

GEORGIA SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS

Georgia school social workers are certified professionals who serve as a link between home, school and community to promote and support students' academic and social success.



WHO ARE SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS?

School social workers are rooted in education's recognition of the importance of non-academic factors to a student's success in learning, adjustment, and growth. School social workers bring a unique professional knowledge and skill set to the school system. They are the link between the home, school and community in providing direct as well as indirect services to students, families and school personnel. Their ultimate goal is to promote and support students' academic and social success.

School social workers are integral to the Office of Whole Child Supports, the unit that assists districts, schools and communities in identifying and addressing student non-academic barriers to success while expanding learning opportunities.

SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER QUALIFICATIONS

- **Hold a masters degree in social work from an accredited university**
- **Meet the Georgia Professionals Standards Commission requirements for certification as a School Social Worker**



SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER'S ROLE

Services to students include:

- provide prevention programs for school attendance, substance abuse, and mental health
- develop intervention strategies to increase academic success
- identify and report child abuse and neglect
- obtain and coordinate community resources to meet students' needs
- provide crisis intervention

Services to school personnel include:

- participate in tiered system of supports teams to address school-related concerns such as mental and behavioral health and attendance
- collaborate with the school leadership team to ensure well-being and success for all students
- develop staff in-service training programs
- work closely with other professional student support personnel to provide a coordinated approach to intervention

Services to districts include:

- help school districts receive support from community partners and mental health agencies
- coordinate systems of care to provide wrap-around services for students

Services to parents/families include:

- work with the family to assess problems affecting a student's education
- work with parents to facilitate support in their student's school adjustment
- help alleviate family stressors for students to function more effectively in school