychiatric Society
- Colorado Public Health Association
- Colorado Safety Net Collaborative
- COLOR Latina
- Denver Health
- Health Colorado, Inc.
- Healthier Colorado
- Immunize Colorado
- Mental Health Colorado
- Northeast Health Partners
- Stand for Children, Inc.
- The Colorado School Medicaid Consortium
- The Kempe Foundation