Sickle cell disease (SCD) is an inherited, chronic blood disorder that can lead to complex complications for individuals born with the disease. SCD complications often arise in infancy and range in type and severity from person to person; some common complications associated with the disease include chronic pain, blood clots, high blood pressure, breathing and sleeping issues, kidney problems, and vision impairment. SCD impacts more than 100,000 individuals in the United States and more than 100,000,000 people worldwide. With early diagnosis and access to comprehensive biopsychosocial care and support services, individuals living with SCD can maintain their health and thrive with a high-quality of life.

School personnel, caregivers, and other community members can play a critical role in improving health and academic outcomes of students living with SCD.
The *Build Your Own SCD School Binder* offers school personnel, students, caregivers, and other stakeholders a repository of evidence-based resources and recommended interventions to support the academic and biopsychosocial wellness of students living with SCD.

Resources included reflect a diversity of topics, perspectives, and needs. This toolkit is designed to provide a wealth of information that may become relevant at different points of a student’s educational journey – from daycare to higher education and employment. For ease of access, resources are organized by relevancy to different stakeholders, including:

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**Use this repository to build your own personalized “SCD School Binder” by:**

1.) reviewing the resources listed in each section (see Table of Contents, pg.3),

2.) downloading and/or printing relevant items, and

3.) compiling these materials into a binder for reference throughout the school year.

To learn more about SCD and access additional resources, visit: **[www.scdcoalition.org](http://www.scdcoalition.org)**.
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**NOTE:** The Sickle Cell Disease Coalition is not responsible for the availability of third-party resources. Please notify SCDC of broken links via email to coordinator@scdcoalition.org.
A. Building Blocks to Support Students with SCD

i. General Guidance on SCD & School Support

- Education: Sickle Cell Disease & Supportive Care (Source: Sickle Options)
- Maryland State School Health Services Guideline: Management of Sickle Cell Disease in Schools (Source: Maryland Public Schools)
- Sickle Cell Handbook for Schools (Source: CHOP (CHOP))
- Sickle Cell Information Center (Source: Emory School of Medicine)
- Sickle Cell and Thalassemia: A Guide to School Policy (Source: Simon Dyson, PhD)
- Sickle Cell Trait Toolkit (Source: Centers for Disease Control (CDC), American Society of Hematology (ASH), Sickle Cell Disease Association of America (SCDAA))
- Steps to Better Health for People with Sickle Cell Disease Toolkit (Source: CDC, ASH, SCDAA)
- Understanding Sickle Cell Disease (Source: National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI))
- “8 Tips to Support Students with Sickle Cell Disease” (Source: Black Health Matters)

ii. Protected Rights & Accommodations for Students Living with SCD

- Caregiver Information on 504 Plans and IEPs (Source: CHOP)
- Parent Advocacy Materials (Source: CHOP)
- Reasonable Accommodations for College Students with Sickle Cell Disease (Source: New England Pediatric Sickle Cell Consortium)
- Transitioning to Adult Care – Legal and Health Guidance for Patients (Source: Boston Children’s Hospital)
- What Happens When I Turn 18? (Source: Boston Children’s Hospital)
- 504 Plan for Education because of SCD (Source: St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital)
iii. Sample SCD Care Plans & Accommodation Letters

   o SCD Care Plans:
     ▪ Athletic Department Action Plan for the Student with SCD (Source: CHOP)
     ▪ Before and Aftercare Action Plan for Students with SCD (Source: CHOP)
     ▪ Early Childhood Education Provider Action Plan for the Student with Sickle Cell Disease (Source: CHOP)
     ▪ School Health Services Action Plan for Students with SCD (Source: CHOP)
     ▪ Sickle Cell Anemia School Nurse Care Plan (Source: Sarah Portle, Med., BSN, RN, NCSN)
     ▪ Sickle Cell Anemia Teacher Action Plan (Source: Sarah Portle, Med., BSN, RN, NCSN)
     ▪ Summer Camp Action Plan for Students with SCD (Source: CHOP)
     ▪ Teacher/Substitute Teacher Action Plan for Students with SCD (Source: CHOP)

   o Sample SCD Accommodation Letters:
     ▪ Sample SCD letter - general (Source: Dr. Sunnye Mayes)
     ▪ Sample SCD letter - day care (Source Dr. Sunyne Mayes)
     ▪ Sample SCD letter - college (shared by Dr. Sunyne Mayes)
     ▪ Sample SCD Letter to Employers from Caregiver (Source: SCDAA Medical Research Advisory Committee (MARAC))
     ▪ Sample SCD Letter to Employers from Individuals Living with SCD (Source: SCDAA MARAC)
     ▪ Sickle Cell Anemia Care Plan Letter (Source: Sarah Portle, Med., BSN, RN, NCSN)
B. SCD School Guidance & Resources Organized by Topic

