

Maternal and Child Health Bureau. (n.d.). *Accurately Weighing and Measuring: Developing and Rating Your Measurement Technique*. <http://depts.washington.edu/growth/index.htm>

National Institute of Mental Health. (2017, November). *Eating Disorders*. <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/statistics/eating-disorders.shtml>

Resources:

This website list was compiled for parents, school personnel and interested individuals. The websites listed are reliable sources of nutrition, physical activity and weight management.

- [Tennessee Department of Education, Office of Coordinated School Health](#)
- [Tennessee Department of Education, School Nutrition](#)
- [Tennessee Department of Health, School Nutrition Program Resources](#)
- [Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics](#)
- [Center for Health and Health Care in Schools](#)
- [CDC - Adolescent and School Health](#)
- [CDC - Healthy Weight, Nutrition, and Physical Activity](#)
- [CDC - Tips for Parents - Tips to Help Children Maintain a Healthy Weight](#)
- [Fruits and Veggies: More Matters](#)
- [Girls Health](#)
- [Healthier Tennessee](#)
- [MyPlate](#)
- [UT Extension Service](#)
- [NIH, Helping Your Child Who is Overweight](#)

Blood Pressure (BP) Screening

BP Screening Recommendations

The TDOE encourages LEAs to conduct annual BP screenings for all students in grades Pre-K, 2, 4, 6, 8, and one year or class of high school (usually wellness class). The LEA should screen the same high school grade-level or class year after year. For example, if the LEA conducts BP screenings for those students enrolled in a wellness class, then the LEA should conduct BP screenings for students enrolled in the same wellness classes every year thereafter.

Additionally, all students who present with signs and symptoms that indicate a need should have their BP status assessed and monitored. Education, counseling, and referral should be offered as indicated by the assessment.

BP Screening Rationale

1. Mortality due to hypertension (high BP) and heart disease in Tennessee is among the highest in the nation.
2. High BP in youth is associated with health problems later in life. Early identification followed by successful treatment may prevent heart disease, stroke, and kidney failure.
3. Elevated BP may indicate the presence of other diseases.
4. Screening presents an excellent opportunity for health promotion related to cardiovascular health with a population of emerging adults.

5. A CDC study found that more than 1 in 7 U.S. youth ages 12 to 19 had high BP or elevated BP between 2013 to 2016.

BP Screening Program

School staff will organize and implement a BP assessment program which includes screening and education of risk factors associated with hypertension and cardiovascular disease. Screening can be accomplished as a collaborative community effort with qualified staff from other agencies or with appropriately trained volunteers. If volunteers are used, training regarding confidentiality should be a component of the training content.

Work with the appropriate people within the school to coordinate the screening activity. The process for coordination with teachers varies among schools. There may be preferred classes during which screenings are usually allowed.

Develop or obtain forms for recording the results of the screening for each student ([Appendix A](#)). Develop or obtain parent/guardian notification forms ([Appendix B](#)) and educational brochures.

Equipment Needed

A manual or hospital grade BP cuff can be used. The **preferred** method of BP measurement is auscultation (sphygmomanometer and stethoscope). Measures obtained by oscillometric devices (automated BP monitors) that exceed the 90th BP percentile should be repeated by auscultation. When measuring BP, use a stethoscope, sphygmomanometer, and correct size cuffs (pediatric, adult, or large adult).

When measuring the student's height for use in assessing the student's BP a vertical measurement board (stadiometer), metallic measuring tape or yardstick attached to a flat wall with no baseboard should be used. A movable right triangular headboard should be used to site the accurate height. This may be attached to the measurement board or separate if using a metallic measuring tape or yardstick.

Equipment should be maintained and calibrated according to the manufacturer's guidelines to ensure accurate measurements. Some sources recommend calibration of aneroid manometers on a semi-annual basis. Equipment should be cleaned prior to each use and when necessary to minimize the spread of infection.

Setting Up the Screening Area

1. Every effort should be made to ensure the students' privacy during the screening process.
2. Locate a quiet room for conducting the BP screenings.
3. Prior to conducting the screening, set up the room for screening one student at a time or use a privacy partition if more than one screener will be working in the same room.
4. Preferably, the student being screened should not be able to see or hear other students.
5. The room should have an area without a baseboard for mounting the metallic yardstick or stadiometer that will be used for measuring height.
6. To assist with the flow of students, you may wish to have a teacher or staff assistant monitor students waiting to be screened in an adjacent room or hallway. Once a student has been screened, he/she can join his/her classmates and the next student to be screened can then enter the screening room.

7. Have supplies available to clean equipment per the manufacturers' suggestions between each student.

Student Preparation for BP Screening

Talk with the student using age and developmentally appropriate terms. You may need to use words like "pressure" rather than BP, and "arrow" rather than needle. As appropriate, prior to checking a student's BP, the examiner should ask the caretaker or the student about the student's health history to determine if any risk factors exist that may cause BP readings to vary from the norm. Prior to screening, students should be given an explanation of hypertension, ways to help maintain a normal BP, and an overview of the screening process.

Advise students of the possibility that shoes will need to be removed and hairstyles may need to be adjusted to secure an accurate height measurement. Also advise students of clothing options that allow ease of baring the right arm for BP measurement. This may be done via a classroom instructional unit or if necessary, individually. Explain to the student that you will be measuring his/her BP to determine if it is within a normal range or high range. Let the student know that a person's BP changes during the day depending upon many factors (e.g., activity level, diet, medications). Advise the student that if the measurement is high, you will recheck his/her BP and may want to check it again on another day to see if the BP measurement is still high.

