



Dear SNOA members and school healthcare providers,

"As the largest group of health care professionals in the U.S. and the most trusted profession, nurses are with patients 24/7 and from the beginning of life to the end. Nurses practice in all health care settings and are filling new roles to meet the ever-growing demand for health and health care services," said ANA President Ernest J. Grant, PhD, RN, FAAN. "Despite the major role nurses play in health care delivery and community outreach, there are opportunities to increase understanding of the value of nursing to expand investment in education, practice, and research, as well as increase the numbers of nurses who serve in leadership positions."

This is important to remember that we need to be the advocate for our students as school nurses. To provide best practice it is important that we are involved in our professional organizations, stay up to date on evidence-based practices, know the laws that affect our scope of practice and legislation that affects our schools.

It is important that you belong to the National Association of School Nurses and your State organization School Nurses Organization of Arizona so that you have a voice in supporting our very important role as school nurses. As your board members retire or are close to retirement we need you to step forward for the future of our students.

I am grateful to all of you for your hard work in promoting safe and healthy schools. I wish all of you abundant blessings this Thanksgiving.



**Nadine Miller**  
**SNOA President-Partners in Health and Education**



***According to AZCentral.com: Arizona Schools' measles risk is even worse than it appears.....***

The article reports that the number of Arizona parents exempting their children from required school vaccines has increased, but making the situation worse is that schools have allowed unvaccinated students to attend without the required exemption status.

The data they utilized found that more than half of the state's Kindergartens have immunization rates below the level that would be required to fend off an outbreak. It states, "Non-medical personal belief exemptions have quadrupled since 2000, and they have jumped six fold for sixth graders, according to the Department of Health Services"

The two largest groups of unimmunized students attending school were found to be:

- Those with required exemption, to include almost 4,000 Kindergarteners
- Those students allowed to attend school who do not have an exemption or an immunization record on file at their school.

### **Medicaid Corner**

**-Qualified Medical Provider (QMP) for Direct Services FAQs:** Direct services are submitted as claims for reimbursement and must be deemed medically necessary and appropriately prescribed within the student's IEP evident by the signature and date of the Qualified Medical Provider (QMP) for each service type as defined within the MSBC program.

**-Who is considered a Medicaid Qualified Medical Provider?** Registered Nurse, OT, PT, SLP with their CCC's

**-Who does not qualify as a Medicaid Qualified Medical Provider?** A licensed OT (Must supervise COTA), SLPA (Must be supervised by a licensed SLP), SLP-CFY (Must be supervised by a licensed SLP), Health Assistant (In the school Health Office), Service Facilitator, Classroom Teacher

**-If there are Nursing services listed in the IEP,** the Nurse **must** be listed as part of the IEP team, review and add input to the nursing prescription section of the IEP, must be invited to the IEP meeting, and must sign the IEP-

**-Who would qualify as a Medicaid Qualified Medical Provider if the only related services listed in the IEP are ADLs (Activities of Daily Living) for the Instructional Assistant (Health Aide) and/or Transportation services?**

The Registered Nurse at your school will qualify as the QMP in this situation because there is a reasonable possibility that the student will be seen by the nurse at some point throughout the school year.

### **CDC Updates on e-cig and vaping related lung disease** taken from <https://www.cdc.gov/lunginjury>

- As of October 8, 2019, 1,299 confirmed and probable lung injury cases associated with use of e-cigarette, or vaping, products were reported by 49 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.
- Among 573 patients with information on substances used in e-cigarette, or vaping, products in the 90 days prior to symptom onset: 76% reported using THC-containing products, with or without nicotine-containing products; 32% reported exclusive use of THC-containing products; 58% reported using nicotine-containing products, with or without THC-containing products; and 13% reported exclusive use of Nicotine-containing products.
- Among 1,043 patients with data on age and sex: 70% of patients are male. 80% of patients are under 35 years old. 15% are under 18 years old. 21% are 18 to 20 years old. 18% are 21 to 24 years old. 26% are 25 to 34 years old. 20% are 35 years or older
- 26 deaths have been confirmed in 21 states: Alabama, California (3), Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia (2), Illinois, Indiana, Kansas (2), Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, Oregon (2), Pennsylvania, Texas, and Virginia.

**For updates visit:** <https://www.cdc.gov/lunginjury>

SAVE-THE-DATE!  
The School Nurses Organization of Arizona Presents



 School Nurses Organization of Arizona

*“Being a Voice at the Table: Supporting School Health & Safety”*

**Monday, June 8th and Tuesday, June 9th, 2020**

**Desert Willow Conference Center, Phoenix, AZ**

For more information visit: <https://snoa.org/>

**NASN Corner:**

-Be on the lookout for new NASN position statements coming out in June.

**-NASN2020-A Seat at the Table: Winning Together for Student Health**

June 30 - July 3, 2020 (preconference June 29, 2020) The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas



**Call for Nominations:**

We will open up leadership positions within SNOA and a call for nominations has been issued. If you want to explore the requirements, please visit [SNOA.org/about-snoa](https://snoa.org/about-snoa). *Is it time to take a leadership role in your school nursing career?* Please consider placing your name on this year's ballot for the following:

SNOA Treasurer

SNOA President

If interested, send your bio for the ballot, to be sent out in early December, to [cmmahoney@mpsaz.org](mailto:cmmahoney@mpsaz.org)

**Data collection:**

Laura Winkleblack, CRNP, MSN, RNFA, who is working on her Post-Master's Doctor of Nursing through Arizona State University, has been diligently working on data collection with our SNOA Vice President, and NASN data collection representative, Sarah Portle. Questionnaires have been sent out to all SNOA contacts related to data collection, and we encourage everyone to respond.

**How will this benefit us?** Having data regarding the school health office related to chronic illness, disease management and statistics regarding care, treatment and referrals can assist in developing a stronger picture regarding the benefits and barriers to having a school nurse in every school.

**What is the Issue she has identified?** “With increasing rates of pediatric chronic health conditions, the lack of school nurses within the primary education system is negatively impacting students’ health and academic outcomes.”

**The Concern:** Undiagnosed or poorly controlled health conditions for any child can affect their school performance, likelihood of graduation, and future opportunities, all of which affect the health and economic outcomes of our communities. However, many of our schools lack a registered nurse who can address and manage health conditions during the school day.”

*Help us to help you be that Voice at the table*