

Mission Statements

Texas Counseling Association Mission Statement

The Texas Counseling Association is an association of professional counselors that provides leadership and advocacy and that promotes education and ethical values.

Hays CISD Student Support Services Mission Statement

Student Support Services staff endeavor to guide all students to discover a positive direction for their lives, encourage them to make healthy choices that allow them to realize their potential, celebrate what's right with our children and youth, and invite them to actively participate in what we do.

Acknowledgements

[A Model Developmental Guidance and Counseling Program for Texas Public Schools](#). (1998). Texas Education Agency

[What Is A School Counselor?](#)
Texas Counseling Association

Hays Consolidated Independent School District



Professional School Counselors

*Comprehensive
Guidance & Counseling*

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Produced by Guidance & Counseling Department



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What is a Professional School Counselor?

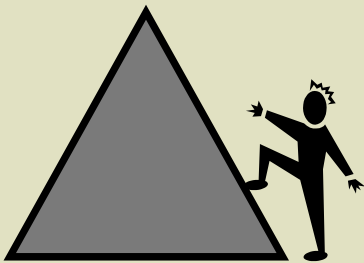
Who are School Counselors?

School counselors work with school faculty and staff, students, parents, and the community to plan, implement, and evaluate developmental guidance and counseling programs for all students. (TEC. Section 33.005)

What is a Comprehensive Developmental Guidance and Counseling Program?

A comprehensive developmental guidance program assists students in acquiring the knowledge and skills necessary for healthy development. Through four program components, a comprehensive developmental counseling program recognizes that parents, school personnel and the community each have important roles to play and valuable resources to contribute in assisting students with their academic, career, social and emotional development.

Delivered by certified school counselors, developmental guidance and counseling programs include the following components:



• Guidance Curriculum

Counselors help students develop their educational potential through skill-based lessons and units that assist in developing competence in essential life skills. Competency is developed in self-confidence, motivation, decision-making and goal-setting, communication, interpersonal and cross-cultural skills, and responsible behavior.



• Responsive Services

Counselors intervene on behalf of students whose immediate personal concerns or problems put their continued educational, career, personal, or social development at risk. Counselors' primary task is to provide counseling to students individually or in group settings. They also consult with teachers, parents, and administrators on behalf of students. Counselors assist with student referrals and identification of students for special programs and services.

• Individual Planning

Counselors guide students as they plan, monitor, and manage their own educational, career, personal, and social development. Counselors assist students with personal planning, transition activities, and goal setting, including college and career options available after graduation.

• System Support

Counselors support the efforts of teachers, staff, parents and the community in promoting the educational, career, personal, and social development of students. Counselors use their expertise to plan and manage their programs and to coordinate services for students.

What credentials do school counselors hold?

School Counselors:

- Have a least 2 years teaching experience
- Have earned a Master's Degree in a Counseling Program
- Have passed a state-mandated test (TExES for School Counselors)
- Received certification from the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC)

What Do School Counselors Do?

The school counselor's job includes the following:

- *Counsel* individuals and small groups of students to meet identified needs.
- *Deliver* the guidance curriculum and assist teachers with the school's guidance curriculum.
- *Consult* with parents, teachers, and other staff regarding concerns about students' needs.
- *Coordinate* people and resources in the schools and in the community for the benefit of students.
- *Participate* in planning, implementing and evaluating a comprehensive developmental guidance and counseling program to serve all students.
- *Provide* staff development and training.
- *Adhere to* the ethical, legal and professional standards of the counseling profession.
- *Assist* students and parents in college and career guidance, financial aid and college admission.

How Do Students Access School Counselors?

A student may access a counselor by:

- Self-referral
- Teacher referral
- Parent Referral
- Administrative or other staff referral
- Referral by friend

