

60-15-101. Definitions and functions.

- (a) Each registered professional nurse in a school setting shall be responsible for the nature and quality of all nursing care that a student is given under the direction of the nurse in the school setting. Assessment of the nursing needs, the plan of nursing action, implementation of the plan, and evaluation of the plan shall be considered essential components of professional nursing practice and shall be the responsibility of the registered professional nurse.
- (b) In fulfilling nursing care responsibilities, any nurse may perform the following:
 - (1) Serve as a health advocate for students receiving nursing care;
 - (2) counsel and teach students, staff, families, and groups about health and illness;
 - (3) promote health maintenance;
 - (4) serve as health consultant and a resource to teachers, administrators, and other school staff who are providing students with health services during school attendance hours or extended program hours; and
 - (5) utilize nursing theories, communication skills, and the teaching-learning process to function as part of the interdisciplinary evaluation team.
- (c) The services of a registered professional nurse may be supplemented by the assignment of tasks to a licensed practical nurse or by the delegation of selected nursing tasks or procedures to unlicensed personnel under supervision by the registered professional nurse or licensed practical nurse.
- (d) "Unlicensed person" means anyone not licensed as a registered professional nurse or licensed practical nurse.
- (e) "Delegation" means authorization for an unlicensed person to perform selected nursing tasks or procedures in the school setting under the direction of a registered professional nurse.
- (f) "Activities of daily living" means basic caretaking or specialized caretaking.
- (g) "Basic caretaking" means the following tasks:
 - (1) Bathing;
 - (2) dressing;
 - (3) grooming;
 - (4) routine dental, hair, and skin care;
 - (5) preparation of food for oral feeding;
 - (6) exercise, excluding occupational therapy and physical therapy procedures;
 - (7) toileting, including diapering and toilet training;
 - (8) handwashing;
 - (9) transferring; and
 - (10) ambulation.
- (h) "Specialized caretaking" means the following procedures:
 - (1) Catherization;
 - (2) ostomy care;
 - (3) preparation and administration of gastrostomy tube feedings;
 - (4) care of skin with damaged integrity or potential for this damage;
 - (5) medication administration;
 - (6) taking vital signs;
 - (7) blood glucose monitoring, which shall include taking glucometer readings and carbohydrate counting; and
 - (8) performance of other nursing procedures as selected by the registered professional nurse.
- (i) "Anticipated health crisis" means that a student has a previously diagnosed condition that, under predictable circumstances, could lead to an imminent risk to the student's health.
- (j) "Investigational drug" means a drug under study by the United States food and drug administration to determine safety and efficacy in humans for a particular indication.
- (k) "Nursing judgment" means the exercise of knowledge and discretion derived from the biological, physical, and behavioral sciences that requires special education or curriculum.
- (l) "Extended program hours" means any program that occurs before or after school attendance hours and is hosted or controlled by the school.
- (m) "School attendance hours" means those hours of attendance as defined by the local educational agency or governing board.
- (n) "School setting" means any public or nonpublic school environment.
- (o) "Supervision" means the provision of guidance by a nurse as necessary to accomplish a nursing task or procedure, including initial direction of the task or procedure and periodic inspection of the actual act of accomplishing the task or procedure.

- (p) "Medication" means any drug required by the federal or state food, drug, and cosmetic acts to bear on its label the legend "Caution: Federal law prohibits dispensing without prescription," and any drugs labeled as investigational drugs or prescribed for investigational purposes.
- (q) "Task" means an assigned step of a nursing procedure.
- (r) "Procedure" means a series of steps followed in a regular, specific order that is part of a defined nursing practice.

History: (Authorized by K.S.A. 2007 Supp. 65-1124 and K.S.A. 65-1129; implementing K.S.A. 2007 Supp. 65-1124 and K.S.A. 65-1165; effective, T-89-23, May 27, 1988; amended, T-60-9-12-88, Sept. 12, 1988; amended Feb. 13, 1989; amended Sept. 2, 1991; amended Sept. 11, 1998; amended July 29, 2005; amended March 6, 2009.)