

NCSCA Conference 2017

School Administrator and District Supervisors of School Counseling Sharing Session

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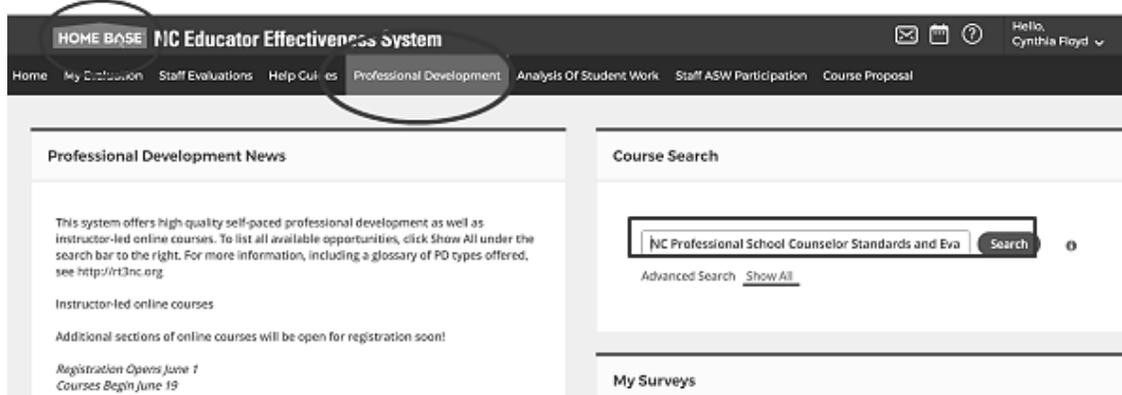
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NC Professional School Counselor Standards and Evaluation Modules

NC School Counselor Standards are aligned *The ASCA National Model: A Framework for School Counseling Programs*. NC G.S. 115C-316.1 Duties of School Counselors law also reflects the ASCA National Model and NC School Counselor Standards. There are two self-paced modules in Home Base to support schools and districts in their implementation and evaluation of comprehensive school counseling programs.

The *Administrator Guide to Effective School Counseling and Evaluation* module is designed to enhance understanding of the NC Professional School Counselor Standards and Evaluation, the most effective roles of school counselors, and how to best evaluate the implementation of comprehensive school counseling programs aligned with The ASCA National Model. This module is estimated to take a total of 5 hours to complete and includes a certificate for .5 CEU.

The NC Professional School Counselor Standards and Evaluation module is also designed to enhance understanding of the NC Professional School Counselor Standards and Evaluation and implementation of an effective comprehensive school counseling program aligned with The ASCA National Model; however, this module goes into much more implementation details including activities for participants to implement in their schools based on their schools' data. This module is estimated to take approximately 30 hours to complete and includes a certificate for 3 CEUs.



A NCDPI webinar is scheduled for 4:00 Tuesday, November 14, 2017, to explore the content of the School Counselor Standards and Evaluation and learn more about resources, such as the Home Base modules, to assist in effectively utilizing and evaluating school counselors to support school success. More information on the DPI NCEES Wiki at <http://ncees.ncdpi.wikispaces.net/Upcoming+Webinars>

Note that the School Counselor Professional Standards are not the same as Guidance Essential Standards which are learning objectives for students and also intended to be integrated into other curricular areas.

Mental Health and Suicide Prevention

How and how often to address this is decided by individual school districts. The School Mental Health Initiative has been working to address how to create a directory of potential resources and trainings (see SBE policy SHLT-003), but House Bill 155/Session Law 2017-157 - Omnibus Education Law Changes has slowed the process.

Legislation about School Counselor and Teacher Time

§ 115C-301.1. Duty-free instructional planning time. *All full-time assigned classroom teachers shall be provided duty-free instructional planning time during regular student contact hours. The duty-free instructional planning time shall be provided to the maximum extent that (i) the safety and proper supervision of children may allow during regular student contact hours and (ii) insofar as funds are provided for this purpose by the General Assembly. If the safety and supervision of children does not allow duty-free instructional planning time during regular student contact hours for a given teacher, the funds provided by the General Assembly for the duty-free instructional planning time for that teacher shall revert to the general fund. Principals shall not unfairly burden a given teacher by making that teacher give up his or her duty-free instructional planning time on an ongoing, regular basis without the consent of the teacher.*

§ 115C-105.27. *Development and approval of school improvement plans. ...*

(b) School Improvement Plan...

(6) Shall include a plan to provide a duty-free lunch period for every teacher on a daily basis or as otherwise approved by the school improvement team; ...

(7) Shall include a plan to provide duty-free instructional planning time for every teacher under G.S. 115C-301.1, with the goal of providing an average of at least five hours of planning time per week; ...

§ 115C-316.1. Duties of school counselors. *(a) School counselors shall implement a comprehensive developmental school counseling program in their schools. Counselors shall spend at least eighty percent (80%) of their work time providing direct services to students. Direct services do not include the coordination of standardized testing. Direct services shall consist of:*

(1) Delivering the school guidance curriculum through large group guidance, interdisciplinary curriculum development, group activities, and parent workshops.

(2) Guiding individual student planning through individual or small group assistance and individual or small group advisement.

(3) Providing responsive services through consultation with students, families, and staff; individual and small group counseling; crisis counseling; referrals; and peer facilitation.

(4) Performing other student services listed in the Department of Public Instruction school counselor job description that has been approved by the State Board of Education.

(b) School counseling program support activities do not include the coordination of standardized testing. During the remainder of their work time, school counselors may assist other staff with the coordination of standardized testing.

Transcripts – How does your district handle transcript reviews and course credit for students transferring in?

Review of transcripts and course credit decisions are under the authority of individual school districts and cannot be handled by NCDPI due to legislation. It is determined by the school district who will make these decisions, but, ultimately, NC Public School Law grants the power to grade and classify students to the school administrator. When making course credit determinations, one should consider if courses the student took previously have comparable learning objectives to NC Standard Course of Study. If there is no comparable NC SCOS course, there is the potential for elective credit.

NC School Counseling Resources –

NCDPI School Counseling Wiki Pages at <http://schoolcounseling.ncdpi.wikispaces.net/> (note there is a page specifically for helping district directors connect)

NCDPI School Counseling Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/ncdpi.schoolcounseling>

NCDPI School Counseling Web Pages at <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/studentsupport/counseling/>

NCDPI School Counseling PLCs Google Plus Community - can be accessed via your Apps box on the Google web page, then click the Google+ icon, or go directly to

<https://plus.google.com/u/0/communities/106752114909041161445>

NC School Counselor Association at <https://www.ncschoolcounselor.org/>