

GUIDANCE AND COUNSELLING

Background:

Comprehensive guidance and counselling programs address educational growth, personal/social growth, career growth and developmental needs of students. They involve developmental guidance instruction, counselling, consultation and co-ordination of activities and services that reflect the unique needs of each school community, and are integral to school programming.

Procedures:

1. Comprehensive school counselling programs are best directly administered by teachers trained in counselling.
 - 1.1. School counsellors are certificated teachers with, or working on, a master's degree in school counselling, educational psychology or a related discipline with a focus in counselling.
 - 1.2. School counsellors who are registered psychologists are members of the College of Alberta Psychologists.
2. School counsellors' responsibilities include:
 - 2.1. developmental guidance instruction to facilitate student development in personal, social, educational and career growth;
 - 2.2. co-ordination of programs and activities that assist students in the development of personal, social, educational and career growth;
 - 2.3. co-ordination of services and educational programming for students with special education needs;
 - 2.4. provision of counselling, support and guidance to students in their development of personal management skills;
 - 2.5. provision of crisis counselling to students in personal difficulty; and
 - 2.6. development of partnerships with parents, individuals and agencies in the community to support and assist the guidance and counselling programs as referenced in the [Guidance and Counselling Handbook](#).

Reference:

Section 11, 18, 52, 53, 197, 222 *Education Act*
Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act
Personal Information Protection Act
Guide to Education: ECS to Grade 12
[Guide to providing counselling services in school jurisdictions](#)