i. After School Care, Camp, & Sports

- Athletic Department Action Plan for Student with SCD (Source: CHOP)
- Before and Aftercare Action Plan for Student with SCD (Source: CHOP)
- “Athletes: Don’t Get Sidelined by Sickle Cell Trait! Help Them Play It Safe with These Helpful Tips!” Fact Sheet (Source: CDC, ASH, SCDAA)
- “Coaches: Don’t let your athletes get sidelined by sickle cell trait! Help them play it safe with these helpful tips!” Fact Sheet (Source: CDC, ASH, SCDAA)
- Diet and Exercise: Living Well with Sickle Cell (Source: Blackdoctor.org)
- Exercise and Athletics with Sickle Cell Disease (Source: SickleCell.com)
- Managing Acute Pain if You Have Sickle Cell Disease (Source: CDC, ASH, SCDAA)
- Managing Chronic Pain if You Have Sickle Cell Disease (Source: CDC, ASH, SCDAA)
- Sample SCD letter - day care (Source Dr. Sunnye Mayes)
- Summer Camp Action Plan for Student with SCD (Source: CHOP)
- Sickle Cell Trait Toolkit (Source: CDC, ASH, SCDAA)
- Steps to Better Health Toolkit for People with Sickle Cell Disease (Source: CDC, ASH, SCDAA)
- “Team Doctors (Trainers): Don’t Let Your Athletes Get Sidelined by Sickle Cell Trait!” Fact Sheet (Source: CDC, ASH, SCDAA)

ii. Early Childcare & Preschool

- Early Childhood Education Provider Action Plan for Student with SCD (Source: CHOP)
- Elementary School Age Children and Sickle Cell Disease (Source: Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh)
- Get Screened to Know Your Sickle Cell Status Fact Sheet (Source: CDC, ASH, SCDAA)
- Infants and Toddlers and Sickle Cell Disease (Source: Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh)
- Parents’ Handbook for SCD: Birth to Six Years of Age (Source: California Department of Health Services)
- Preschoolers and Sickle Cell Disease (Source: Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh)
- What You Should Know About Sickle Cell Trait Fact Sheet (Source: CDC, ASH, SCDAA)
iii. Higher Education / Employment

- Accommodation and Compliance: Sickle Cell Anemia (Source: Job Accommodation Network (JAN))
- Accommodation and Compliance Series: Employees with Sickle Cell Anemia (Source: JAN)
- “College Students Living with a Chronic Condition” (Source: Center for Online Education)
- College Students with Chronic Health Conditions (Source: Edu Med)
- Co-Pay Relief Fund (Source: Patient Advocate Foundation)
- High School Staff and Guidance Counselor Reference for College- and Career-Bound Student with SCD (Source: CHOP)
- “I Have Sickle Cell Disease, What Should I Know About Going Away to College?” (Source: Nemour’s Children’s)
- Managing Acute Pain if You Have Sickle Cell Disease (Source: CDC, ASH, SCDAA)
- Managing Chronic Pain if You Have Sickle Cell Disease (Source: CDC, ASH, SCDAA)
- “Managing Chronic Illness in College” (Source: Collegiate Parent)
- Reasonable Accommodations for College Students with Sickle Cell Disease (Source: New England Pediatric Sickle Cell Consortium)
- Sample SCD letter - college (shared by Dr. Sunyae Mayes)
- Sample SCD Letter to Employers from Caregiver (Source: SCDAA MARAC)
- Sample SCD Letter to Employers from Individuals Living with SCD (Source: SCDAA MARAC)
- Steps to Better Health Toolkit for People with Sickle Cell Disease Fact Sheet (Source: CDC, ASH, SCDAA)
- Teens with Sickle Cell Disease (Source: Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh)
- Tip Sheet for the College- and Career-Bound Student (Source: CHOP)
- Transitioning to Adult Care – Legal and Health Guidance for Patients (Source: Boston Children’s Hospital)
- What You Should Know About Sickle Cell Trait Fact Sheet (Source: CDC, ASH, SCDAA)
- “28 Hacks that Can Make Going to College with a Chronic Illness Easier” (Source: The Mighty)
iv. Mental Health & Wellness

