

Iowa School Health Services and the Licensed Practical Nurse in the School

The Iowa Licensed Practical Nurse may practice in the school setting in two ways, as delegated and supervised by a Registered Nurse in the same building or provide specific individual student services (one-on-one) following the student's health plan as delegated and the supervision level determined by a Registered Nurse employed by the school district.

- The Iowa Code and the Iowa Administrative Code govern the delivery of safe, effective and accessible student health services in Iowa Schools.
- Iowa Code 152 and 655 Iowa Administrative Code, Chapter 6 address the definition and the scope of practice of the Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN).
- A LPN shall practice supportive and restorative care under the supervision of a registered nurse (RN) or physician [655 IAC, Chapter 6, 6.3(1)].
- A LPN shall participate in the nursing process by assisting the RN or physician [655 IAC, Chapter 6, 6.3(2)].
- A LPN shall not perform an initial assessment related to procedures/therapies [655 IAC, Chapter 6, 6.3(3)"a"].
- A LPN may practice nursing in the school setting under the supervision of a RN or physician. The RN or physician shall be in the proximate area [655 IAC, Chapter 6, 6.3(7)"b"].
- "*Proximate area*" means that the RN analyzes the qualifications of the licensed practical nurse in relationship to nursing needs of the client in determining the appropriate distance within the building and the time necessary to be readily available to the licensed practical nurse [655 IAC, Chapter 6, 6.1(152)].
- A LPN may provide nursing care to a specific student following the student's health plan under the supervision of and as delegated by a RN employed by the school district [655 IAC, Chapter 6, 6.6(2)].

To access 655 Iowa Administrative Code, Chapter 6, visit the Iowa Board of Nursing at <http://www.nursing.iowa.gov>, click on Iowa Law and Administrative Rules and follow the directions as printed. Additional information on the website; LPN functions and LPN frequently asked questions and answers.

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