

Tips for Talking with Your Administrator

Advocating for a comprehensive, developmental school counseling program requires collaboration between School Counselors and School Administrators. This information provides a brief overview of what School Administrators want to know about School Counselors and a comprehensive, developmental school counseling program.

What qualifications are required to become a school counselor?

Professional school counselors have a master's degree or higher in school counseling, meet the state certification/licensure standards and abide by the laws of the states in which they are employed. They uphold the ethical and professional standards of professional counseling with unique qualifications and skills to address all students' academic, personal/social and career development needs.

What is the role of a professional school counselor?

Professional school counselors implement a comprehensive school counseling program that promotes and enhances student achievement. Their work is differentiated by attention to developmental stages of student growth, including the needs, tasks and student interests related to those stages. Professional school counselors serve a vital role in maximizing student achievement. To demonstrate the effectiveness of the school counseling program in measurable terms, professional school counselors report on results showing how students are different as a result of the school counseling program. Professional school counselors use data to show the impact of the school counseling program on school improvement and student achievement.

How can professional school counselors help students?

Professional school counselors assist students in a number of ways. Professional school counselors ensure that every student receives the benefit of the school counseling program by designing content curriculum for every student. They monitor data to facilitate student improvement, provide strategies for closing the achievement gap and ensure equitable access to educational opportunities.

How can professional school counselors help parents?

Professional school counselors connect parents to community and school based services and resources. They support partnerships in the learning of students. Professional school counselors provide training and informational workshops and provide data for continuous information on student progress.

How can professional school counselors help teachers?

Professional school counselors promote an interdisciplinary team approach to address student needs and educational goals. They support the development of classroom management skills, as well as support the learning environment to increase student achievement.

How do school counselors impact student achievement?

Professional school counselors implement school counseling programs that are data driven. Data is used to determine needs and provide an accountable way to align the school counseling program with the school's academic mission. Professional school counselors use results data (which answers: So what?) that provide proof the program is effective. Professional school counselors also disaggregate data, which separates data by variables to examine equity issues and the needs of various student groups. Data are then utilized to provide programs specific to school and student needs.