

INSTRUCTION

SUBJECT: Guidance/Counseling Services

The County Office of Education recognizes that a comprehensive counseling program can help promote academic achievement and serve the diverse needs of all County Office of Education students. Counseling staff shall be available to meet with students to discuss academic, social, or personal difficulties, as well as other issues that may impact student learning.

Academic and Career Counseling

The County Office of Education's academic counseling program shall help students establish immediate and long-range educational plans, achieve academic standards, prepare for the high school exit examination, and complete the required curriculum in accordance with their individual needs, abilities, and interests. Insofar as possible, parents/guardians shall be included when making educational plans.

(cf. 0410.3 - Nondiscrimination in Programs and Activities)

(cf. 0420 - School Plans/Site Councils)

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)

(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)

(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)

Counseling staff shall help all students plan for the future and become aware of their career potential. Academic planning for higher education shall include information about courses needed for admission to colleges and universities, standardized admission tests, financial aid, and scholarships.

(cf. 6030 - Integrated Academic and Vocational Instruction)

(cf. 6141.5 - Advanced Placement)

(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)

(cf. 6146.1- High School Graduation Requirements)

(cf. 6146.11 - Alternative Credits toward Graduation)

(cf. 6146.2 - Certificate of Proficiency/High School Equivalency)

The County Superintendent of Schools or designee shall establish and maintain a program of guidance, placement, and follow-up for all County Office of Education students subject to compulsory continuation education. (Education Code 48431)

(cf. 6184 - Continuation Education)

Colleges and prospective employers, including military recruiters, shall have the same access to students for recruiting purposes. (20 USC 7908; 10 USC 503; Education Code

49603)

(cf. 5125.1 - Release of Directory Information)

Supplemental School Counseling Program for Students in Grades 7-12

The County Office of Education supplemental school counseling program for students in grades 7-12 shall be delivered by personnel who hold a valid pupil personnel services credential. The County Office of Education's program shall provide for: (Education Code 52378)

1. An individualized review of academic and deportment records
2. An individualized review of the career goals of students, and the available academic and career technical education opportunities and community and workplace experiences available to students to support their goals
3. An opportunity for a counselor to meet with students and, if practicable the parent/guardian, to discuss available educational and career technical options
4. Specialized counseling services for students identified as at risk

(cf. 6162.52 - High School Exit Examination)

(cf. 6179 - Supplemental Instruction)

Personal Counseling

Counseling staff shall identify and work with students whose personal problems may prevent them from reaching their potential. As appropriate, students shall be informed about agencies that offer qualified professional assistance with substance abuse, physical or emotional problems, or other personal problems.

(cf. 1020 - Youth Services)

(cf. 5113 - Absences and Excuses)

(cf. 5113.1 - Truancy)

(cf. 5131.6 - Alcohol and Other Drugs)

(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)

(cf. 5138 - Conflict Resolution/Peer Mediation)

(cf. 5141.4 - Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting)

(cf. 5141.6 - Student Health and Social Services)

(cf. 5145.9 - Hate-Motivated Behavior)

(cf. 5147 - Dropout Prevention)

(cf. 5149 - At-Risk Students)

(cf. 6164.5 - Student Success Teams)

(cf. 6173 - Education for Homeless Children)

(cf. 6173.1 - Education for Foster Youth)

Counselors shall respect student confidentiality as appropriate and shall consult with the County Superintendent or designee or with the County Office of Education's legal counsel whenever unsure of how to respond to a student's personal problem. Parent/guardian consultation and consent shall be obtained as appropriate.

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

(cf. 5022 - Student and Family Privacy Rights)

Crisis Counseling

The County Office of Education recognizes the need for a prompt and effective response when students are confronted with a traumatic incident. School counselors shall assist in the development of the comprehensive school safety plan, emergency and disaster preparedness plan, and other prevention and intervention practices designed to assist students before and after a crisis.

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)

(cf. 3516 - Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness Plan)

In addition, the County Superintendent or designee shall identify crisis counseling resources to train staff in appropriate response techniques and/or to directly help students cope with such crises if they occur.

Early identification and intervention plans shall be developed to help identify those students who may be at risk for violence so that support may be provided before they engage in violent or disruptive behavior.

(cf. 5131 - Conduct)

(cf. 5136 - Gangs)

(cf. 5141.52 - Suicide Prevention)

Teacher-Based Advisory Program

The County Office of Education recognizes that a supportive, ongoing relationship with a caring adult can provide a student with valuable advice and security. The County Office of Education desires to establish a teacher-based advisory program in which teachers, with supervision and support from a credentialed school counselor, advise students in such areas as character development, conflict resolution, and self-esteem. The County Office of Education expects this program to enhance student-teacher relationships and give students positive, adult role models. The County Superintendent or designee and a credentialed school counselor shall design this program.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

221.5 Prohibited sex discrimination

37254 Supplemental instruction based on failure to pass exit exam by end of grade 12

41505-41508 Pupil Retention Block Grant

48431 Establishing and maintaining high school guidance and placement program

49600-49604 Educational counseling

51250 School age military dependents

51513 Personal beliefs

52378-52380 Supplemental School Counseling Program

REPEALED EDUCATION CODE FOR CATEGORICAL PROGRAMS

48431.6 Tenth grade counseling program

PENAL CODE

11166-11170 Reporting known or suspected cases of child abuse

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

4930-4931 Counseling

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 10

503 Military recruiter access to directory information

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1232g Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

7908 Armed forces recruiter access to students and student recruiting information

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34

99.1-99.67 Family educational rights and privacy

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

American School Counseling Association: <http://www.schoolcounselor.org>

California Association of School Counselors: <http://www.schoolcounselor-ca.org>

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

U.S. Department of Education, access to military recruiters:

<http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/hottopics/ht10-09-02.html>