

Culture and Language Apps for Mobile Devices

There are several apps for your mobile device that will assist you in your School Health Nursing practice. Fewer apps exist that provide information on various cultural groups. However, there are a number of apps that can help you in the communication with non-English speaking students and families. This document includes a few of those apps.

Apps are especially useful for finding a word or short phrase to facilitate assessment or obtain other pertinent information. Though helpful, the apps are not a substitute for a professionally-trained translator and/or interpreter which should always be the recommended plan of action, unless you, as the school nurse, are fluent in the language spoken by the student or family members.

Disclaimer: The apps below have been identified by NASN as resources that might be of interest to you. NASN does not intend to make any representations about the content on the apps, nor does NASN intend to endorse any of the apps.

Culture Apps

Culture Guide by Griffin Mobile.

Air Force Culture and Language Center's culture guide on a limited number of overseas locations including Colombia, Iraq, Turkey, Uganda and others. Updated in February 2017. Free.

Travel guides from your local bookstores also have culture and language sections from companies like Lonely Planet, Fodor's, etc. Prices vary.

Language Apps

Audio-Medical Spanish by Mavro, Inc.

Features high-quality audio of key questions and phrases. Also available for Dental Spanish. Updated February 2017. In-app purchases available. Basic app free.

Medical Spanish Pocket by Bruckmeier Publishing, LLC.

Essential words and phrases, visual tools such as basic anatomy, with audio. Updated November 2015. \$9.99.

SpanishDict by Curiosity Media, Inc.

A mobile dictionary with audio from English to Spanish, Spanish to English; includes word games, phrases and daily words. Access to the full on-line dictionary is given. Updated April 2017. Free.

Stat Spanish by ScyMed, Inc.

Not a dictionary but a translation resource. Includes words and phrases on greetings, time, patient identification and more. Updated January 2017. Free.

MediBabble Translator by NiteFloat Inc.

Professional grade medical interpretation app for healthcare providers. Questions and answers are playable as high-quality audio recordings. Once downloaded, app does not require internet connectivity. Available in English, Spanish, Chinese, French, Haitian Creole and more. Updated March 2017. Free.

UniversalNurse Speaker: Medical Translator by Universal Products and Tools S.L.

Over 500 commonly used medical phrases. Works offline. Multi-lingual (English, Spanish, Arabic, Russian, Romanian, Somali and more). Updated December 2015. Free.

World Nomads language apps

For travelers but have many useful phrases/words; includes conversational lessons on 50 basic phrases and over 240 basic phrases in 25 different languages such as Spanish, French, Dutch, Mandarin, Russian, Korean, Croatian, Swahili, etc. Updated February 2017. Free.

(Updated July 2017) Compiled by Monica Rodgers.