- A Guide to Living with SCD: Define Yourself, Define Your Life (Source: Sickle Cell 101)
- Be the Match Patient Support Center: Counseling Services (Source: Be the Match)
- Cayenne Wellness Center California SCD Mental Health & Wellness Program (Source: Cayenne Wellness)
- Children with Chronic Illness: Dealing with Emotional Problems and Depression (Source: American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP))
- Fostering Emotional Well Being (Source: CHOP)
- Online Mental Health Screening (Source: Mental Health America (MHA))
- Mental Health Resources for Patients and Families (Source: AAP)
- Psychosocial: Sickle Cell Disease & Supportive Care (Source: Sickle Options)
- Resources for Siblings of Children with Chronic Illnesses or Disabilities (Source: AAP)
- Tips and Strategies for Managing Anxiety When Returning to School (Source: CHOP)
- Understanding SCD in the Classroom: Fostering Emotional Wellbeing (Source: CHOP)

v. Nutrition

- Daily Water Consumption Recommendations (Source: CHOP)
- Diet and Exercise: Living Well with Sickle Cell (Source: Blackdoctor.org)
- Diet and Nutrition in SCD PowerPoint (Source: Sickle Cell Info Center, Dr. Allan Platt)
- Nutrition for the Child with Sickle Cell Anemia (Source: Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics)
- Nutrition Guide for Sickle Cell Disease (Source: Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine)
- Steps to Better Health Toolkit for People with Sickle Cell Disease Fact Sheet (Source: CDC, ASH, SCDAA)

vi. Sexual Health & Dating
"Family Planning Options for Couples with Sickle Cell Trait or Sickle Cell Disease (SCD)" Fact Sheet (Source: Sickle Cell Reproductive Health Education Directive (SCRED))
- Sexual Health and Sickle Cell Disease (Source: Children’s National Hospital)
- Sickle Cell Disease and Menstruation (Source: SickleCell.com)
- Sickle Cell Disease: Population Impacts (Source: SickleCell.com)
- SCRED Educational Library (Source: SCRED)
- SCRED Resources on Maternal Health, Fertility Preservation, & Priapism (Source: SCRED)
- Speaking with Your Partner about SCD (Source: SickleCell.com)
- Telling a Potential Partner That I Have Sickle Cell Disease (Source: Sickle Cell Disease News)
- Tips for Dating with Sickle Cell (Source: SickleCell.com)
- The Challenges of Invisible Illnesses and Intimacy (Source: SickleCell.com)

**vii. Unique Academic Needs**
- Caregiver Information on 504 Plans and IEPs (Source: CHOP)
- Classroom Guidelines: Supporting a Student Who Has Had a Stroke (Source: CHOP)
- College Students with Chronic Health Conditions (Source: Edu Med)
- Education: Sickle Cell Disease & Supportive Care (Source: Sickle Options)
- Parent Advocacy Materials (Source: CHOP)
- “Psychoeducational Screening in Pediatric Sickle Cell Disease: An Evaluation of Academic and Health Concerns in the School Environment” (Source: Mayes, Wolfe-Christensen, Mullins, and Cain).
- Reasonable Accommodations for College Students with Sickle Cell Disease (Source: New England Pediatric Sickle Cell Consortium)
- Resources for Supporting Learners with Disabilities (Source: Digital Promise)
- Supporting a Student Who Has Had a Stroke (Source: CHOP)
- 504 Plan for Education because of SCD (Source: St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital)
C. SCD School Guidance & Resources by Stakeholder

1. School Nurses

   - Caring for Common Complications of Sickle Cell Disease Fact Sheet (Source: CDC, ASH, SCDA)
   - Management of Sickle Cell Disease in the Educational Setting (Source: Kennedy Krieger Institute)
   - Managing Acute Pain if You Have Sickle Cell Disease (Source: CDC, ASH, SCDA)
   - Maryland State School Health Services Guideline: Management of Sickle Cell Disease in Schools (Source: MSCDA, Maryland State Department of Education, Maryland Department of Health)
   - “Psychoeducational Screening in Pediatric Sickle Cell Disease: An Evaluation of Academic and Health Concerns in the School Environment” (Source: Mayes, Wolfe-Christensen, Mullins, and Cain).
   - School Health Services Action Plan for Student with SCD (Source: CHOP)
   - “School Nurses Guide to Sickle Cell Disease” Training Presentation (Source: Indiana Hemophilia & Thrombosis Center (IHTC))
   - Sickle Cell Anemia School Nurse Care Plan (Source: Sarah Portle, Med., BSN, RN, NCSN)
   - Sickle Cell Information Center (Source: Emory School of Medicine)
   - Sickle Cell and Thalassemia: A Guide to School Policy (Source: Simon Dyson, PhD)
   - Sickle Cell Trait Toolkit (Source: CDC, ASH, SCDA)
   - Steps to Better Health for People with Sickle Cell Disease Toolkit (Source: CDC, ASH, SCDA)
   - Steps to Better Lung Health for People with Sickle Cell Disease Fact Sheet (Source: CDC, ASH, SCDA)
   - Steps to Better Kidney Health for People with Sickle Cell Disease Fact Sheet (Source: CDC, ASH, SCDA)
   - Supporting a Student Who Has Had a Stroke (Source: CHOP)
   - Sickle Cell Handbook for Schools (Source: CHOP)
ii. Teachers / Substitutes

