

Specialized Health Needs Interagency Collaboration at Kennedy Krieger Institute

Who We Are

The Specialized Health Needs Interagency Collaboration (SHNIC) program is a collaborative partnership between Kennedy Krieger Institute and the Maryland State Department of Education. Our primary goal is to provide community education that facilitates the inclusion of students with specialized health needs in their schools and communities. Through free, on-site or virtual training and technical assistance, we provide the education and skills necessary to safely and effectively manage the needs of children and adolescents, from birth to age 21.

Who We Serve

The SHNIC team works with parents and caregivers, students with specialized health needs, local education agencies, health departments and related community service agencies throughout Maryland. Our nurse educators and education specialists support students with a range of specialized health needs, including:

- Feeding tube management
- Urinary catheterization
- Tracheostomy or ventilator management
- Neurological disorders
- Spinal cord injury and paralysis
- Genetic disorders
- Medication management
- Orthopedic impairment
- Medical device training
- Educational planning (504/IEP)
- Emergency planning



Services We Offer

We provide a variety of services, including:

- Community-based consultation and training for managing a student's specialized health needs
- Consultations and training on how a diagnosis may affect education
- Seminars and workshops on specialized health needs
- Technical assistance, based on evidence-based practices, from a variety of disciplines, including speech-language pathology, occupational and physical therapy, special education and nursing
- Case-by-case consultations for students with medical devices or equipment
- Referrals to community and health resources and support services
- A database of publications and educational materials about specific medical conditions





“The SHNIC program has been invaluable in training our teachers and nurses on the health needs of complex, medically fragile students. Being from a small, rural school system with limited resources, we have greatly benefited from this professional development for our staff.”

– school principal

Our Success

Our program has a proven record of satisfaction and successful collaboration with other agencies and programs working to support students with specialized health needs. We train more than 5,000 people a year, through:

- State and national presentations
- School nursing publications

Our participants report meeting their education and training goals.

Contact Information

Specialized Health Needs Interagency Collaboration at Kennedy Krieger Institute

For more information or to request training or technical assistance, please call **443-923-4562**.

KennedyKrieger.org/SHNIC

To contact our nurse educators, email: **SHNICNursing@KennedyKrieger.org**

Physicians and Healthcare Professionals

To make a referral, call our Physician Referral Line at **443-923-9403**.

Location

1750 East Fairmount Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21231

Some photographs used are for illustrative purposes only, and any person shown in those photographs is a model.



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