

**TITLE 6            PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION**  
**CHAPTER 63       SCHOOL PERSONNEL - LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS FOR ANCILLARY AND**  
**SUPPORT PERSONNEL**  
**PART 6             LICENSURE FOR SCHOOL COUNSELORS, PRE K-12**

**6.63.6.1            ISSUING AGENCY:** Public Education Department. (PED)  
[6.63.6.1 NMAC - Rp 6 NMAC 4.2.3.12.1, 02-14-03; A, 06-30-06; A, 06-15-09]

**6.63.6.2            SCOPE:** All persons seeking licensure in school counseling on or after July 1, 1993.  
[6.63.6.2 NMAC - Rp 6 NMAC 4.2.3.12.2, 02-14-03]

**6.63.6.3            STATUTORY AUTHORITY:** Sections 22-2-1, NMSA 1978, 22-2-2, NMSA 1978, and 22-10A-17 NMSA 1978.  
[6.63.6.3 NMAC - Rp 6 NMAC 4.2.3.12.3, 02-14-03; A, 06-30-06]

**6.63.6.4            DURATION:** Permanent.  
[6.63.6.4 NMAC - Rp 6 NMAC 4.2.3.12.4, 02-14-03]

**6.63.6.5            EFFECTIVE DATE:** February 14, 2003, unless a later date is cited in the history note at the end of a section.  
[6.63.6.5 NMAC - Rp 6 NMAC 4.2.3.12.5, 02-14-03]

**6.63.6.6            OBJECTIVE:** This rule governs licensure in school counseling, grades pre k-12 for those persons seeking such licensure on or after July 1, 1993.  
[6.63.6.6 NMAC - Rp 6 NMAC 4.2.3.12.6, 02-14-03; A, 06-30-06]

**6.63.6.7            DEFINITIONS:** [RESERVED]

**6.63.6.8            REQUIREMENTS:** Applicants may meet this requirement by meeting requirements of Subsections A or B or C of 6.63.6.8 NMAC:

- A. national certified school counselor credential issued by the national board for certified counselors;
- B. licensed professional mental health counselor (LPC) or licensed professional clinical mental health counselor (LPCC) credential issued by the New Mexico counseling and therapy practice board and a minimum of six (6) semester hours of graduate credit in school counseling coursework;
- C. master's degree from a regionally accredited college or university; the master's degree requirement shall be satisfied by meeting the requirements of Paragraphs (1) and (2) of Subsection C of 6.63.6.8 NMAC:
  - (1) master's degree in school counseling from a regionally accredited college or university and meeting the applicable program requirements as follows:
    - (a) A master's degree awarded by a New Mexico college or university must incorporate the New Mexico PED approved competencies in the area of school counseling.
    - (b) A master's degree awarded by a college or university outside of New Mexico must be for a school counseling program approved by the PED.
  - (2) master's degree in a discipline other than school counseling and 36-42 graduate hours in school counseling, (which may be completed as a part of the master's degree program or in addition to the master's) meeting the applicable program requirements as follows:
    - (a) The 36-42 graduate hours awarded by a New Mexico college or university must incorporate the PED approved competencies in the area of school counseling and include a 300 hour practicum or internship in a school setting.
    - (b) The 36-42 graduate hours awarded by a college or university outside of New Mexico must be for a school counseling program approved by the PED and include a practicum in a school setting.
- D. a candidate who applies for licensure as a school counselor on or after the September, 2007 administration of the PED's specialty area licensure examinations shall take and pass the content knowledge

assessment for school counselor as stated in 6.60.5.8 NMAC, prior to the issuance of the license.  
[6.63.6.8 NMAC - Rp 6 NMAC 4.2.3.12.8, 02-14-03; A, 09-30-03; A, 06-30-06; A, 06-15-09]

**6.63.6.9 REFERENCED MATERIAL:** Competencies for school counselors

A. The counselor will develop and implement a comprehensive school level guidance program based on the American school counseling association national standards and focused on the physical, social, intellectual, emotional, and vocational growth of each student by:

- (1) determining guidance priorities based on local assessed needs;
- (2) formulating measurable objectives from identified needs and priorities;
- (3) formulating specific tasks relating to achieving the objectives;
- (4) coordinating a continuing evaluation of the program;
- (5) serving all students at the prevention level;
- (6) coordinating with the appropriate administration to achieve items in Paragraphs (1) to (4) of

Subsection A of 6.63.6.9 NMAC.

