



ASCA Ethical Standards for School Counselor Education

1 **Preamble:** Faculty who teach in counselor education programs and prepare school
2 counselors (school counselor educators) are knowledgeable about current school
3 counseling practice and school counselors' ethical and legal obligations.
4

5 **Purpose:** In this document, ASCA sets forth the ethical responsibilities for school
6 counselor educators. The purpose of this document is to:
7

- 8 • Serve as a guide for ethical practice
- 9 • Provide support and direction for school counselor educator self-assessment and
10 program evaluation
- 11 • Inform stakeholders, including students, administrators and courts of law, of best
12 ethical practice
13

14 **Counselor Educators' Roles and Responsibilities**

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- 16 ❖ School counselor educators are knowledgeable of and follow the current version
17 of the ASCA Ethical Standards for School Counselors and the ASCA position
18 statements.
19
- 20 ❖ School counselor educators ensure students have the knowledge and skills to
21 support social justice and advocacy efforts and to become culturally
22 competent school counselors and leaders.
23
- 24 ❖ School counselor educators regularly participate in continuing education and
25 professional development related to current school counseling programs, best
26 practices in pedagogy, ethical standards and legal requirements.
27
- 28 ❖ School counselor educators provide prospective students with information about
29 the school counseling profession, including program training components,
30 professional values related to counseling a diverse clientele and current job
31 market statistics for graduates.
32
- 33 ❖ School counselor educators provide students with an orientation to the profession
34 including: ethical responsibilities, the values of the profession (including
35 counseling a diverse clientele), program preparation goals, training components
36 (e.g., information on coursework and supervised practice), knowledge and skills
37 assessment, dispositional expectations, university requirements, dismissal policies
38 and current job trends.
39

- 40 ❖ School counselor educators abide by students' legal rights and university policies
41 and procedures.
42
- 43 ❖ School counselor educators only teach courses in areas in which they have a
44 substantive knowledge base.
45
- 46 ❖ School counselor educators promote the use of techniques supported by empirical
47 research and appropriate for a diverse clientele (as defined by the preamble of the
48 ASCA Ethical Standards for School Counselors). If instructors teach about
49 developing techniques, they clarify the research base for the techniques and any
50 potential risks related to the techniques.
51
- 52 ❖ School counselor educators provide instruction supporting the learning styles of a
53 diverse student body. School counselor educators provide reasonable
54 accommodations to students in accordance with university policy and state and
55 federal laws.
56
- 57 ❖ If school counselor educators use case examples as a method of instruction, they
58 gain the consent of the client or supervisee on which the example is based, or they
59 modify the facts of the case to protect the identity of the client or supervisee.
60
- 61 ❖ School counselor educators serve as gatekeepers to the profession and address
62 with students any concerns that could affect professional practice. Program
63 faculty meet at least once each year to talk about the progress of all students.
64
- 65 ❖ School counselor educators refrain from counseling students in the program and
66 assist students in obtaining appropriate counseling services when necessary. In
67 addressing gatekeeping responsibilities, school counselor educators follow
68 university policies and provide due process.
69
- 70 ❖ School counselor educators provide students with both formative and summative
71 feedback throughout the program.
72
- 73 ❖ School counselor educators maintain regular contact with on-site supervisors
74 during students' supervised practice experiences.
75
- 76 ❖ School counselor educators do not engage in sexual or romantic relationships
77 with students over whom they have power and authority.
78
- 79 ❖ School counselor educators do not engage in any form of sexual harassment
80 in accordance with university policies and federal and state guidelines.
81
- 82 ❖ School counselor educators refrain from in-person and electronic dual
83 relationships that could result in harm to the student.
84

- 85 ❖ School counselor educators are committed to recruiting and retaining a
86 diverse faculty and student body.
- 87
- 88 ❖ School counselor educators ensure meaningful assistance is provided to
89 students in gaining supervised practice experience in a school setting.
- 90
- 91 ❖ University personnel confirm site supervisors are qualified to supervise school
92 counseling students in accordance with the School Counseling Intern Site
93 Supervisor section of the ASCA Ethical Standards for School Counselors.
- 94
- 95 ❖ School counselor educators clearly communicate the roles and responsibilities for
96 supervisors in all settings, including ethical responsibilities.
- 97

98 **School Counselor Curriculum**

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- 100 ❖ The curriculum for school counselor preparation includes ethical guidelines (e.g.,
101 ASCA Ethical Standards for School Counselors), ethical decision-making models
102 and current professional standards. School counseling preparation also includes
103 gaining information about the ASCA position statements.
- 104
- 105 ❖ The curriculum for school counselor preparation includes legal mandates,
106 including mandates related to confidentiality, suicidal ideation, danger to others,
107 reporting suspected child abuse, privileged communication, FERPA and
108 recordkeeping.
- 109
- 110 ❖ The curriculum for school counselor preparation includes an emphasis on social
111 justice, advocacy, multiculturalism and preparing students to work with a diverse
112 clientele (as defined in the preamble to the ASCA Ethical Standards for School
113 Counselors).
- 114
- 115 ❖ The curriculum for school counselor preparation includes information about
116 professional school counselor organizations and other opportunities for continuing
117 education and professional development.
- 118
- 119 ❖ The curriculum for school counselor preparation is in accordance with current
120 professional standards and national and state guidelines.
- 121
- 122 ❖ The curriculum in school counselor preparation includes both academic
123 coursework and supervised practice in a school setting.
- 124
- 125 ❖ The curriculum in school counselor preparation includes an emphasis on school
126 counselor wellness and self-care.
- 127
- 128 ❖ Academic coursework in school counselor preparation includes current versions
129 of the ASCA National Model, the ASCA School Counselor Competencies and the
130 ASCA Mindsets & Behaviors for Student Success.