

## VIRGINIA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND THE BLIND

<b><i>TITLE: Providing Emergency Medical, Dental, or Mental Health Services for Students</i></b>	<b>POLICY NUMBER: SH07</b>
	<b>Page 1 of 2</b>

### **Policy Statement:**

The Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind will provide emergency services for students having medical, dental, or mental health emergencies.

**VAC 22.1-272.1. Contacting the parent for student with imminent risk of suicide.**

### **Procedure:**

1. The Student Health Center nursing staff must be notified immediately of any accident, injury, or sudden illness of a student. The Student Health Center nurse will respond promptly and assess the student. Students that are conscious and stable will be brought to the Student Health Center for further assessment and evaluation.
  - a. The SHC nursing staff or designee will notify the parent/guardian and the VSDB Superintendent if the student requires off campus medical services.
  - b. Any student requiring medical treatment, beyond the treatment parameters of the SHC, will be taken to VSDB's contract physician's office, the emergency room, walk-in clinic, or local dentist/orthodontist.
  - c. A VSDB employee will accompany any student leaving campus to obtain medical or dental services. A copy of the student's *Permission to Treat* form and insurance card will be sent with the student and/or staff member.
2. In serious or life-threatening events, VSDB employees will initiate Emergency Services by calling 911, or 9-911 from a VSDB land-line telephone, then will notify the VSDB nursing department. The VSDB Campus Police should also be notified to assist with emergencies.
  - a. Employees will make sure the scene is safe and provide emergency first aid and/or CPR/AED until emergency services and/or a VSDB nurse arrives.
  - b. VSDB nursing staff will assess the student, provide additional first aid if needed, and assist with the management of the incident and safety of the student.
  - c. Any information related to the origin of the emergency should immediately be reported to nursing staff and/or EMS.
  - d. The VSDB Superintendent or designee will be notified.
  - e. A VSDB employee will accompany any student leaving campus to obtain medical or dental services. A copy of the student's *Permission to Treat* form and insurance card will be sent with the student and/or staff.
  - f. A designated VSDB staff member will notify the parents/guardians.
  - g. The parent/guardian of the student is required to meet their child and VSDB employee at the hospital following a serious or life-threatening event. Once the parent/guardian has arrived to the hospital, the VSDB employee may return to campus.
  - h. Following the medical emergency and prior to the student's return to the VSDB, the student is required to have an evaluation from a licensed healthcare provider. The healthcare provider must complete and sign the *Medical Release Form* for

*Students Returning to the VSDB Following a Serious Illness, Communicable Disease, Injury, or Surgery and fax it to the VSDB prior to the students return.*

## VIRGINIA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND THE BLIND

<b><i>TITLE: Providing Emergency Medical, Dental, or Mental Health Services for Students</i></b>	<b>POLICY NUMBER: SH07</b>
	<b>Page 2 of 2</b>

3. The Threat Assessment Team (*The Team*) will be notified immediately for any student who is experiencing a mental health crisis (ie. Having suicidal or homicidal thoughts, showing signs/symptoms of having a mood or thought disorder). Policy G039, *The Student Threat Assessment Policy and Procedures*, defines the purpose and guidelines of *The Team* and the threat assessment processes.
  - a. The nurse will assist *The Team* in assessing and identifying the level of risk for each student threat. The nurse will assist with the completion of a safety contract when indicated.
  - b. The student will be provided with constant 1:1 supervision by VSDB nursing staff or another employee appointed by *The Team*. Supervision will continue until the student is stable and has signed a safety contract or until the student has been transferred elsewhere for additional services.
  - c. If the student refuses to sign a safety contract, their parent/guardian will be promptly notified. The student will be referred to the VCSB or to the student's home locality for evaluation.
  - d. If a threat is determined to be imminent or high risk, the VSDB nursing staff will contact the VSDB Campus Police for assistance. If the VSDB Campus Police is unavailable, the VSDB nursing staff will contact EMS for assistance.
  - e. Following a mental health crisis and prior to the student's return to the VSDB, the student is required to have an evaluation from a Psychiatrist, Psychologist, or Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW). The mental health provider must complete and sign the *Medical Release Form for Students Returning to the VSDB Following a Mental Health Crisis* and fax it to the VSDB prior to the students return.
  
4. Any VSDB staff who accompanies students on off campus trips, including homegoing and returning bus rides and field trips, need to call 911 whenever a student is seriously injured or has a medical emergency. Any delay in treatment could be life threatening.
  - a. Student *Permission to Treat* forms are provided to staff when going on any off campus trips. Each bus route has a copy of the *Permission to Treat* forms, as well.
  - b. In the event of an emergency, the student's *Permission to Treat* form and insurance card copy should be sent with the student to the hospital.
  - c. A VSDB employee will accompany the student to the local hospital and remain with the student until the parent/guardian or other VSDB staff arrives.
  - d. The VSDB nursing staff will contact parents/guardians and the VSDB administration.

5. VSDB employees will need to complete required documentation after the student has been properly cared for.
  - a. An incident report form or a summary of the incident is to be completed the day of the event prior to the employee leaving work.
  - b. All documentation is to be completed within 24 hours of the incident and given to the employee's supervisor. The VSDB administration for follow up as needed for clarification or additional information.
  - c. The VSDB nursing staff will report the incident to the Director of Public Safety and the VSDB campus police if indicated.

<p><b><i>Rescission:</i></b> Effective Date: June 2015; Revised November 2017; Revised: February 2018 BOV Approved: June 8, 2016; Revised: August 1, 2022</p>
---