B. The counselor will coordinate activities in the guidance and counseling program by:

- (1) communicating the curriculum based on content standards and benchmarks;
- (2) working with other staff members to encourage the inclusion of a student-oriented philosophy in all school activities;
- (3) helping to integrate the guidance and counseling program within the total school program;
- (4) communicating with parents and the community about services available within the guidance and counseling program;
- (5) learning about available school and community resources;
- (6) establishing and maintaining contact with school and community resources;
- (7) working with the administration to utilize community resources related to the guidance program.

C. The counselor will provide information and facilitate guidance activities for students, staff, and parents by:

- (1) assisting others in their understanding of personal and social development;
- (2) serving as a resource to facilitate groups and presentations on pertinent issues;
- (3) providing prevention strategies which address current issues such as chemical dependency, teenage pregnancy, suicide, dropping out, and various forms of abuse;
- (4) conducting activities on educational career themes;
- (5) conducting orientation/training programs for students, parents, and staff;
- (6) interpreting test results to students, parents, and staff.

D. The counselor will serve as a consultant to the school and community by:

- (1) providing mediation for change in behavior and conflict resolution;
- (2) serving as a liaison for issues pertinent to the learning environment of the school;
- (3) supporting the staff with assistance in developing positive rapport with students to maximize learning potential by reducing or mitigating the impact of learning barriers;
- (4) assisting teachers in identifying students who would benefit from counseling and providing feedback on referred students as appropriate;
- (5) providing information to parents and students to aid in their understanding of educational goals and barriers to learning;
- (6) providing resource materials and expertise dealing with issues affecting students, staff, and family;
- (7) providing information about appropriate community resources or organizations which provide services to students and their families;
- (8) developing strategies and methods of working with parents and guardians.

E. The counselor will provide individual and group counseling by:

- (1) providing crisis intervention;
- (2) using appropriate interventions in situations detrimental to the physical, mental, educational, and emotional well-being of the individual;
- (3) providing support to individuals by addressing topics such as interpersonal relations, communication, decision-making, problem-solving skills, academic programs, and career and life planning;

- (4) making referrals to school and community resources when necessary.
  - F. The counselor will uphold the standards of the counseling profession by:
    - (1) meeting the state competency standard and the requirements for preparation;
    - (2) participating in the development of policies concerning guidance and counseling;
    - (3) keeping informed about developments and innovations within the profession at the local, state, and national levels;
    - (4) following the legal and ethical standards of the counseling profession;
    - (5) realizing personal and professional limitations.
  - G. The counselor will understand the cultural context of relationships, issues and trends in a multicultural and diverse society related to such factors as culture, ethnicity, nationality, age, gender, sexual orientation, mental and physical characteristics, education, family values, religious and spiritual beliefs, and socioeconomic status, and unique characteristics of individuals, couples, families, ethnic groups, and communities.
  - H. The counselor will be able to use technology in the design, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of a comprehensive school counseling program.
- [6.63.6.9 NMAC - Rp 6 NMAC 4.2.3.12.9, 02-14-03]

**HISTORY OF 6.63.6 NMAC:**

**PRE-NMAC HISTORY:** The material in this regulation was derived from that previously filed with the Commission of Public Records - State Records Center and Archives under:  
SBE Regulation 72-14, New Mexico School Counseling Certification, filed June 19, 1972;  
SBE Regulation 74-21, Governing New Mexico Elementary Counseling Certification, filed February 20, 1975;  
SBE Regulation 74-22, Governing New Mexico Secondary Counseling Certification, filed February 20, 1975;  
SBE Regulation 79-13, Ten Year Professional Elementary School Guidance Counselor Licensure, filed October 18, 1979;  
SBE Regulation 79-14, Ten Year Professional Secondary School Guidance Counselor, filed October 18, 1979;  
SBE Regulation 79-15, Four Year Elementary School Guidance Counselor Certificate, filed October 18, 1979;  
SBE Regulation 79-16, Four Year Secondary School Guidance Counselor Certificate, filed October 18, 1979;  
SBE Regulation 91-1, Licensure for School Counselors, Grades K-12, filed January 22, 1991; and  
SBE Regulation 91-1, Amendment No. 1 Licensure for School Counselors, Grades K-12, filed January 6, 1993.

**HISTORY OF REPEALED MATERIAL:** 6 NMAC 4.2.3.12, Licensure for School Counselors, K - 12, Repealed 02-14-03