- “Explore the Mystery of Blood” Curriculum & Teaching Guide: Grades 9-12 (Source: ASH & Scholastic)
- Management of Sickle Cell Disease in the Educational Setting (Source: Kennedy Krieger Institute)
- Maryland State School Health Services Guideline: Management of Sickle Cell Disease in Schools (Source: Maryland Sickle Cell Disease Association, Maryland State Department of Education, Maryland Department of Health)
- SCD Reading Lists (Source: SCDC)
- Sickle Cell Anemia Teacher Action Plan (Source: Sarah Portle, Med., BSN, RN, NCSN)
- Sickle Cell Information Center (Source: Emory School of Medicine)
- Sickle Cell and Thalassemia: A Guide to School Policy (Source: Simon Dyson, PhD)
- Sickle Cell Handbook for Schools (Source: CHOP)
- Sickle Cell Information for Teachers, Students, and Employers (Source: Sickle Cell Info Network)
- Steps to Better Health Toolkit for People with Sickle Cell Disease (Source: CDC, ASH, SCDAA)
- Teacher/ Substitute Teacher Action Plan for Student with SCD (Source: CHOP)
- Understanding SCD in the Classroom: Fostering Emotional Wellbeing (Source: CHOP)
Vein to Vein: The Science of Blood Donation: A High School Biology Education Program (Source: Association of Donor Relations Professionals (ADRP))

“8 Tips to Support Students with Sickle Cell Disease” (Source: Black Health Matters)

iii. School Administrators / Guidance Counselors

Accommodation and Compliance: Sickle Cell Anemia (Source: Job Accommodation Network (JAN))

High School Staff and Guidance Counselor Reference for College- and Career-Bound Student with SCD (Source: CHOP)

Management of Sickle Cell Disease in the Educational Setting (Source: Kennedy Krieger Institute)

Maryland State School Health Services Guideline: Management of Sickle Cell Disease in Schools (Source: Maryland Sickle Cell Disease Association, Maryland State Department of Education, Maryland Department of Health)

“Psychoeducational Screening in Pediatric Sickle Cell Disease: An Evaluation of Academic and Health Concerns in the School Environment” (Source: Mayes, Wolfe-Christensen, Mullins, and Cain).

Sickle Cell Information Center (Source: Emory School of Medicine)


Sickle Cell and Thalassemia: A Guide to School Policy (Source: Simon Dyson, PhD)

Sickle Cell Handbook for Schools (Source: CHOP)

Sickle Cell Information for Teachers, Students, and Employers (Source: Sickle Cell Info Network)

Tip Sheet for the College- and Career-Bound Student (Source: CHOP)


“8 Tips to Support Students with Sickle Cell Disease” (Source: Black Health Matters)

504 Plan for Education because of SCD (Source: St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital)

Tips and Strategies for Managing Anxiety When Returning to School (Source: CHOP)

Understanding SCD in the Classroom: Fostering Emotional Wellbeing (Source: CHOP)

iv. Physical Education Teachers / Coaches
- Athletic Department Action Plan for Student with SCD (Source: CHOP)
- “Athletes: Don’t Get Sidelined by Sickle Cell Trait! Help Them Play It Safe with These Helpful Tips!” (Source: CDC, ASH, SCDAA)
- Before and Aftercare Action Plan for Student with SCD (Source: CHOP)
- “Coaches: Don’t Let Your Athletes Get Sidelined by Sickle Cell Trait!” (Source: CDC, ASH, SCDAA)
- Daily Water Consumption Recommendations (Source: CHOP)
- Diet and Exercise: Living Well with Sickle Cell (Source: Blackdoctor.org)
- Exercise and Athletics with Sickle Cell Disease (Source: SickleCell.com)
- Steps to Better Health Toolkit for People with Sickle Cell Disease (Source: CDC, ASH, SCDAA)
- Summer Camp Action Plan for Student with SCD (Source: CHOP)
- Supporting a Student Who Has Had a Stroke (Source: CHOP)
- “Team Doctors (Trainers): Don’t Let Your Athletes Get Sidelined by Sickle Cell Trait!” (Source: CDC, ASH, SCDAA)
- What Can Trigger a Sickle Cell Crisis? (Source: Healthline)
- “8 Tips to Support Students with Sickle Cell Disease” (Source: Black Health Matters)

