
School Counseling Model and Standards Policy 5.103

The Background:

This item presents a revision of the recently adopted *Tennessee Comprehensive School Counseling Model of Practice* to provide guidance for districts on the phase-in timeline of adopting the new expectations to develop effective, research-based school counseling programs.

Revision of the attached model has been underway for more than a year, with extensive expert stakeholder input. Since approval on second reading at the October meeting, the department has received several questions from district leadership about the implementation timeline for the standards revisions. Currently in the policy, there are no dates listed for implementation. The attached item includes a one-year phase in timeline for planning, with full implementation of new standards in the 2018-19 school year.

To ensure that comprehensive school counseling programs are of high quality, the Department of Education will provide LEAs with guidance to address program expectations and professional development, this will include an implementation guide of templates and recommendations and a resource guide of lesson plans and local counselor-created materials. These documents will be reviewed annually by the department and will be updated as necessary for dissemination to local boards of education.

The Fiscal Analysis Impact:

Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-1-212 requires that the Department of Education prepare a fiscal analysis of any policy, rule or regulation proposed to the State Board of Education. This item has no financial impact on an LEA.

The Recommendation:

The Department of Education recommends acceptance of this item on first reading. The SBE staff concurs with this recommendation.