Help the student to understand that if his/her BP remains high after you have checked it several times, you will suggest that the student's parents/guardians have a health care practitioner check to determine if the student has hypertension. The results of the BP screening do not mean that the student has hypertension; it means that the BP measurement was high during the screening activity.

BP Screening Procedure

In children and adolescents, normal BP levels are determined by age, sex, and height. Screening should be conducted in a manner congruent with infection control and standard precautions. Trained personnel should follow standard practices and procedures for measuring BP. Screen for BP using an age and developmentally appropriate screening process.

BP Measurement

1. Check to be sure that the sphygmomanometer has been calibrated in accordance with the manufacturer's suggestions.
2. Check the functionality of all equipment.
 - a. Sphygmomanometer and stethoscope.
 - b. Automated BP monitors (oscillometric devices). Note: The **preferred** method of BP measurement is auscultation.
3. The screener may choose to stand or be seated during the BP measurement phase of the procedure.
4. Assess the BP:
 - a. Prior to measuring BP, stimulant drugs or food should be avoided.
 - b. Prior to measuring BP, allow the student to rest at least 3-5 minutes.
 - c. Explain the process to the student.
 - d. Position student appropriately:
 - i. The student should be seated with feet flat on floor.

- ii. The student should be leaning gently against back of chair, not on arm.
 - iii. The entire arm in which the BP will be measured should be fully supported on a firm surface (table) with the right arm (brachial artery) at heart level.
 - iv. Upper arm should be bare – do not apply cuff over clothing.
- e. Choose appropriate cuff size:
- i. The BP cuff should have a bladder width that is approximately 40% of the circumference of the upper arm midway between the olecranon and the acromion. The length of the cuff bladder should encircle 80 to 100% of the circumference of the upper arm at the same position. Most modern cuffs are marked with range lines to denote the need to use a larger or smaller cuff.
 - ii. Proper cuff size is essential for measuring BP accurately. A cuff that is too small may result in an artificially elevated BP whereas a cuff that is too wide may produce falsely low reading.
- f. Place the BP cuff on the upper right arm.
- i. Leave enough room at the top of the cuff to prevent obstruction to the axilla and enough room at the bottom to place the stethoscope in the antecubital fossa.
 - ii. Position the right arm so that the brachial artery is at heart level.
 - iii. The right arm is preferred for consistency and comparison with standard tables for BP parameters and because of the possibility of coarctation of the aorta, which might result in false low readings in the left arm.
- g. To determine how far to inflate the cuff for measuring the student's BP:
- i. Palpate for the radial pulse.
 - ii. Inflate the cuff while palpating the radial pulse.
 - iii. Note the level at which the radial pulse disappears.
 - iv. Release air from cuff rapidly and wait 15 seconds prior to measuring the student's BP.
 - v. When measuring the BP, inflate the cuff 20–30 mm Hg above the point where the radial pulse disappeared.
- h. After the 15 second wait period, measure the student's BP:
- i. Palpate the brachial pulse.
 - ii. Place the ear tips of the stethoscope in your ears with tips facing forward.
 - iii. Place the diaphragm of the stethoscope over the brachial artery. The diaphragm of the stethoscope should not touch the cuff.
 - iv. Rapidly inflate cuff 20–30 mm Hg above the point at which the radial pulse disappeared.
 - v. Release cuff pressure at a rate of 2–3 mm Hg per second, while auscultating brachial artery.
 - vi. The systolic BP reading is determined at the onset of a clear 'tapping' sound (Phase I Korotkoff sound).
 - vii. The diastolic BP reading is determined at the disappearance of Korotkoff sounds (Phase V Korotkoff sound). After the disappearance of Korotkoff sounds, continue to deflate the cuff slowly for another 10 mm Hg. If no further sounds are heard, rapidly release all air in the cuff and record the BP measurement.
 - viii. If the Korotkoff sounds continue to 0 mm Hg or is very low, repeat the BP measurement with less pressure on the head of the stethoscope. In

some children, Korotkoff sounds can be heard to 0 mmHg. Under these circumstances, the BP measurement should be repeated with less pressure on the head of the stethoscope.

- ix. If the very low 5th Korotkoff sound persists, record the 4th Korotkoff (muffling of the sounds) as the diastolic BP.
- x. At least two BP measurements should be obtained and spaced one or two minutes apart. The values should be less than 5 mmHg apart. BP should be remeasured until a stable value is obtained. The recorded value on the student's chart is the average of the last two measurements.

Height Measurement

If you do not already have a current height measurement for the student, measure the student's height and plot it on the appropriate gender specific [CDC stature-for-age growth charts](#). Children who are able to stand on their own should be measured standing, without shoes, using a vertical measurement board (stadiometer) or a metallic measuring tape/yardstick attached to a flat wall with no baseboard. A movable right triangular headboard should be used when measuring height. Do not use the measuring rod attached to the platform scale. Prior to starting, check the measurement board to ensure it is working correctly. The headboard should slide easily but should not be so loose or worn that it slips when measuring the height.

