



KA-POW!

Knocking out competency training
like a superhero!

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Draft SHARS Policy Available for Comment released 5/5/2025



Draft of School Health and Related Services (SHARS) Policy Available for Comment

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Draft of School Health and Related Services (SHARS) Policy Available for Comment

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission has opened the draft of the School Health and Related Services (SHARS) Policy (MS Word) for public comment.

The draft is posted on the [Medicaid Medical and Dental Policy webpage](#).

Comments will be accepted until 5 p.m. on June 8th.

For questions, [email the MCD Medical Benefits Policy Comment inbox](#).



PCS Provider Requirements

Here's the Rule(TMPPM):

All PCS providers must:

- Be employed by or contracted with the local education agency (LEA).
- Meet the requirements of 42 CFR § 440.167.
- Have demonstrated the understanding and competence necessary to perform the eligible PCS tasks required by the student, including written documentation procedures

Here's our Read:

- PCS providers must be employed or contracted with the district.
- Authorized to provide PCS services in accordance with the state plan (TMPPM); not a member of the immediate family; services provided in the home or in another location approved by the state.
- Have shown the skills needed to perform the PCS tasks needed per the student's IEP, including written documentation.
 - Writing reports
 - Filling out forms
 - Recording data or observations
 - Documenting steps taken during a task



PCS Provider Requirements

Here's the Rule(TMPPM):

The understanding and competence needed to perform PCS must include, but is not limited to the following two competence areas:

- Appropriate techniques for assisting with ADLs and IADLs, including basic body mechanics, mobility, and techniques for transferring students.
- The needs of students with disabilities, including appropriate techniques for managing adverse behaviors of the student and communicating with students with communication or sensory impairments

Here's our Read

To perform PCS tasks, you need to understand and be skilled in:

- How to help with daily activities:
 - Eating, personal hygiene, dressing, toileting, mobility, positioning, transferring, etc.
- Supporting students with disabilities:
 - This involves managing challenging behaviors
 - Effectively communicating with students who have communication or sensory impairments.



Here's the Rule (TMPPPM):

The LEA may use the following methods to determine whether an individual is qualified to perform PCS in the two competence areas:

- A review of the individual's education, related certification, or related training
- An evaluation from one or more licensed health care practitioners verifying competence for:
 - For the purposes of SHARS reimbursement, a licensed health care practitioner is an individual who is eligible to provide reimbursable services under a SHARS benefit other than PCS.
 - The licensed health care practitioner may additionally consider work experience, evaluations from other licensed health care practitioners, and on-site demonstration.

The LEA may provide training to develop understanding and competence if the individual lacks understanding and competence in an area of PCS.



Training Requirements

Training and evaluation on appropriate techniques for assisting with ADLs and IADLs must be provided by a licensed health care practitioner within their scope of practice. Training and evaluation related to the needs of students with disabilities must be provided by an individual with appropriate credentials, as determined by the LEA.



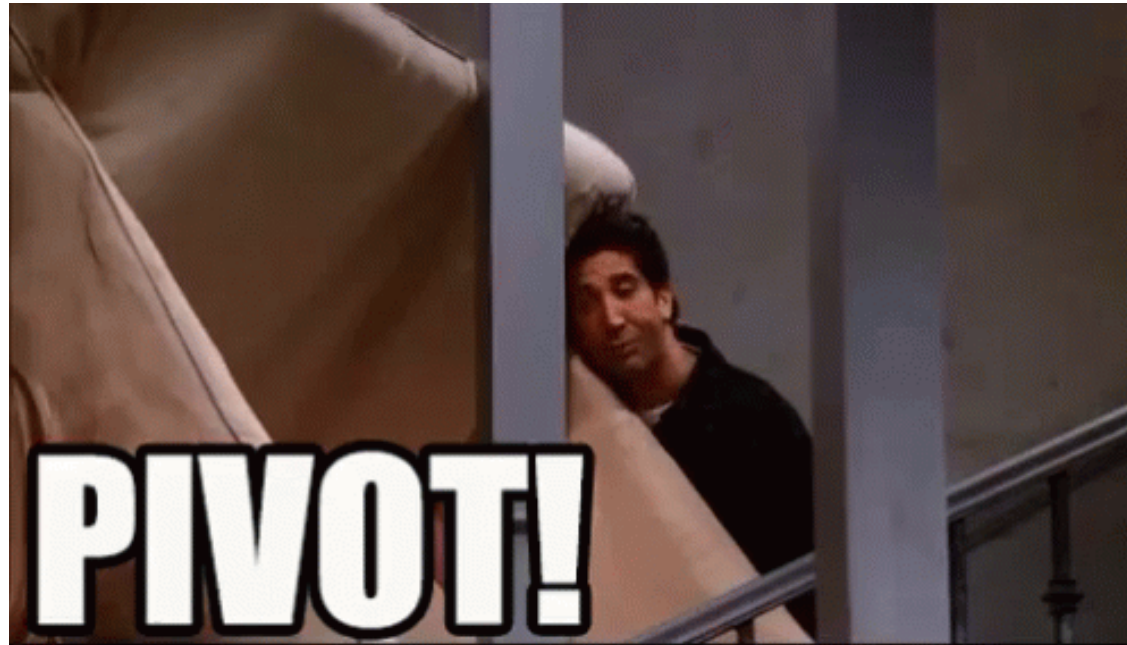
Statement Requirements

Beginning on October 1, 2025, verification of competence must include a signed and dated statement in the student's record from a licensed health care practitioner verifying the individual is qualified to perform PCS tasks in accordance with the required areas of understanding and competence.



Key Take Aways:

- Your district will need to decide what your training and evaluations look like.
- Use online resources
- Collaborate with other districts
- Read the Draft policy, submit comments by 5:00pm, June 8th





If you have any questions
or need assistance

Call: 888-630-6603

Email: shars@tasb.org

