



**APPROVED TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR
THE TREATMENT OF STUDENTS WITH A
SEIZURE DISORDER**

VIRGINIA BOARD OF EDUCATION

INTRODUCTION

The 2021 General Assembly passed [Senate Bill 1322](#) (DeSteph) to amend and reenact § 8.01-225 of the *Code of Virginia* and to amend the *Code of Virginia* to add [§ 22.1-274.6](#) relating to public schools; seizure management and action plan; and biennial training as follows:

A. The parent or guardian of a student with a diagnosed seizure disorder may submit to the local school division a seizure management and action plan developed by the student's treating physician for review by school division employees with whom the student has regular contact. The seizure management and action plan shall (i) identify the health care services the student may receive at school or while participating in a school activity, (ii) identify seizure-related medication prescribed to the student that must be administered in the event of a seizure, (iii) evaluate the student's ability to manage and understand his seizure disorder, and (iv) be signed by the student's parent or guardian, the student's treating physician, and the school nurse.

B. Each local school division shall require all school nurses employed by the division to complete, on a biennial basis, a Board of Education-approved online course of instruction for school nurses regarding treating students with seizures and seizure disorders that includes information about seizure recognition and related first aid. Approved training programs shall be fully consistent with training programs and guidelines developed by the Epilepsy Foundation of America and any successor organization.

C. Each local school division shall require all employees whose duties include regular contact with students to complete, on a biennial basis, a Board of Education-approved online course of instruction for school employees regarding treating students with seizures and seizure disorders that includes information about seizure recognition and related first aid. Approved training programs shall be fully consistent with training programs and guidelines developed by the Epilepsy Foundation of America and any successor organization.

The *Code of Virginia* § 22.1-274.6 directs each local school division to require biennial training of all school nurses on the treatment of students with seizures and seizure disorders, using a Virginia Board of Education (BOE) approved course of instruction for school nurses. It also requires each local school division to require biennial training of all school employees with direct student contact on the treatment of students with seizures and seizure disorders, using a Virginia Board of Education (BOE) approved course of instruction for school employees.

This bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2022.

APPROVED TRAINING PROGRAM FOR SCHOOL NURSES

The *Code of Virginia* § 22.1-274.6 requires all BOE-approved training programs for school nurses to be fully consistent with training programs and guidelines developed by the [Epilepsy Foundation](#) of America and any successor organization.

The [Seizure Training for School Nurses](#), provided online and on-demand by the Epilepsy Foundation, is a program designed to provide the school nurse with information, strategies, and resources that will enable them to better manage the student with seizures by supporting positive treatment outcomes, maximizing educational and developmental opportunities, and ensuring a safe and supportive environment. The program consists of seven modules to assist the school nurse in learning to effectively manage seizures in a school environment.

Local school divisions shall require school nurses employed by the school division to complete the [Seizure Training for School Nurses](#) on a biennial basis. This training is available on the Epilepsy Foundation of America website, as well as on the [VDOE Health Services](#) webpage.

APPROVED TRAINING PROGRAM FOR SCHOOL PERSONNEL

The *Code of Virginia* § 22.1-274.6 requires all BOE-approved training programs for school personnel to be fully consistent with training programs and guidelines developed by the [Epilepsy Foundation](#) of America and any successor organization.

The [Seizure Training for School Personnel](#), provided online and on-demand by the Epilepsy Foundation, is designed for people who work with children and youth in school settings. This program provides an overview of seizures and epilepsy, seizure first aid, seizure action plans, rescue therapies, seizure emergencies and how to support students in school settings. This course is appropriate for teachers, aides, coaches, administrators and anyone who works in the school setting.

Local school divisions shall require school employees with regular contact with students to complete the [Seizure Training for School Personnel](#) on a biennial basis. This training is available on the Epilepsy Foundation of America website, as well as on the [VDOE Health Services](#) webpage.