1. Remove the child's shoes, hats, and bulky clothing, such as coats and sweaters. Undo or adjust hairstyles and remove hair accessories that interfere with measurement.
2. Have the student stand erect, with shoulders level, hands at sides, knees, or thighs together and weight evenly distributed on both feet.
3. The student's feet should be flat on the floor or foot piece, with both heels at base of the vertical board. When possible, all four contact points (i.e., the head, back, buttocks, and heels) should touch the vertical surface while maintaining a natural stance. Some students will not be able to maintain a natural stance with all four contact points touching the vertical surface. For these students, at a minimum, two contact points; the head and buttocks, or the buttocks and heels, should always touch the vertical surface.
4. Position the student's head by placing a hand on the student's chin to move the head into the Frankfort Plane. The Frankfort Plane is an imaginary line from the lower margin of the eye socket to the notch above the tragus of the ear. When aligned correctly, the Frankfort Plane is parallel to the horizontal headboard and perpendicular to the vertical measurement board. This is best viewed and aligned when the screener is directly to the side and at eye level with the child.
5. Assure student's legs are straight, arms are at sides, and shoulders are relaxed.
6. Ask the child to look straight ahead, inhale deeply and to stand fully erect without altering the position of the heels.
 - a. Lower the headpiece until it firmly touches the crown of the head with sufficient pressure to compress the hair and is at a right angle with the measurement surface.
 - b. Check contact points to ensure that the lower body stays in the proper position and heels remain flat. Some students may stand up on their toes, but verbal reminders are usually sufficient to get them in the proper position.
 - c. Position yourself so that your eyes are parallel with the head piece, read the measurement to the nearest $\frac{1}{8}$ inch, and make note of the first measurement.

- d. Move the headboard away; check the posture, and re-measure the student.
- e. Measurements should agree within ¼ inch, re-measure and select the average of the two measures that agree the most.
- f. Immediately record the results in the student health record or data log.

BP Status

In 2017, the guidelines for high BP in children and adolescents, including the definitions of BP categories and stages, were updated (see [Table 1](#)). The diagnosis of hypertension is made when repeat BP values on **three** separate clinical visits are greater than the 95th percentile for the age, sex, and height of the patient, or $\geq 130/80$ mmHg.

Table 1: Definitions of BP Status and Categories for Children and Adolescents

BP Category	For Children Aged 1-13 years	For Children Aged ≥ 13 years
Normal BP	<90th percentile	<120/<80 mm Hg
Elevated BP	≥ 90 percentile to <95th percentile or 120/80 mm Hg to <95th percentile (whichever is lower)	120/<80 to 129/<80 mm Hg
Stage 1 HTN	≥ 95 th percentile to <95 percentile +12 mm Hg, or 130/80 to 139/89 mm Hg (whichever is lower)	130/80 to 139/89 mm Hg
Stage 2 HTN	≥ 95 th percentile + 12 mm Hg, or $\geq 140/90$ mm HG (whichever is lower)	$\geq 140/90$ mm Hg

Source:

Flynn JT, Kaelber DC, Baker-Smith CM, et al. (2017, September). Clinical Practice Guideline for Screening and Management of High Blood Pressure in Children and Adolescents. *Pediatrics* 2017. 140(3).

<https://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/pediatrics/early/2017/08/21/peds.2017-1904.full.pdf>

Using the BP Screening Tool

The 2017 American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) *Clinical Practice Guideline for Screening and Management of High Blood Pressure in Children and Adolescents* includes a new, simplified table for initial BP screening. This table is designed as a screening tool to identify children and adolescents who need further evaluation of their BP. **The screening tool should not be used to diagnose elevated BP or hypertension by itself.** Values in the table are based on the 90th percentile BP for age and sex for children at the 5th percentile of height, resulting in a negative predictive value of >99%. It's important to note, however, that children with above-average height may be over-identified with the screening tool. For adolescents ≥ 13 years of age, a threshold of 120/80 mm Hg is used in the screening tool (regardless of sex) to align with adult guidelines for the identification of

elevated BP.

If the BP values (systolic and diastolic) are less than the values listed in the table, the student's BP does not require further evaluation. If the BP values (systolic and/or diastolic) are \geq values listed in the table, the student's BP requires further evaluation. Further evaluation includes repeat measurements and utilizing the complete [BP tables](#) based on sex, age, and height.

Table 2: BP Screening Tool

BP, mmHg				
	Boys		Girls	
Age	Systolic	Diastolic	Systolic	Diastolic
1	98	52	98	54
2	100	55	101	58
3	101	58	102	60
4	102	60	103	62
5	103	63	104	64
6	105	66	105	67
7	106	68	106	68
8	107	69	107	69
9	107	70	108	71
10	108	72	109	72
11	110	74	111	74
12	113	75	114	75
13	120	80	120	80
14	120	80	120	80
15	120	80	120	80
16	120	80	120	80
17	120	80	120	80
18	120	80	120	80

Using the BP Tables

The updated [BP tables](#) from the AAP include systolic BP and diastolic BP values arranged by age, sex, height (in centimeters and inches) and height percentile. The BP values are also categorized according to the BP definitions presented in [Table 1](#) as normal (50th percentile), elevated BP (>90th percentile), stage 1 HTN (\geq 95th percentile), and stage 2 HTN (\geq 95th percentile + 12 mm Hg).

1. Determine height percentile of the student using the appropriate gender specific [CDC growth chart](#).
2. If the student's height percentile is between two percentiles, use the higher percentile.

3. Measure and record the student's systolic BP and diastolic BP.
4. On the [Sex-Specific BP Levels by Age and Height table](#) find the child's age on the left side of the table. Follow the age row horizontally across the table to the intersection of the line for the student's height or height percentile (columns labeled 5%, 10%, 25%, 50%, 75%, 90%, and 95% – see [BP tables](#)). If the student's height is between percentiles, use the larger height percentile.
5. Now, compare the student's systolic and diastolic BP measurements with the level provided in the BP tables to determine if the measurement falls in a normal or abnormal category. If the initial BP reading is greater than or equal to the 90th percentile, the BP should be repeated twice at the same visit, and an average systolic and diastolic BP should be used. Measures obtained by oscillometric devices that exceed the 90th BP percentile should be repeated by auscultation.
 - a. The **50th percentile** row represents a normal blood pressure value or a blood pressure that is normotensive (NT).
 - b. The **≥ 90th percentile** row represents **elevated blood pressure** and should be repeated within one week.
 - c. The **≥ 95th percentile** row represents **stage 1 hypertension** (Stage 1 HT) and should be repeated within one week. If the BP readings remain at the Stage 1 HT level, referral is required.
 - d. The **≥ 95th percentile plus 12 mmHg** row represents **stage 2 hypertension** (Stage 2 HT) and requires prompt referral for evaluation and therapy. If the patient is symptomatic, **immediate priority referral** and treatment are indicated.

