

Exemplary Practice 12.0: School Social Work

- A social work program that is proactive, promotes educational equity, and removes barriers to learning is a characteristic of an exemplary nontraditional or alternative school.
- Practices are consistent with local, state, and federal mandates.
- The program promotes the academic mission of the nontraditional or alternative school fostering policies that are responsive, rigorous, and emphasize intervention and prevention services.
- To maintain sustainability, the program is receptive to growth producing feedback from community stakeholders.

Indicators of Quality Programming:

12.1 Social justice is emphasized by the program.

12.2 Social workers demonstrate knowledge of local, state and federal mandates related to informed consent, privacy, and confidentiality.

12.3 Social workers have a graduate degree from a Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) accredited social work program and licensed by their state board of social work.

12.4 Continuous assessment of students and families with the goal of improving social/emotional outcomes in school and community is conducted by the social work program.

12.5 The program conducts annual needs assessments targeting the interactions of students, families, and school personnel.

12.6 School-based intervention, research and evidence, and informed practices are utilized in social work services.

12.7 Intervention strategies use a multi-tier framework with an emphasis on salient ecologies (school, home, or community) to address a student's social/emotional growth.

12.8 Yearly data related to practices are collected and analyzed.

12.9 Accurate and confidential records that demonstrate outcome and ensure service accountability are maintained.

12.10 The program is organized with an emphasis on student and program needs, professional skills of the social worker, and availability of resources.

12.11 Social workers participate in ongoing professional development activities that target nontraditional, alternative, and at-risk populations.

12.12 Social workers develop and demonstrate specialized knowledge of nontraditional and alternative populations and are culturally responsive to stakeholders needs.

12.13 Social workers take a proactive role in the development of positive school climate and culture.

12.14 Social workers provide stakeholders with training and engage the community with an emphasis on developing equal access of service for all students.