

Education Resources for Hospitalized Children

Investing in education for hospitalized children supports their emotional, academic, and clinical well-being. The data below outlines current gaps as well as the potential positive impact of expanding state support for hospitalized children.

See the impact for yourself—watch the video and experience how the hospital school program transforms a patient's life:



Partner with Primary Children's Hospital educators to ease the burden on local school districts for patients who have medical and mental health needs including chronic illnesses, physical injuries, developmental delays, and neurodiversity needs. These children require ongoing physical, emotional, **and academic support**.

We want to achieve the following:

- Create a dedicated preschool education program for children ages 2-5 who are experiencing long-term hospitalization to ease the burden placed on districts to provide required services for developmentally delayed children and support the state-wide initiative of **improving literacy**.
- Expand behavioral health education services for the nearly **one third of medically hospitalized** children with emotional or behavioral support needs.
- **Increase** the amount of **children who receive** tutoring and continuity of learning during prolonged medical treatment.

Our ask: we request **\$150,000** to expand hospital-based education resources and increase support for local school districts to **meet the educational needs** of hospitalized children.

By the Numbers

- **Our school services include** tutoring (home and hospital instruction), return-to-school plans, 504/IEP recommendations, and free books from the hospital library.
- **The monthly average of school-aged children hospitalized for 10 days or more** at Primary Children's Lehi and Salt Lake campuses **was 128**, whereas **only 18** children received ongoing school instruction on **average per month**. *
- **A total of 831 school-aged children** were **hospitalized for 10+ days**, flagging the need for additional **school district educational service requirements**. *
- **A total of 173 preschool-aged children** (ages 2–5) were also **hospitalized for 10+ days**, flagging the potential need for **developmentally delayed district educational support**. *
- **A total of 185 children** at Primary Children's Lehi and Salt Lake campuses received **ongoing education instruction**. *
- Additionally, from 2020-2025, an average of **28% of Medical-Surgical patients had a secondary behavioral health need**.

**Data collected from the 2024-2025 school year*