Assessment and Referral Criteria

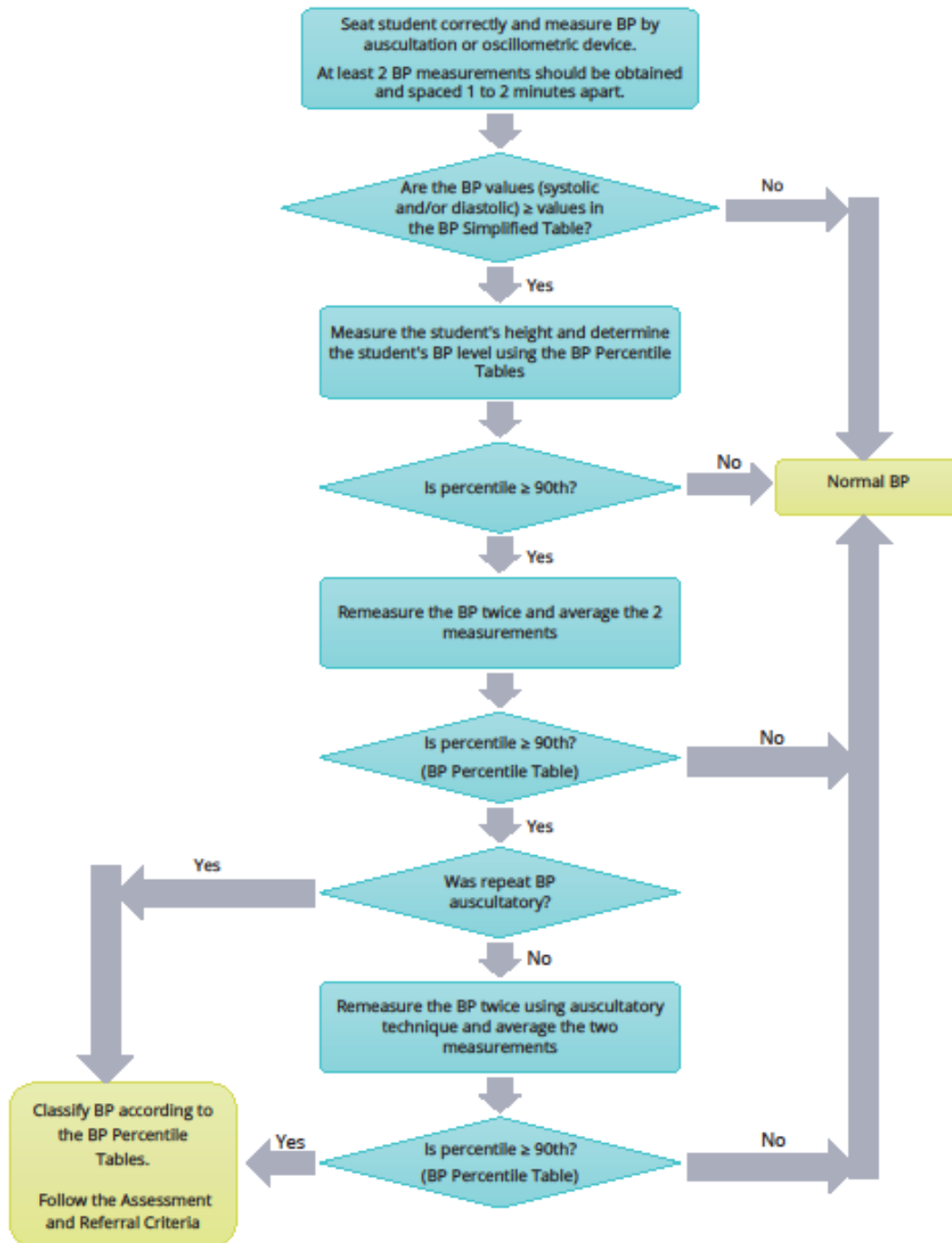
In presenting these guidelines we acknowledge that the school nurse may exercise her/his clinical judgment regarding referral decisions.

1. If BP (systolic and diastolic) values are less than the screening BP values listed in the [BP Screening Tool](#)
 - a. Provide educational material regarding healthy diet, sleep, and physical activity for maintaining a healthy cardiovascular system.
2. If BP (systolic and/or diastolic) values are ≥ values listed in the [BP Screening Tool](#), but the values are normal (i.e. BP < 90th percentile) in the [BP Tables](#).
 - a. Provide educational material regarding healthy diet, sleep and physical activity for maintaining a healthy cardiovascular system.
3. If the average BP (systolic and/or diastolic), after being repeated at least twice at the same visit, is at an **elevated blood pressure level**, the student's BP requires further evaluation.
 - a. Provide educational material regarding healthy diet, sleep, and physical activity.
 - b. Assess for other symptoms of hypertension (e.g., headaches, blurred vision, feeling faint) and/or other activities that might explain a high BP (e.g., exercise prior to BP measurement, caffeine intake, medications).
 - i. If symptomatic, ask the student to rest for 15 minutes; then recheck the student's BP. Average the two measurements.
 1. Refer for evaluation by the student's health care practitioner.
 2. A telephone call to the student's parent/guardian should be placed immediately to discuss the BP screening results

