

SCHOOL COUNSELOR QUALIFICATIONS

School counselors have a minimum of a master's degree in school counseling and meet the state definition as defined below:

- **Counselor** means a person with a valid educator license issued pursuant to section 3319.22 of the Revised Code who provides pre-college and career counseling, and other counseling services that are not related to a student's individualized education plan.



School counselors successfully complete advanced-degree coursework in the following:

- Counseling theories
- Ethics & law
- Individual counseling
- Group counseling
- Social and cultural foundation
- Testing and assessment
- Research and program evaluation
- Professional orientation
- Career development
- Human growth and development
- 40 hours of practicum
- 600 hours of internship under supervision of a licensed school counselor

THE ROLE OF THE PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELOR

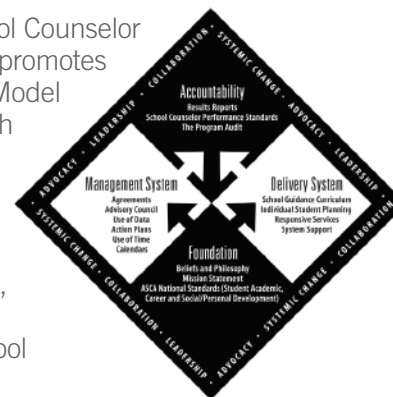
Professional school counselors serve a crucial role in increasing student success. Through leadership, advocacy, collaboration, and systemic change, professional school counselors promote equity and access to rigorous educational experiences for all students.

School counselors support the mission of schools by addressing the academic, personal/social, and career developmental needs of students.

School counselors strive to implement programs that are:

- Focused on academic success
- Comprehensive in scope
- Preventative in design
- Developmental in nature
- An integral part of the total education program
- Conducted in collaboration with other stakeholders
- Monitored for student progress
- Driven by data

The American School Counselor Association (ASCA) promotes the ASCA National Model as a mechanism with which school counselors design, coordinate, implement, manage, and evaluate a comprehensive school counseling program for student success.



The key components of the ASCA National Model are: foundation, delivery system, management system, and accountability.

► FOUNDATION

Designing a strong foundation requires collaborative efforts with parents/guardians, staff, and community to determine what every student will receive as a benefit of a school counseling program. School counselors design, implement, and maintain programs that align with the mission statement and philosophy of the school district and focus on standards and competencies that guide student outcomes.

► DELIVERY SYSTEM

The delivery system outlines how a school counseling program is implemented. Through the use of guidance curriculum, individual student planning, group work, classroom instruction, and responsive/crisis services, school counselors are able to provide the necessary services for student success.

► MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

In order to systematically deliver the guidance curriculum and address every student's needs, the school counseling program must be effectively and efficiently managed through the creation of an advisory council, action plans, student monitoring, master calendars, and through the collection and analysis of data.

► ACCOUNTABILITY

School counselors need to demonstrate the effectiveness of their comprehensive school counseling programs in measurable terms. They must always focus on the question, "How are students different as a result of the school counseling program?"