

Alternative Placement Program School Counseling

This document provides the eligibility and program requirements for alternative certification in **School Counseling**.

>>> Eligibility

To be eligible for the program for **School Counseling**, applicants must meet one of the following **Education** components <u>and</u> one of the following **Competency** components.

1. Education Component

- a. Master's degree with a retention GPA of 2.50 or higher or
- Master's degree with two years or more of qualified work experience related to counseling or
- c. Terminal degree (e.g. PhD, EdD, MD, DO, JD, DVM, MFA, MLIS)

- and -

2. Competency Component

- a. A graduate major (or 30+ relevant graduate credit hours) in a field that corresponds to counseling or
- b. 15+ graduate credit hours in a field that corresponds to counseling and one year or more of qualified work experience related to counseling
- c. Three years or more of qualified work experience related to counseling (requires an employer letter) or
- d. Publication of an article in a peer-reviewed academic journal relevant to school counseling



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>>> Process

- 1. Apply for evaluation
 - a. Submit online application (\$50 fee and upload current resume)
 - b. Send official transcripts from all colleges/universities attended
- 2. Once approved, pass the School Counseling subject area test
- 3. Apply for provisional certificate
 - a. Complete a certification or dual background check (if not currently certified in Oklahoma)
 - b. Submit online application (\$50 fee)
- 4. Complete program requirements within three years (see next section below)
- 5. Apply for standard certificate
 - a. Submit online application (\$50 fee)
 - b. Send updated official transcript(s)
 - c. (If applicable) submit a signed district letter verifying professional development

>>> Program Requirements

| Prior to Provisional Certification | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Subject Area Test | Must pass prior to applying for the provisional certificate |

| During Provisional Certification | |
|--|---|
| Two School Counseling Graduate Courses | Courses must address the components of a comprehensive school counseling program, including but not limited to, data-informed decision making, closing achievement and opportunity gaps, school counseling ethical standards, and improving student achievement, attendance and discipline. |
| Professional Development | Hours assigned will vary; 0 to 90 (assigned when the certificate is issued) |