- and to assist with referral completion.
- ii. If not symptomatic, recheck the student's BP again within one week, on two separate visits that are a few days apart. Average the measurements.
 1. If the average BP (systolic and/or diastolic) remains at the elevated BP level, contact the parent/guardian and refer for an evaluation by the student's health care practitioner.
4. If BP (systolic and/or diastolic), after being repeated at least twice at the same visit, is at the **stage 1 hypertensive** (Stage 1 HT) level:
- a. Assess for other symptoms of hypertension (e.g., headaches, blurred vision, feeling faint) and/or other activities that might explain a high BP (e.g., exercise prior to BP measurement, caffeine intake, medications).
 - i. If symptomatic, ask the student to rest for 15 minutes; then recheck the student's BP. Average the two measurements.
 1. Refer for evaluation by the student's health care practitioner.
 2. A telephone call to the student's parent/guardian should be placed immediately to discuss the BP screening results and to assist with referral completion.
 - ii. If not symptomatic, recheck the student's BP again within one week, on two separate visits that are a few days apart. Average the measurements.
 1. If the average of the measurements is elevated, contact the parent/guardian, and refer for an evaluation by the student's health care practitioner.
 - b. Provide educational material regarding healthy diet, sleep, and physical activity.
5. If BP (systolic and/or diastolic), after being repeated at least twice at the same visit, is at the **stage 2 hypertensive** (Stage 2 HT) level, it is a **priority referral**:
- a. Assess for other symptoms of hypertension (e.g., headaches, blurred vision, feeling faint) and/or other activities that might explain a high BP (e.g., exercise prior to BP measurement, caffeine intake, medications).
 - i. If symptomatic, ask the student to rest for 15 minutes; then recheck the student's BP. Average the two measurements.
 1. Immediate referral for evaluation by the student's health care practitioner.
 2. Call the student's parent/guardian immediately to discuss the BP screening results and to assist with referral completion.
 - b. Provide educational material regarding healthy diet, sleep, and physical activity.

BP Screening in Schools Algorithm

The following algorithm is based on the modified BP measurement algorithm from the American Academy of Pediatrics' *Clinical Practice Guideline for Screening and Management of High Blood Pressure in Children and Adolescents*.



Parent/Guardian Notification

Parents/guardians should be notified of their child's screening results and provided information regarding cardiovascular health maintenance. Education and counseling should be provided about normal findings, deviations from normal, and for any specific concerns identified during the visit. Referrals for assessment, treatment, and follow-up may be made using an appropriate parent notification form found in [Appendix B](#).

All students with a BP assessment that varies from normotensive should receive a referral to their health care practitioner for evaluation and treatment as indicated. Efforts should be made by the school nurse to assist parents/guardians with referral completion. All findings, referrals, and follow-up should be documented in the student's school health record.

Sources:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, (2010, September). *Growth Charts*.

<https://www.cdc.gov/growthcharts/>

Jackson SL, Zhang Z, Wiltz JL, et al. Hypertension Among Youths — United States, 2001–2016. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep* 2018;67:758–762.

DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm6727a2>

Flynn JT, Kaelber DC, Baker-Smith CM, et al. (2017, September). Clinical Practice Guideline for Screening and Management of High Blood Pressure in Children and Adolescents. *Pediatrics* 2017. 140(3).

<https://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/pediatrics/early/2017/08/21/peds.2017-1904.full.pdf>

BP Tables

BP Levels for Boys by Age and Height Percentile⁵

Age (years)	Systolic BP (mmHg)							Diastolic BP (mmHg)							BP Percentile
	Heigh Percentile or Measured Height							Heigh Percentile or Measured Height							
	5th	10th	25th	50th	75th	90th	95th	5th	10th	25th	50th	75th	90th	95th	
2	33.9	34.4	35.3	36.3	37.3	38.2	38.8	33.9	34.4	35.3	36.3	37.3	38.2	38.8	Height - inches
	87	87	88	89	89	90	91	43	43	44	44	45	46	46	NT
	100	100	101	102	103	103	104	55	55	56	56	57	58	58	Elevated BP
	104	105	105	106	107	107	108	57	58	58	59	60	61	61	Stage 1 HT
	116	117	117	118	119	119	120	69	70	70	71	72	73	73	Stage 2 HT
3	36.4	37.0	37.9	39.0	40.1	41.1	41.7	36.4	37.0	37.9	39.0	40.1	41.1	41.7	Height - inches
	88	89	89	90	91	92	92	45	46	46	47	48	49	49	NT
	101	102	102	103	104	105	105	58	58	59	59	60	61	61	Elevated BP
	106	106	107	107	108	109	109	60	61	61	62	63	64	64	Stage 1 HT
	118	118	119	119	120	121	121	72	73	73	74	75	76	76	Stage 2 HT
4	38.8	39.4	40.5	41.7	42.9	43.9	44.5	38.8	39.4	40.5	41.7	42.9	43.9	44.5	Height - inches
	90	90	91	92	93	94	94	48	49	49	50	51	52	52	NT
	102	103	104	105	105	106	107	60	61	62	62	63	64	64	Elevated BP
	107	107	108	108	109	110	110	63	64	65	66	67	67	68	Stage 1 HT
	119	119	120	120	121	122	122	75	76	77	78	79	79	80	Stage 2 HT
5	41.1	41.8	43.0	44.3	45.5	46.7	47.4	41.1	41.8	43.0	44.3	45.5	46.7	47.4	Height - inches
	91	92	93	94	95	96	96	51	51	52	53	54	55	55	NT
	103	104	105	106	107	108	108	63	64	65	65	66	67	67	Elevated BP
	107	108	109	109	110	111	112	66	67	68	69	70	70	71	Stage 1 HT
	119	120	121	121	122	123	124	78	79	80	81	82	82	83	Stage 2 HT
6	43.4	44.2	45.4	46.8	48.2	49.4	50.2	43.4	44.2	45.4	46.8	48.2	49.4	50.2	Height - inches
	93	93	94	95	96	97	98	54	54	55	56	57	57	58	NT
	105	105	106	107	109	110	110	66	66	67	68	68	69	69	Elevated BP
	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	69	70	70	71	72	72	73	Stage 1 HT
	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	81	82	82	83	84	84	85	Stage 2 HT
7	45.7	46.5	47.8	49.3	50.8	52.1	52.9	45.7	46.5	47.8	49.3	50.8	52.1	52.9	Height - inches
	94	94	95	97	98	98	99	56	56	57	58	58	59	59	NT

