

School Social Work Additional Role Examples



The school social work roles listed below are best provided within the context of an organized, comprehensive pupil services model. This list is not exhaustive but represents a range of services that may be provided by school social workers.

Assessment, Screening, and Evaluation

- IEP and 504 evaluation teams.
- Social-developmental histories.
- Building consultation teams.
- Kindergarten screening.
- Depression/suicide screening.
- Violence risk screening.
- Abuse and neglect screening.
- Alcohol and other drug (AOD) screening.
- Response to Intervention (RtI).
- Functional behavioral assessments.

Individual and Small Group Student Services

- Educational support groups (AOD, anger management, social skills, divorce, etc.).
- Individual counseling and problem-solving.
- Services to pregnant and parenting teens.
- Advocacy for student access to school- and community-based services and instruction.
- Behavioral intervention Plans.
- Crisis Intervention:
 - traumatic events,
 - family crisis,
 - safety,
 - suicidal ideation,
 - self injury, and
 - mandated reports of suspected child abuse or neglect.

Home-School Collaboration

- Home visits and telephone contacts.
- Parent education and support.
- Family assistance in finding and utilizing community resources.

Collaboration and Partnerships with Community-Based Organizations

- Coordination of student transition to/from foster care, corrections, detention, residential treatment, and Birth to 3 programs.
- Educational resource to community groups.
- Coordination of community resources with school services.
- Development and management of collaborative relationships with community agencies.
- Referrals to community resources.

- Advocacy for school and district roles with the greater community.

Classroom Instruction

- Protective behaviors, AOD, suicide prevention, mental health literacy and stigma reduction, dating violence, bullying and other areas dealing with safety, prevention, health promotion, and asset building.

Services for School Staff

- Consultation and problem-solving.
- Coaching.
- Employee assistance and wellness.
- Staff development.
- Team facilitation.

Program, Resource, and Policy Development

- Curriculum.
- Attendance and truancy.
- Building and district crisis response.
- Programs and services to meet the needs of specific populations: homeless/mobile students, school age parents, English as a Second Language (ESL) students and families, students of color and their families, gay-lesbian-bisexual-transgender questioning (GLBTQ+) students, etc.
- School climate and environment.
- Harassment, bullying, and nondiscrimination.
- Discipline, suspension, and expulsion.
- Grant writing and management.
- Confidentiality and release of student records.

Systems Change to Improve Learning and Support Services

- Within the school (e.g., Trauma Sensitive Schools, Comprehensive School Mental Health Systems, Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports).
- Between the schools and the greater community.