

Oregon School Counselor & School psychologist Requirements and Barriers

Personnel Services Standards Discussion for Oregon House Behavioral
Health Committee | by Teacher Standards & Practices Commission |
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TSPC mission

To establish, uphold and enforce professional standards of excellence and communicate those standards to the public and educators for the benefit of Oregon's students.



TSPC goals

- Establish high standards for educator preparation excellence and regularly review approved programs for delivery of adopted licensure standards;
- Provide leadership for professional licensure standards including standards for: cultural inclusion; educator dispositions; subject-matter competency;
- Provide timely high quality services to licensees, higher education, and the public;
- Maintain and develop clear, concise and easy to understand administrative rules; and
- Establish high standards for educator professional conduct and regularly communicate those standards to the field.

Description of School Psychologist and School Counselor OAR rules:



- **584-070-0012** Preliminary School Counselor License
- **584-070-0022** Professional School Counselor License
- **584-070-0111** Reciprocal School Counselor License
- **584-070-0132** Emergency School Counselor License

- **584-070-0205** Scope of School Psychologist License
- **584-070-0211** Initial School Psychologist License
- **584-070-0221** Continuing School Psychologist License
- **584-070-0271** Transitional School Psychologist License (First time Out-of State)

General Process for School Counselor Licensure



- Description of OAR Rules: **584-070-0012**
Requirements of School Counselor License
- Requirements:
 - Background Check
 - Fingerprinting
 - Successful completion of Protecting Civil Rights in the Educational Environment (ORELA)
 - Completion of an Oregon Approved Academic Program including Internship (Six Oregon EPPs). Minimum: Master's Degree to be licensed in Oregon.

Program Standards for School Counselor License

- Knowledge
- Skills
- Abilities
- Cultural Competencies
for School Counselor
License



General Process for School Psychologist Licensure

- Description of OAR Rule: **584-070-0211**
School Psychologist License
- Requirements:
 - Background Check
 - Fingerprinting
 - Successful completion of Protecting Civil Rights in the Educational Environment (ORELA)
 - Completion of an Oregon Approved Academic Program including Internship (Three Oregon EPPs). Minimum: Master's Degree to be licensed in Oregon.



Barriers to Personnel Services Licensure

- Need to Define the OARs and rules that need to be redesigned to fit current competencies
- Increase in Mental Health Issues
 - Pandemic and increased stresses on K-12 students
 - Impact on Students of a Climate of Increased Political Polarization
 - Increase in Mental Health Issues Related to Virtual Education
- Cost of Counseling Programs
- Lack of Consistency in Standards across the States
- Interstate Licensure Portability
- Challenges of Collaboration with Classroom Teachers
- Lack of Equity
- Lack of Qualified Practitioners (particularly acute with supervisors for school psychology candidates)



BARRIER: DEMOGRAPHIC SHORTAGE OF PERSONNEL

COUNSELOR COVERAGE GAPS BY SD	Restricted School Counselor	Emergency School Counselor
<Blank>	1	0
<ODE>	1	0
Clackamas	5	1
Columbia Gorge	0	1
Douglas	1	3
Grant	0	0
Harney	0	0
High Desert	1	0
Intermountain	5	3
Jefferson	1	0
Lake	0	0
Lane	3	0
Linn Benton Lincoln	6	1
Malheur	3	1
Multnomah	12	1
North Central	0	1
Northwest Regional	14	7
South Coast	2	5
Southern Oregon	5	7
Wallowa	0	0
Willamette	11	3
TOTAL	71	34

- To meet shortages, TSPC allows alternate counselor (not psychologist) licensure if sponsored by SDs:
- Restricted – For generally qualified candidates who have not completed a TE program
- Emergency – Short-term candidates for urgent circumstances
- Conclusion: For 2019-20, over 100 positions with professionals not fully trained



Opportunities Created by These Challenges?

- **WHAT OPPORTUNITIES ARE CREATED BY THESE OBSTACLES TO LICENSURE IN THE STATE OF OREGON?**

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