



Act 190 Comprehensive School Counseling in Arkansas

Arkansas
Department of Education
2019

Arkansas Legislation and Rules for School Counseling

- ~~Public School Student Services Act~~
- ~~Rules Governing Public School Student Services~~
- Rules Governing Standards of Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools
- **Act 190 - School Counselor Improvement Act of 2019**

2019

LOADING...

Act 190

What's new in law as a result of Act 190?

Law	New	The Same
90% of time spent in direct and indirect counseling services.	X	
Comprehensive school counseling plan	X	
Definition of Direct Services		X
Addition of Indirect Services	X	

Standards for Accreditation

What's in the Standards for Accreditation?

Standard	New	Will Stay the Same
2.C.1 Comprehensive School Counseling Plan posted on district website by August 1, 2018	X	
2-C.2 District must provide developmentally appropriate guidance program to aid students in educational, personal/social, and career development		X
4-E.1 School Guidance Counselors must be licensed or working under an approved waiver.		X
4-E.2 District student/guidance counselor ratio no more than 1 to 450		X
4-E.3 Each public school district shall allot sufficient time for each school counselor to carry out responsibilities according to ACT 190.	X	

Definitions



Direct Services (90%) Face-to-Face with Students

Classroom guidance

- Age appropriate
- Based on identified goals
- Limited to forty-minute class sessions, not to exceed three (3) class sessions per day, and not to exceed ten (10) class sessions per week

- Career planning and exploration
- Orientation activities for transitioning students
- Addressing accelerated learning opportunities

Individual and Group Counseling

- Based on student needs
- Small groups meet regularly over a specified amount of time.
- Follow-up should occur to ensure students are continuing to develop the skills taught in small group.

- Interpretation of assessments
- Individual academic planning
- Guidance in understanding the advantages of career certifications and internships
- Behavioral supports
- Attendance
- School academic success skills

Responsive Services

- Immediate concerns or crisis response
- Addressing students at risk

Indirect Services (90%) on Behalf of Students

Providing Consultation

- on behalf of a student
- concerning a student's behavior, academics, or attendance

- Parent or legal guardian
- School staff
- Community agencies

Making Referrals

- School based mental health services
- Child Abuse Hotline
- Parent or guardian communications

Member of Decision Making Teams

- Section 504
- Response-to-Intervention
- English Learners
- Parental involvement or family engagement
- Positive behavioral Intervention Support
- Advanced placement and gifted & talented

Administrative Activities (10%)

Coordination, Chair, Duties

- Coordination of Programs and
- Data Input

- Assessment
- Master schedules
- Parental Involvement Plan
- Positive behavioral support Project
- Advanced placement and gifted & talented
- English Learners (ELP)
- Section 504
- Response-to-Intervention

Chairing Committees and Meetings

- Parental involvement
- Positive behavioral supports
- English Learners
- Section 504
- Response-to-Intervention

Assigned Duties

- Monitoring students in common areas
 - hallway, cafeteria, playground and bus lines

So, what's the difference between the 90 and the 10?

90% During Student Contact Days	10% During Student Contact Days
Participating on RTI team	Coordination of RTI program
Providing small group counseling	Developing master schedule (extended contract days do not apply)
Consulting with parents	Chairing parental involvement committee
Making referrals for school-based mental health services	Scheduling referral conferences for special education
Providing behavior supports	Coordinating the positive behavior support system for the school

Turn and Talk



Requirements

Comprehensive School Counseling Program Requirements

Develop and implement a comprehensive school counseling program that

- ensures comprehensive school counseling services are provided to all students

Comprehensive School Counseling Program Requirements, continued

Implemented by

- Arkansas certified school counselor; or
- counselor under an additional licensure plan; or
- school employee acting as a school counselor under a waiver granted under § 6-15-103(c)

Comprehensive School Counseling Program Requirements, continued

- Utilizes state and nationally recognized counselor frameworks
- Reviewed annually
- Systemically aligned to kindergarten through grade twelve

Comprehensive School Counseling Program Requirements, continued

Follows the comprehensive school counseling program guidance provided by the Arkansas Department of Education

Four Components

Foundation
Management
Delivery
Accountability

Foundation

- School counseling belief statements
- Vision statements
- Mission statements
- Program goals
 - Major component of the plan

Foundation, continued

Program Goals

- Developed annually
- Focus primarily on career, academic, and social/emotional support
- Are measurable

Management

- Addresses who is providing the counseling program and how it is implemented
- Utilizes assessments and other data

Delivery

- Focuses on direct and indirect services
- Most developed area of the program and plan
 - What is going to happen?
 - Where are services provided?
 - How are services provided?
 - When are services provided?

Delivery, continued

Includes

- Core Curriculum Action Plans
- Closing the Gap Action Plans

Note: Fully comprehensive programs include fully developed action plans and lessons to support the intended interventions and supports.

Accountability

Ensures regular analysis of comprehensive school counseling program

- Program self-assessment
- Results reports for stakeholders

Specific Program Needs

Whole Child Approach

Guides students in

- academic pursuits, career planning, and social and emotional learning

Whole Child Approach, continued

- Ensures equitable access for all students
- Identifies student needs through a multi-level school data review
- Develops goals and action plans to provide support and interventions

Intervention and Orientation

Provided *in collaboration* with other school personnel

- Intervening with students who are at risk of dropping out
- Following-up with high school graduates
- Providing orientation programs

Academic Advisement

- Supports the student's effort to monitor his/her own educational, career, and social and emotional progress
- Guides a student along the pathways to graduation
- Guides a student in goal-setting experiences

Academic Advisement, continued

- Addresses accelerated learning opportunities and encouragement to students to take rigorous coursework
- Provides resources for post-secondary opportunities
- Includes student assessment reviews, interest inventories, etc.

Career Planning

Guidance in understanding

- relationship between classroom performance and success in school and beyond
- advantages of completing career certifications and internships

Interpretation of Assessments and Consultation with Parents

- Guidance in interpreting augmented, criterion-referenced, or norm-referenced assessments for students and parents
- Encouragement and support for parents in developing partnerships with the school

Bullying and Suicide Prevention

Supporting	Implementing
Programs for school employees on how to recognize bullying behaviors	Protocols for responding to bullying
Programs for school employees on how to recognize students at risk for suicide	Strategies to address age-appropriate suicide awareness
	Strategies to support students being bullied
	Strategies to help students identify and access a trusted adult
	Strategies that help identify a student who is at risk for suicide
	Strategies and protocols that help a student who is at risk for suicide <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – protocols for responding to students in crisis

Please Notice This



Time with Students

Sufficient time at each public school shall be allotted for the school counselor to carry out the duties stated in the comprehensive school counseling plan required under § 6-18-2003.

Posting Your Plan

Comprehensive School Counseling Plan Posting

Plan posted annually

- District website under State Required Information
- New plan posted August 1, 2020

The Plan is a reflection of the school counseling program in your school and district.

New Tiered System for Monitoring and Technical Assistance

- Risk-based tiered system of monitoring and technical assistance for Comprehensive School Counseling Programs
- Follow up monitoring and technical assistance needs will be determined based on identified risk.



Contact Us

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“School Counselors: Our Impact” American School Counselor Association



The 2018 School Counselor of the Year, finalists and state school counselors of the year share what a school counselor does, how they change students' lives – and how students change them.

<https://videos.schoolcounselor.org/2018-school-counselor-of-the-year-wrap-up>