

School Counselor Job Description

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Assist students in understanding and overcoming social, behavioral or academic problems
- Provide group or individual counseling to address the needs of students
- Evaluate students' academic/career plans and assist them in setting realistic goals
- Monitor and observe students to identify and address personal, emotional or social issues
- Refer students to health psychologists and other mental professionals for proper attention
- Consult with families and staff to highlight students' needs and discuss strategies necessary for improved social and academic performance
- Plan and organize classroom counseling sessions to address career, academic, and personal development issues among students
- Develop and implement school counseling programs effective in meeting students' needs
- Prepare students for transition to higher institutions and colleges
- Ensure school curriculum meets the academic and developmental needs of students
- Conduct student assessment and maintain records of test results
- Implement programs for students with special needs or learning disabilities
- Organize seminars to educate teenagers on the ills associated with drug and alcohol abuse
- Listen to students' concerns and proffer recommendations effective in addressing academic or psychological problems
- Guide and support school staff in implementing school advisory programs
- Employ responsive counseling in establishing positive relationship between teachers, parents, and students.

School Counselor Requirements – Skills, Knowledge, and Abilities

- **Education and Training:** To become a school counselor, you require a Master's degree in school counseling or psychology, or in a related discipline. School counselors following completion of their degree programs are required to carry out a 1-2 year internship under a licensed counselor in order to obtain credential for practice
- **Problem-solving Skill:** School counselors are able to provide solutions effective in addressing students' academic, social, and behavioral issues
- **Communication Skill:** They are adept at listening/interacting with students to identify and help resolve their problems
- **Compassion:** They empathize with students dealing with emotional or difficult situations.