

# Health and Student Services

We help keep students healthy. We remove barriers to education.  
We counsel students and families who need help.



**Education support professionals (ESPs)** ensure students and schools succeed. We perform a wide variety of jobs that improve and protect student health and welfare. In addition to the traditional tasks of providing first aid, monitoring immunizations, conducting health screenings, and assisting sick and injured children, we provide education that encourages students to maintain good health independently. Health and student service ESPs also help students surmount physical obstacles to their learning by assisting students with chronic conditions and disabilities. Family and community service professionals help parents and families take advantage of assistance and services that are available to support their children's education.

## FAST FACTS:

- 90% work full-time
- 75% work with special education students
- 93% are female
- The average age is 51
- We have been NEA members for an average of 10 years
- We are 5 % of the total NEA ESP membership

## OUR JOBS INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:

- Licensed Practical Nurses
- Nurses' and Health Aides
- Health Technicians
- Family and Parent Services Aides
- Community Welfare Services Workers
- Non-managerial Supervisors

## NEA'S HEALTH AND STUDENT SERVICE ESPs ARE:

**Well-trained and experienced.** Thirty percent have earned a two-year college degree, 26 percent a four-year college degree, and 27 percent a Master's, Professional, or higher degree. Fifty-four percent take special coursework for our positions, 56 percent have special certificates, and 66 percent have licenses.

**Committed to students and our careers.** Eighty-two percent have spent their own money to purchase food or school supplies for students. Eighty-seven percent plan to stay in the ESP field, and 80 percent plan on staying in their current positions until retirement. On average, health and student service ESP members have been working in public education for 12 years.

**Active in the school community.** Sixty-six percent live in the communities where they work. Fifty percent have volunteered time to support a parent education association. Thirty-four percent have volunteered to read books to students and 23 percent have volunteered to teach or support art or musical activities.

**Focused on safety.** Eighty-two percent have job responsibilities that involve promoting school safety. Ninety-six percent believe it is their job to intervene when bullying occurs and 91 percent feel that they have effective strategies for handling bullying situations.



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