

Roles of Mental Health Staff

This guide is not intended to be a comprehensive overview of every role and duty of school-employed mental health staff. It offers examples of some of the overlapping and unique roles of school mental health professionals. It has been adapted from Sun Prairie Area School District, Wisconsin.

All School-Employed Mental Health Professional Duties

- Research
- Problem-solving team (RTI)
- Student progress & accountability
- Inservice/professional development
- Collaboration with community
- Crisis intervention
- Parent education
- Alternative and at-risk programming
- Affective education
- Classroom presentations

Unique and Overlapping Roles

Overlapping roles in colored text

School Counselor

- Student advocacy
- Orientation and transition services
- Cumulative records and scheduling
- Large group standardized assessment
- Counseling and guidance support for all students
- Guidance curriculum and affective class presentations
- Behavioral collaborations
- Learning appraisal
- Educational collaboration

School Psychologist

- Direct services (counseling, affective education, skill development, crisis)
- Screening
- Evaluation (intelligence, achieve, social-emotional, adaptive, cognitive processing)
- Consultation
- Case management and due process compliance
- IEP services
- Behavioral assessments
- Behavior contracts
- Student progress
- Social emotional assessment
- Learning appraisal
- Educational collaboration

School Social Worker

- Home-school-community liaison
- Home visits and truancy intervention
- Direct services (individual/group therapeutic services, social-emotional learning)
- Treatment of emotional disorders
- Professional case management
- Consultation for behavior intervention plans
- Behavioral collaborations
- IEP services
- Behavioral assessments
- Behavior contracts
- Student progress
- Social emotional assessment