⁵ The 90th percentile is 1.28 SD, the 95th percentile is 1.645 SD, and the 99th percentile is 2.326 SD over the mean. **NT** = normotensive (50th percentile). **PreHT** = pre-hypertensive (90th percentile). **HT** = hypertensive (95th percentile for stage 1 and 99th% + 5 mmHg for stage 2).

	106	107	108	109	110	111	111	68	68	69	70	70	71	71	Elevated BP
	110	110	111	112	114	115	116	71	71	72	73	73	74	74	Stage 1 HT
	122	122	123	124	126	127	128	83	83	84	85	85	86	86	Stage 2 HT
8	47.8	48.6	50.0	51.6	53.2	54.6	55.5	47.8	48.6	50.0	51.6	53.2	54.6	55.5	Height - inches
	95	96	97	98	99	99	100	57	57	58	59	59	60	60	NT
	107	108	109	110	111	112	112	69	70	70	71	72	72	73	Elevated BP
	111	112	112	114	115	116	117	72	73	73	74	75	75	75	Stage 1 HT
	123	124	124	126	127	128	129	84	85	85	86	87	87	87	Stage 2 HT
9	49.6	50.5	52.0	53.7	55.4	56.9	57.9	49.6	50.5	52.0	53.7	55.4	56.9	57.9	Height - inches
	96	97	98	99	100	101	101	57	58	59	60	61	62	62	NT
	107	108	109	110	112	113	114	70	71	72	73	74	74	74	Elevated BP
	112	112	m	115	116	118	119	74	74	75	76	76	77	77	Stage 1 HT
	124	124	125	127	128	130	131	86	86	87	8	88	89	89	Stage 2 HT
10	51.3	52.2	53.8	55.6	57.4	59.1	60.1	51.3	52.2	53.8	55.6	57.4	59.1	60.1	Height - inches
	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	59	60	61	62	63	63	64	NT
	108	109	111	112	113	115	116	72	73	74	74	75	75	76	Elevated BP
	112	113	114	116	118	120	121	76	76	77	77	78	78	78	Stage 1 HT
	124	125	126	128	130	132	133	88	88	89	89	90	90	90	Stage 2 HT
11	53.0	54.0	55.7	57.6	59.6	61.3	62.4	53.0	54.0	55.7	57.6	59.6	61.3	62.4	Height - inches
	99	99	101	102	103	104	106	61	61	62	63	63	63	63	NT
	110	111	112	114	116	117	118	74	74	75	75	75	76	76	Elevated BP
	114	114	116	118	120	123	124	77	78	78	78	78	78	78	Stage 1 HT
	126	126	128	130	132	135	136	89	90	90	90	90	90	90	Stage 2 HT
12	55.2	56.3	58.1	60.1	62.2	64.0	65.2	55.2	56.3	58.1	60.1	62.2	64.0	65.2	Height - inches
	101	101	102	104	106	108	109	61	62	62	62	62	63	63	NT
	113	114	115	117	119	121	122	75	75	75	75	75	76	76	Elevated BP
	116	117	118	121	124	126	128	78	78	78	78	78	79	79	Stage 1 HT
	128	129	130	133	136	138	140	90	90	90	90	90	91	91	Stage 2 HT
13	57.9	59.1	61.0	63.1	65.2	67.1	68.3	57.9	59.1	61.0	63.1	65.2	67.1	68.3	Height - inches
	103	104	105	108	110	111	112	61	60	61	62	63	64	65	NT
	115	116	118	121	124	126	126	74	74	74	75	76	77	77	Elevated BP
	119	120	122	125	128	130	131	78	78	78	78	80	81	81	Stage 1 HT
	131	132	134	137	140	142	143	90	90	90	90	92	93	93	Stage 2 HT
14	60.6	61.8	63.8	65.9	68.0	69.8	70.9	60.6	61.8	63.8	65.9	68.0	69.8	70.9	Height - inches
	105	106	109	111	112	113	113	60	60	62	64	65	66	67	NT
	119	120	123	126	127	128	129	74	74	75	77	78	79	80	Elevated BP

	123	125	127	130	132	133	134	77	78	79	81	82	83	84	Stage 1 HT
	135	137	139	142	144	145	146	89	90	91	93	94	95	96	Stage 2 HT
15	62.6	63.8	65.7	67.8	69.8	71.5	72.5	62.6	63.8	65.7	67.8	69.8	71.5	72.5	Height - inches
	108	110	112	113	114	114	114	61	62	64	65	66	67	68	NT
	123	124	126	128	129	130	130	75	76	78	79	80	81	81	Elevated BP
	127	129	131	132	134	135	135	78	79	81	83	84	85	85	Stage 1 HT
	139	141	143	144	146	147	147	90	91	93	95	96	97	97	Stage 2 HT
16	63.8	64.9	66.8	68.8	70.7	72.4	73.4	63.8	64.9	66.8	68.8	70.7	72.4	73.4	Height - inches
	111	112	114	115	115	116	116	63	64	66	67	68	69	69	NT
	126	127	128	129	131	131	132	77	78	79	80	81	82	82	Elevated BP
	130	131	133	134	135	136	137	80	81	83	84	85	86	86	Stage 1 HT
	142	143	15	146	147	148	149	92	93	95	96	97	98	98	Stage 2 HT
17	64.5	65.5	67.3	69.2	71.1	72.8	73.8	64.5	65.5	67.3	69.2	71.1	72.8	73.8	Height - inches
	114	115	116	117	117	118	118	65	66	67	68	69	70	70	NT
	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	78	79	80	81	82	82	83	Elevated BP
	132	133	134	135	137	138	138	81	82	84	85	86	86	87	Stage 1 HT
	144	145	146	147	149	150	150	93	94	96	97	98	98	99	Stage 2 HT

