

# School Psychologist



**Roles and Responsibilities:** School psychologists provide direct support and interventions to students, families and other school professionals; work with school administrators to improve schoolwide practices and policies; and collaborate with community providers to coordinate needed services.

**Information about School Psychologists:** Ohio Department of Education licensure requirements include the following: 1) a master's or Education Specialist (Ed.S.) degree in school psychology; 2) a 1200-hour internship; and 3) passing the Praxis School Psychologist exam.

## School Psychologists are Trained to:

- Conduct psychological and academic assessments and collect and interpret student and classroom data;
- Support teachers in providing individualized instruction and interventions and progress monitoring;
- Promote positive student and classroom behavior while encouraging student motivation/engagement;
- Improve students' development, including communication, social skills and social-emotional learning;
- Assess students' emotional and behavioral needs; provide individual/group counseling;
- Promote problem-solving, anger management, resilience and conflict resolution;
- Provide individual and group counseling; coordinate services with community-based providers;
- Provide culturally responsive services to students and families from diverse backgrounds;
- Assess diverse learning needs and modify or adapt curricula and instruction;
- Plan appropriate individualized education programs for students with disabilities;
- Monitor and effectively communicate with parents about student progress;
- Implement schoolwide positive behavioral supports, positive discipline and restorative justice;
- Assess school climate and improve school connectedness;
- Identify at-risk students and school vulnerabilities; prevent bullying and other forms of violence;
- Provide crisis prevention and intervention services;
- Help families understand children's learning and emotional needs;
- Connect families with community service providers when necessary;
- Enhance staff understanding of and responsiveness to diverse cultures and backgrounds;
- Assist in navigating special education processes;
- Generate, collect and interpret useful student and school outcomes data;
- Collect and analyze data on risk and protective factors related to student outcomes;
- Plan services at the district, building, classroom and individual levels.

## References

- National Association of School Psychologists (2010) Practice Model. Available from [www.nasponline.org](http://www.nasponline.org).
- Ohio Department of Education. (2014). Ohio Operating Standards for the Education of Children with Disabilities. Available from <https://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Special-Education/Federal-and-State-Requirements/Operational-Standards-and-Guidance/2014-Ohio-Operating-Standards-for-the-Education-of-Children-with-Disabilities.pdf.aspx>.
- Ohio Administrative Code 3301-24-05 (C) (1) (c). (2015). Licensure. Available from <http://codes.ohio.gov/oac/3301-24-05>.
- Ohio School Psychologists Association. Available at [www.ospaonline.org](http://www.ospaonline.org).
- Ohio Revised Code 3317.15. (2016). Children with disabilities; speech-language pathology and psychological services. Available from <http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/3317.15>.