

CRITERIA FOR COUNSELING DIVERSE STUDENTS

Are you, as a counselor, providing advice and services in a manner that is equitable for all students? Below are some questions to ponder.

CRITERIA/QUESTIONS	Yes	No	Needs Improving
1. Am I, as the counselor, familiar with strategies that promote equity in a multicultural society (e.g. utilizing culturally/gender relevant counseling practices, empathizing with and understanding the students' world view)?			
2. Am I, as the counselor, familiar with and understanding of both verbal and nonverbal language patterns of different ethnic/racial groups?			
3. Do I, as the counselor, have high expectations for all students and assist students to acquire resources and opportunities necessary for success?			
4. In working with a diverse student population in counseling situations, do I, as the counselor, consider the interaction of gender differences, class differences, language differences, and cultural differences?			
5. Do I, as the counselor, provide career counseling on the basis of the students' abilities, interests, and skills rather than according to traditional roles based on gender, race, disability, or ethnicity?			
6. Do I, as the counselor, encourage students to take courses non- traditional to their gender, race, disability, or ethnicity if the student shows an interest in one of those areas (e.g. mathematics, science, computer technology for girls, early childhood education for boys)?			
7. Do I, as the counselor, assess his or her own values, attitudes, and beliefs and have the ability to refrain from imposing them upon the student?			
8. Do I, as the counselor, participate in inservice programs or special skill sessions for counselors dealing with culturally diverse students?			
9. Do I, as the counselor, meet with students outside of the office to show an interest in their needs beyond the classroom?			
10. Do I, as the counselor, use a multidimensional approach to identify the level and scope of a student's ability before recommending course selection, placement, and future schooling/career opportunities?			

Source: *Elements of Equity: Criteria for Equitable Schools*

Developed by Jill Moss Greenberg and Susan Shaffer, The Mid-Atlantic Equity Consortium, 1991.

<http://www.maec.org/frameset.php>