v. Caregivers / Parents
- Caregiver Back-to-School Checklist (Source: CHOP)
- Caregiver Information on 504 Plans and IEPs (Source: CHOP)
- Co-Pay Relief Fund (Source: Patient Advocate Foundation)
- Education: Sickle Cell Disease & Supportive Care (Source: Sickle Options)
- Elementary School Age Children and Sickle Cell Disease (Source: Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh)
- Fostering Emotional Well Being (Source: CHOP)
- HealthWell Foundation (Source: Health Well Foundation)
- Maryland State School Health Services Guideline: Management of Sickle Cell Disease in Schools (Source: MSCDA, Maryland State Department of Education, Maryland Department of Health)
vi. Students Living with SCD

- A Guide to Living with SCD: Define Yourself, Define Your Life (Source: Sickle Cell 101)
“Athletes: Don’t Get Sidelined by Sickle Cell Trait! Help Them Play It Safe with These Helpful Tips!” (Source: CDC, ASH, SCDAA)

Be the Match Patient Support Center: Counseling Services (Source: Be the Match)

Cayenne Wellness Center California SCD Mental Health & Wellness Program (Source: Cayenne Wellness)

College Students with Chronic Health Conditions (Source: Edu Med)

Daily Water Consumption Recommendations (Source: CHOP)

Diet and Nutrition in SCD PowerPoint (Source: Sickle Cell Info Center, Dr. Allan Platt)

Education: Sickle Cell Disease & Supportive Care (Source: Sickle Options)

Faces of SCD Storytelling Program (Source: Sick Cells)

Fostering Emotional Well Being (Source: CHOP)

Maryland State School Health Services Guideline: Management of Sickle Cell Disease in Schools (Source: MSCDA, Maryland State Department of Education, Maryland Department of Health)

Managing Acute Pain if You Have Sickle Cell Disease (Source: CDC, ASH, SCDAA)

Managing Chronic Pain if You Have Sickle Cell Disease (Source: CDC, ASH, SCDAA)

Men’s Health and Sickle Cell Disease (Source: Sickle Cell 101)

Mental Health Resources for Patients and Families (Source: AAP)

Sample SCD Letter to Employers from Individuals Living with SCD (Source: SCDAA MARAC)

SCD Reading Lists (Source: SCDC)

Sickle Cell Disease and Menstruation (Source: SickleCell.com)

Sickle Cell Information for Teachers, Students, and Employers (Source: Sickle Cell Info Network)

Sickle Cell Information Center (Source: Emory School of Medicine)


Sickle Cell Trait Toolkit (Source: CDC, ASH, SCDAA)

Steps to Better Health Toolkit for People with Sickle Cell Disease (Source: CDC, ASH, SCDAA)

Teens with Sickle Cell Disease (Source: Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh)
Tip Sheet for the College- and Career-Bound Student (Source: CHOP)
Tips and Strategies for Managing Anxiety When Returning to School (Source: CHOP)
Transitioning to Adult Care – Legal and Health Guidance for Patients (Source: Boston Children’s Hospital)
What Happens When I Turn 18? (Source: Boston Children’s Hospital)
D. SCD School Guidance & Resources Created for/by Non-U.S. Stakeholders

i. United Kingdom (UK) & Europe

- Sickle Cell and Thalassemia: A Guide to School Policy (Source: Simon Dyson, PhD)

ii. Nigeria

- A Parent Handbook for Sickle Cell Disease in Nigeria Part 1 (0-6 years) (Source: Biobele Brown, FWACP, Adeyinka G. Falusi PhD, FAS, Paula Kienberger Jaudes, MD)
- A Parent Handbook for Sickle Cell Disease in Nigeria Part 2 (6-18 years) (Source: Biobele Brown, FWACP, Adeyinka G. Falusi PhD, FAS, Paula Kienberger Jaudes, MD)

iii. Sierra Leone

- A Sierra Leonian Approach to Sickle Cell & School Inclusion: A Guide to School Policy (English) (Source: Simon Dyson, PhD & SCOOTER project)

iv. Brazil / Portugal

- Sickle Cell Disease School Health & Safety Policy (Portuguese) (Source: Simon Dyson, PhD & SCOOTER project)