

## School Mental Health Professionals in Arizona

School mental health professionals are necessary to provide school-based physical, social, emotional, and mental health prevention, intervention, transition, and follow-up services for all students. These personnel include school psychologists, school social workers, school counselors, school nurses, and partner community mental health providers.



### School Psychologists

School psychologists partner with school staff and families to support mental health and learning which helps students succeed academically, socially, behaviorally, and emotionally. Some school psychologist best practices include: data based decision making, academic interventions and instructional supports, services to promote safe and supportive schools, practices to address the needs of diverse student populations, and comprehensive student evaluations to determine special education eligibility and services.



### School Nurses (RN)

School nurses support student success by providing health care through assessment, intervention, and follow-up for all students. They address the physical, mental, emotional, and social health needs of students and support their achievement in the learning process. School nurses also support medically fragile populations with the development, implementation, and monitoring of individual service plans and emergency action plans. School Nurses also engage in emergency preparedness planning and activities.



### School Social Workers

School social workers work to remove social, emotional, behavioral, and environmental barriers to learning. School social workers provide direct and indirect services to students, families, and schools including individual and group counseling, crisis intervention and risk assessments, consultation and professional development, program coordination, and advocacy and assistance in accessing community resources. School social workers are the link between the home, school and community.



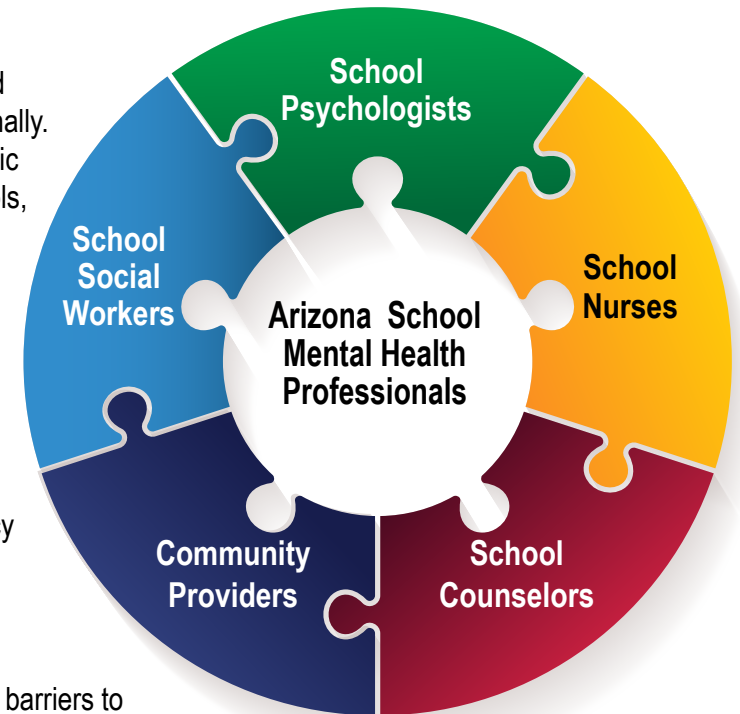
### School Counselors

School counselors interact with and support all students through developmentally appropriate lessons and activities. School counselors assist students in applying academic achievement strategies, help students develop and practice strategies to manage emotions, and apply interpersonal skills as well as plan for postsecondary options after students graduate. The foundation of a comprehensive school counseling program is the direct student services provided through whole group instruction. School counselors are also integral in crisis response and intervention for students who are in need of support.



### Community Providers

When partnered with school districts, community behavioral health providers provide crisis counseling and recovery, on campus large scale prevention services, and treatment for chronic mental health needs, evaluation, consultation, case management, etc.



## Critical Student Needs Matched to School Mental Health Professionals

Each provider plays a specialized role to meet the needs of all students. Each role is equally important and interdependent. *If any role is not present as a part of an integrated team providing a continuum of support, students may not receive the mental health services they need in order to access their education.*

Specialized School Mental Health Professionals	Matched Critical Student Mental Health Needs
School Psychologist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Evaluate and assess for special education eligibility to support the development of Individual Education Programs</li><li>• Conduct progress monitoring and analyze data to improve academic achievement, positive behavior, and mental health</li><li>• Provide research and evidence-based services and consultation to students, families, and the community</li><li>• Execute system and school wide development of crisis preparedness, prevention, and response services</li><li>• Facilitate functional behavioral assessments to assist in the development of individual behavior intervention plans</li></ul>
School Nurse (RN)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Conduct health evaluation to assess student health needs</li><li>• Develop, implement, and monitor individual healthcare plans</li><li>• Provide staff training for medication administration, healthcare procedures, response to life-threatening student health needs</li><li>• Review and oversee student medication orders for safety and accuracy</li></ul>
School Social Worker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Implement system and school wide evidence-based programs and practices that support positive student mental health</li><li>• Coordinate school based and community-based referrals to meet student mental health needs</li><li>• Assess and provide school based individual and small group counseling services determined by student need</li><li>• Case manage and coordinate services for students accessing multiple school and community-based services and systems</li></ul>
School Counselor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provide instruction for core counseling curriculum classroom lessons using the ASCA National Model</li><li>• Proactively equip students with necessary self-management skills, growth goals, and personal successes</li><li>• Promote career and college readiness through course planning, career and postsecondary education exploration, and awareness</li><li>• Support students through individual and small group counseling and connect at risk students with needed resources and services</li></ul>