BP Levels for Girls by Age and Height Percentile⁶

Age (years)	Systolic BP (mmHg)							Diastolic BP (mmHg)							BP Percentile
	Heigh Percentile or Measured Height							Heigh Percentile or Measured Height							
	5th	10th	25th	50th	75th	90th	95th	5th	10th	25th	50th	75th	90th	95th	
2	33.4	34.0	34.9	35.9	36.9	37.8	38.4	33.4	34.0	34.9	35.9	36.9	37.8	38.4	Height - inches
	87	87	88	89	90	91	91	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	NT
	101	101	102	103	104	105	106	58	58	59	60	61	62	62	Elevated BP
	104	105	106	106	107	108	109	62	63	63	64	65	66	66	Stage 1 HT
	116	117	118	118	119	120	121	74	75	75	76	77	78	78	Stage 2 HT
3	35.8	36.4	37.3	38.4	39.6	40.6	41.2	35.8	36.4	37.3	38.4	39.6	40.6	41.2	Height - inches
	88	89	89	90	91	92	93	48	48	49	50	51	53	53	NT
	102	103	104	104	105	106	107	60	61	61	62	63	64	65	Elevated BP
	106	106	107	108	109	110	110	64	65	65	66	67	68	69	Stage 1 HT
	118	118	119	120	121	122	122	76	77	77	78	79	80	81	Stage 2 HT
4	38.3	38.9	39.9	41.1	42.4	43.5	44.2	38.3	38.9	39.9	41.1	42.4	43.5	44.2	Height - inches
	89	90	91	92	93	94	94	50	51	51	53	54	55	55	NT
	103	104	105	106	107	108	108	62	63	64	65	66	67	67	Elevated BP
	107	108	109	109	110	111	112	66	67	68	69	70	70	71	Stage 1 HT
	119	120	121	121	122	123	124	78	79	80	81	82	82	83	Stage 2 HT
5	40.8	41.5	42.6	43.9	45.2	46.5	47.3	40.8	41.5	42.6	43.9	45.2	46.5	47.3	Height - inches
	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	52	52	53	55	56	57	57	NT
	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	Elevated BP
	108	109	109	110	111	112	113	68	69	70	71	72	73	73	Stage 1 HT
	120	121	121	122	123	124	125	80	81	82	83	84	85	85	Stage 2 HT
6	43.3	44.0	45.2	46.6	48.1	49.4	50.3	43.3	44.0	45.2	46.6	48.1	49.4	50.3	Height - inches
	92	92	93	94	96	97	97	54	54	55	56	57	58	59	NT
	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	67	67	68	69	70	71	71	Elevated BP
	109	109	110	111	112	113	114	70	71	72	72	73	74	74	Stage 1 HT
	121	121	122	123	124	125	126	82	83	84	84	85	86	86	Stage 2 HT
7	45.6	46.4	47.7	49.2	50.7	52.1	53.0	45.6	46.4	47.7	49.2	50.7	52.1	53.0	Height - inches
	92	93	94	95	97	98	99	55	55	56	57	58	59	60	NT
	106	106	107	109	110	111	112	68	68	69	70	71	72	72	Elevated BP
	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	72	72	73	73	74	74	75	Stage 1 HT
	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	84	84	85	85	86	86	87	Stage 2 HT
8	47.6	48.4	49.8	51.4	53.0	54.5	55.5	47.6	48.4	49.8	51.4	53.0	54.5	55.5	Height - inches

⁶ The 90th percentile is 1.28 SD, the 95th percentile is 1.645 SD, and the 99th percentile is 2.326 SD over the mean. **NT** = normotensive (50th percentile). **PreHT** = pre-hypertensive (90th percentile). **HT** = hypertensive (95th percentile for stage 1 and 99th% + 5 mmHg for stage 2).

