

HORNET HEALTH CENTER FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)



1. Who can get services at the Hornet Health Center?

Any child, adolescent, and young adult age five to 21—and their young children—is eligible for services at the Hornet Health Center. They do not have to live in the Pellston School District or attend school in Pellston to use the clinic.

2. What services does the Hornet Health Center provide?

Primary health care services--a lot like you find in a doctor's office:

- Physical exams for school, sports, and camp
- Treatment for illness and injury
- Basic laboratory services and tests
- Referral for specialty health services
- Chronic disease management
- Health assessment and risk reduction
- Immunization
- Medication administration
- Vision/hearing screening
- Individual, family, and group counseling
- Assistance with MI-Child and Healthy Kids insurance applications
- HIV counseling and testing
- Sexually transmitted infection prevention, screening, and treatment.
- Mental Health Counseling

3. Who is operating the Hornet Health Center?

The Health Department of Northwest Michigan runs the Hornet Health Center (and the Ironmen Health Center in Mancelona, a similar school-based health clinic in Mancelona). The Health Department's Medical Director, Dr. Josh Meyerson, oversees clinical activities at the health centers.

The Health Department received a grant from the Michigan Departments of Community Health and Education to operate the school-based health centers. The Pellston grant has a seven-year grant period. In 2017, we will re-apply for funding. In addition, we've received grants from the Frey Foundation, Oleson Foundation, and Petoskey-Harbor Springs Area Community Foundation to help with start-up costs.

4. How much will it cost to go to the Hornet Health Center?

Nothing. We'll accept Medicaid and private health insurance coverage but will not collect co-pays or deductibles. Although you do not pay for insurance deductibles at the Hornet Health Center, you will receive credit toward your deductible from your health insurance company for visits to the clinic.

If you don't have health insurance, we'll help you get coverage for your children. And if your family does not qualify for health insurance through the state, we use a sliding fee scale based on your child's income or zero. Zero income means zero charges. Even visits with the mental health therapist are free. Donations are always welcome.

5. When will the Hornet Health Center be open?

The clinic will be open year round, 24 hours per week. We haven't decided exactly what the clinic's hours will be but we will announce them soon.

6. Will the Hornet Health Center replace my child's doctor?

No. In fact, we feel every client should have his/her own primary care provider. So if they don't have a doctor already, we'll be helping clients to find one. The HHC staff will work closely with clients' doctors, notifying them when one of their patients visits the clinic.

7. What about confidentiality?

Client confidentiality is very important to us. We have separate keys for the clinic door that cannot be opened with the schools' master key. All records are stored in locked cabinets within the clinic. The clinic is connected to the Health Department's secure computer network, to further protect confidentiality.

8. Does my minor child need my consent to use the Hornet Health Center?

Yes. Parents/Guardians must provide written consent for services. HHC staff may see clients with verbal OK from parents by telephone one time. According to Michigan law, the only exceptions to parental consent are emergencies threatening life or limb, HIV counseling and testing, treatment for sexually transmitted infections, and mental health services only for minors age 14 and older.

Clinic clients can provide consent for themselves if they are age 18 or older, legally emancipated or married, under court order, in the presence of a law officer when parents cannot be promptly located, and/or are members of the U.S. Armed Forces.

9. Does parental consent include consent for immunizations, including flu shots?

Yes. However, you will receive a Vaccine Information Statement for each immunization so you will know when they are scheduled. If you have concerns about immunization, please contact us.

10. Will I be notified if my child visits the Hornet Health Center?

Parents/guardians of children nine and under are routinely notified of their children's visit. Older children's parents/guardians may request notification of visits, except for visits required to be kept confidential by law (see #7 above).

11. Will family planning and abortion counseling be available?

No. According to Michigan law, family planning drugs or devices cannot be distributed and abortion counseling or referrals may not be provided on school property.

12. Where is the Hornet Health Center located?

In the Pellston Middle School/High School just inside the back entrance (directly across the street from the elementary school).

13. Will elementary school students be escorted to the Hornet Health Center?

Elementary students will be escorted to the clinic. We are working out those details now.

14. What's the best way to keep informed about the Hornet Health Center?

Become a Friend of the Hornet Health Center on Facebook. Our page is coming soon.