

Guiding the School Counselor: An Overview of Roles and Responsibilities

Use this outline to follow along with the module's main features. The blank "Notes" panels below each section are interactive and can be filled in using Adobe Acrobat. Otherwise, print this document and record your notes by hand.

Module Home

- **Module Description:** This module offers an overview for school counselors and includes definitions of counselors' various roles and responsibilities when working with students with disabilities. Those viewing the Module can learn about how counselors may participate in IEP team meetings, how to determine the need for group or individual counseling, how to assist with transition planning, and how to pursue referrals to other professionals when appropriate (est. completion time: 1 hour).
- *STAR Legacy Cycle*
- **Related to This Module**
 - Link: Module Outline
 - Video: Navigating an IRIS *STAR Legacy* Module
 - Link: IRIS and Adult Learning Theory
 - Wrap-Around Content Map

Challenge

- **Video:** Mr. Hunter, a school counselor, is feeling overwhelmed with all of his special education responsibilities and feels unprepared to work with students with disabilities.

Notes

Initial Thoughts

- How can Mr. Hunter effectively manage his school counseling responsibilities?
- What are the roles and responsibilities of school counselors when working with students with disabilities?
- How can school counselors keep up with all of their responsibilities and also remain current?

Notes

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Perspectives & Resources

❖ Module Objectives

- After completing the entire Perspectives & Resources section and reviewing the accompanying activities, you should be able to:
 - Understand the roles of school counselors when working with all students, including students with disabilities
 - Be able to discuss collaborative methods for meeting the needs of students with disabilities
 - Understand the importance of ongoing professional development for school counselors
- This IRIS Module aligns with the following licensure and program standards and topic areas...

Notes

❖ Page 1: Overview of School Counselors' Roles

- The 40-40-20 method
- School Counselors' Roles
 - Leader
 - Collaborator
 - Advocate
- Audio: Bonita Flournoy provides a parental perspective about the relationship between school counselors and students from culturally diverse backgrounds
- The roles counselors can perform in working with students with disabilities [bullet points]

Notes

❖ Page 2: Participate in the Multidisciplinary Team Process

- Role on the Multidisciplinary Team
 - Link: Multidisciplinary teams
- Target Areas
- The Team

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- Link: View a list of team members and their roles
- Activity: Read about one of Mr. Hunter's students and write brief answers to the questions
 - Link: Read what the expert says about Mr. Hunter's student Megan

Notes

❖ Page 3: Assist with Behavior Modification

- Potential Problem Areas
 - Behaviors of Concern and Possible Outcomes
 - Attention-seeking behaviors [bullet points]
- Roles for School Counselors
 - Other IRIS Modules to reference
 - Ways school counselors may help manage behavior [bullet points]

Notes

❖ Page 4: Provide Individual or Group Counseling

- Individual or Group Counseling
 - Group Counseling vs. Individual Counseling
 - Research Shows
- Provide Social Skills Training
 - School counselors' roles in social skills training
 - Behaviors Associated With Poor Social Skills
 - Other things to keep in mind
- Research Shows

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❖ Page 5: Assist with Transition Planning

- Audio: Amy Milsom discusses her findings on school counselor involvement in transition planning
- Audio: Amy Milsom discusses what skills students might need for successful transition to the world of work
- Transition Support
 - Transition support that school counselors provide (bulleted list)
- Activity: Read about one of Mr. Hunter's students and write brief answers to the questions below
 - Link: Feedback about the scenario

Notes

❖ Page 6: Make Referrals to Outside Agencies

- Referral steps [bullet points]
 - Keep in Mind
- Activity: Read about one of Mr. Hunter's students and write brief answers to the questions below
 - Link: Read what the expert says about Mr. Hunter's student Alex

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❖ Page 7: Advocating for Your Role

- Roles of School Counselors [bullet points]
- Self-advocacy strategies for school counselors [bullet points]
- How Mr. Hunter would handle an inappropriate assignment

Notes

❖ Page 8: Professional Development

- Continuing Education
 - Possible requirements (bulleted list)
 - Continuing education resources (bulleted list)
 - Keep in Mind (box)
- Professional Counseling Organizations

Notes

❖ Page 9: References & Additional Resources

- Suggested module citation
- References
- Additional Resources

❖ Page 10: Credits

- Suggested module citation
- Content Experts
- Module Developers
- Module Production Team
- Media Production Team
- Media
- Expert Interviews

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Wrap Up

- Summary of the module
- Video: Mr. Hunter's roles and responsibilities
- Revisit your Initial Thoughts responses

Notes

Assessment

- Complete the numbered questions. Please note that the IRIS Center does not collect your Assessment responses. If this is a course assignment, you should turn them in to your professor using whatever method he or she requires.

Notes

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You Have Completed This Module

- Give Us Your Feedback
 - Link: [Module feedback survey form](#)
- Professional Development Hours
 - Link: [IRIS PD Options](#)
- Related Resources [[links](#)]