	93	94	95	97	98	99	100	56	56	57	59	60	61	61	NT
	107	107	108	110	111	112	113	69	70	71	72	72	73	73	Elevated BP
	110	111	112	113	115	116	117	72	73	74	74	75	75	75	Stage 1 HT
	122	123	124	125	127	128	129	84	85	86	86	87	87	87	Stage 2 HT
9	49.3	50.2	51.7	53.4	55.1	56.7	57.7	49.3	50.2	51.7	53.4	55.1	56.7	57.7	Height - inches
	95	95	97	98	99	100	101	57	58	59	60	60	61	61	NT
	108	108	109	111	112	113	114	71	71	72	73	73	73	73	Elevated BP
	112	112	113	114	116	117	118	74	74	75	75	75	75	75	Stage 1 HT
	124	124	125	126	128	129	130	86	86	87	87	87	87	87	Stage 2 HT
10	51.1	52.0	53.7	55.5	57.4	59.1	60.2	51.1	52.0	53.7	55.5	57.4	59.1	60.2	Height - inches
	96	97	98	99	101	102	103	58	59	59	60	61	61	62	NT
	109	110	111	112	113	115	116	72	73	73	73	73	73	73	Elevated BP
	113	114	114	116	117	119	120	75	75	76	76	76	76	76	Stage 1 HT
	125	126	126	128	129	131	132	87	87	88	88	88	88	88	Stage 2 HT
11	53.4	54.5	56.2	58.2	60.2	61.9	63.0	53.4	54.5	56.2	58.2	60.2	61.9	63.0	Height - inches
	98	9	101	102	104	105	106	60	60	60	61	62	63	64	NT
	111	112	113	114	116	118	120	74	74	74	74	74	75	75	Elevated BP
	115	116	117	118	120	123	124	76	77	77	77	77	77	77	Stage 1 HT
	127	128	129	130	132	135	136	88	89	89	89	89	89	89	Stage 2 HT
12	56.2	57.3	59.0	60.9	62.8	64.5	65.5	56.2	57.3	59.0	60.9	62.8	64.5	65.5	Height - inches
	102	102	104	105	107	108	108	61	61	61	62	64	65	65	NT
	114	115	116	118	120	122	122	75	75	75	75	76	76	76	Elevated BP
	118	119	120	122	124	125	126	78	78	78	78	79	79	79	Stage 1 HT
	130	131	132	134	136	137	138	90	90	90	90	91	91	91	Stage 2 HT
13	58.3	59.3	60.9	62.7	64.5	66.1	67.0	58.3	59.3	60.9	62.7	64.5	66.1	67.0	Height - inches
	104	105	106	107	108	108	109	62	62	63	64	65	65	66	NT
	116	117	119	121	122	123	123	75	75	75	76	76	76	76	Elevated BP
	121	122	123	124	126	126	127	79	79	79	79	80	80	81	Stage 1 HT
	133	134	135	136	138	138	139	91	91	91	91	92	92	93	Stage 2 HT
14	59.3	60.2	61.8	63.5	65.2	66.8	67.7	59.3	60.2	61.8	63.5	65.2	66.8	67.7	Height - inches
	105	106	107	108	109	109	109	63	63	64	65	66	66	66	NT
	118	118	120	122	123	123	123	76	76	76	76	77	77	77	Elevated BP
	123	123	124	125	126	127	127	80	80	80	80	81	81	82	Stage 1 HT
	135	135	136	137	138	139	139	92	92	92	92	93	93	94	Stage 2 HT
15	59.7	60.6	62.2	63.9	65.6	67.2	68.1	59.7	60.6	62.2	63.9	65.6	67.2	68.1	Height - inches
	105	106	107	108	109	109	109	64	64	64	65	66	67	67	NT
	118	119	121	122	123	123	124	76	76	76	77	77	78	78	Elevated BP
	124	124	125	126	127	127	128	80	80	80	81	82	82	82	Stage 1 HT
	136	136	137	138	139	139	140	92	92	92	93	94	94	94	Stage 2 HT

16	59.9	60.8	62.4	64.1	65.8	67.3	68.3	59.9	60.8	62.4	64.1	65.8	67.3	68.3	Height - inches
	106	107	108	109	109	110	110	64	64	65	66	66	67	67	NT
	119	120	122	123	124	124	124	76	76	76	77	78	78	78	Elevated BP
	124	125	125	127	127	128	128	80	80	80	81	82	82	82	Stage 1 HT
	136	137	137	139	139	140	140	92	92	92	93	94	94	94	Stage 2 HT
17	60.0	60.9	62.5	64.2	65.9	67.4	68.4	60.0	60.9	62.5	64.2	65.9	67.4	68.4	Height - inches
	107	108	109	110	110	110	111	64	64	65	66	66	66	67	NT
	120	121	123	124	124	125	125	76	76	77	77	78	78	78	Elevated BP
	125	125	126	127	128	128	128	80	80	80	81	82	82	82	Stage 1 HT
	137	137	138	139	140	140	140	92	92	92	93	94	94	94	Stage 2 HT

Scoliosis Screening

The Scoliosis Research Society (SRS), American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons (AAOS), Pediatric Orthopedic Society of North America (POSNA) and American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommend that scoliosis screening be performed twice for females at age ten and twelve years, while males should be screened once at age 13 to 14 years. It is recommended to screen females twice and at younger ages because females reach puberty earlier and have scoliosis requiring treatment more frequently than males.

To be congruent with age-specific scoliosis screening recommendations, schools are encouraged to screen all 5th grade girls, 7th grade girls and 8th grade boys for scoliosis once a year. Screening girls in only 6th grade is a reasonable alternative. Staff training for scoliosis screenings is required and specific LEA protocols must be used. If your school system chooses to screen for scoliosis, it is recommended to partner with a local orthopedic doctor, osteopathy doctor or other trained professional to provide specific training for school staff and/or volunteers.

Scoliosis Screening Rationale

Scoliosis is a physical condition characterized by an abnormal curvature of the spine. Its cause is unknown in most cases. The amount of curvature is measured in degrees after an X-ray and can vary from mild to severe. It is most often seen in the middle school age group when rapid growth is occurring. Both girls and boys may be affected, but the risk of curve progression is ten times higher in females. Treatment ranges from observation to bracing to corrective surgery in severe cases. After scoliosis is identified or suspected, follow-up is essential to measure the degree of curvature and determine treatment options. Kyphosis, an accentuated spinal hump, and lordosis, or swayback, may occur independently or in conjunction with scoliosis.

Scoliosis Screening Program

Scoliosis screening consists of a primary screen by school personnel. Specially trained PE (Physical Education) teachers, clinic personnel, or volunteers can complete or assist school nurses with primary screening. Female examiners are preferable for female students. A second screening of those who appear to deviate from normal shall be performed at a separate session