



# Certified School Counselors: Supporting Students Strengthening Communities

Certified School Counselors (CSCs) are on the front lines in developing the next generation of young Texans. CSCs are educators as well as mental health professionals. CSCs counsel students to develop their academic, career, personal, and social abilities.



Certified school counselors have a critical role in student's academic success, emotional wellbeing, and campus safety. Students aged 6-17 with emotional or behavioral concerns are 3 times more likely to repeat a grade (NAMI, 2021), indicating a need for school-based and school-connected supports. Required to have a master's degree in school counseling or a related field, school counselors are at the core of a thriving community.

Texas law (2 TEC §33.006) directs school counselors to counsel students to develop their academic, career, personal, and social abilities. School counselors shall collaborate with faculty, staff, parents, and the community to design, implement, and evaluate a comprehensive counseling program that conforms with the *Texas Model for Comprehensive School Counseling Programs* (2 TEC §33.005).

## School Counselor Duties Include:

- collaborating with families and community for student success
- individualized academic planning and goal setting
- delivering classroom lessons based on TEKS and student success standards
- providing short-term support to students and making referrals to parents for long-term counseling
- identifying student issues and campus needs
- implementing the *Texas Model for Comprehensive School Counseling Programs* based on campus needs

# 13,922

school counselors in Texas  
(TEA, 2024-25)

High school seniors who talk one on one  
with a school counselor were:

# 6.8

times more likely to complete a Free  
Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

# 3.2

times more likely to attend college  
(NACAC, 2021-22)