

# WEST VIRGINIA SCHOOL COUNSELORS

West Virginia school counselors are certified/licensed educators who improve student success for ALL students by implementing a comprehensive school counseling program.



## SCHOOL COUNSELOR TRAINING

West Virginia school counselors complete a Master's Program which includes:

- counseling theory
- theory & practice of human appraisal
- prevention & treatment of addiction
- counseling children, adolescents & parents
- legal & ethical issues for counselors
- group counseling & theories
- career & lifestyle development
- organization & administration of school counseling programs
- 600 hour internship in elementary, middle, & high school setting



A growing body of research indicates comprehensive, data-driven school counseling programs improve a range of student learning and behavioral outcomes.

## SCHOOL COUNSELOR QUALIFICATIONS

- **Hold, at minimum, a master's degree in school counseling**
- **Meet the state certification/ licensure standards**
- **Fulfill continuing education requirements through professional development including WVDE School Counseling Conferences, WVSCA Conferences, ASCA offerings, etc.**
- **Uphold ASCA ethical and professional standards**

IDEAL



CASELOAD

## SCHOOL COUNSELOR'S ROLE



School counselors are vital members of the education team. They help all students in the areas of academic achievement, career development and social/emotional development, ensuring today's students become the productive, well-adjusted adults of tomorrow.

### School Counselors help all students:

- apply academic achievement strategies
- manage emotions and apply interpersonal skills
- plan for postsecondary options (higher education, military, work force)

### Appropriate duties:

- 80% of time providing school counseling services that directly impact student success, 20% of time in school counseling program planning, management, design, evaluation, etc. (per WV Code § 18-5-18b)
- collaborate with the school leadership team to ensure all staff promote social emotional learning through school-wide integrated delivery of the WV Standards for Student Success
- individual student academic planning and goal setting
- short-term counseling to students
- referrals for long-term support
- collaboration with families/teachers/administrators/community for student success
- advocacy for students at individual education plan meetings and other student-focused meetings
- data analysis to identify student issues, needs and challenges
- crisis response



AMERICAN  
SCHOOL  
COUNSELOR  
ASSOCIATION



# APPROPRIATE AND INAPPROPRIATE ACTIVITIES FOR SCHOOL COUNSELORS

## Appropriate Activities for School Counselors

- ▶ advisement and appraisal for academic planning

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- ▶ orientation, coordination and academic advising for new students

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- ▶ interpreting cognitive, aptitude and achievement tests

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- ▶ providing counseling/interventions to students who are frequently tardy and/or absent

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- ▶ providing counseling to students who have disciplinary problems

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- ▶ providing short-term individual and small- group counseling services to students

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- ▶ consulting with teachers to schedule and present school counseling curriculum lessons based on developmental needs and needs identified through data

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- ▶ interpreting student records

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- ▶ analyzing grade-point averages in relationship to achievement

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- ▶ collaborating with teachers about building classroom connections, effective classroom management and the role of noncognitive factors in student success

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- ▶ protecting student records and information per state and federal regulations

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- ▶ consulting with the school principal to identify and resolve student issues, needs and problems

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- ▶ advocating for students at individual education plan meetings, student study teams and school attendance review boards, as necessary

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- ▶ analyzing disaggregated schoolwide and school counseling program data

## Inappropriate Activities for School Counselors

- ▶ building the master schedule

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- ▶ coordinating paperwork and data entry of all new students

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- ▶ coordinating cognitive, aptitude and achievement testing programs

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- ▶ signing excuses for students who are tardy or absent

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- ▶ performing disciplinary actions or assigning discipline consequences

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- ▶ providing long-term counseling in schools to address psychological disorders

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- ▶ covering classes when teachers are absent or to create teacher planning time

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- ▶ maintaining student records

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- ▶ computing grade-point averages

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- ▶ supervising classrooms or common areas

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- ▶ keeping clerical records

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- ▶ assisting with duties in the principal's office

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- ▶ coordinating schoolwide individual education plans, student study teams, response to intervention plans, MTSS and school attendance review boards

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- ▶ serving as a data entry clerk