

**PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE
COMMISSION ON PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS IN EDUCATION**

LCB FILE NO. R159-261

**The following document is the initial draft regulation proposed
by the agency submitted on 06/30/2026**

The intent of this regulation is to comply with Assembly Bill 49 and Senate Bill 277 (2025) allowing a person who is enrolled in a program for school counseling to complete their internship while working in a school. Additionally, the intent is to align state licensure requirements with current professional standards, evidence-based practices, and clinical research in counseling to address appropriate qualifications, training, and scope of practice to effectively support student learning, mental health, and development within our current educational context.

NAC 391.055 Provisional 1-year licensure or endorsement of person who holds renewable license issued in this State. (NRS 385.080, 391.019, 391.031, 391.032) (removing counseling from this regulation)

1. The Superintendent of Public Instruction may issue a provisional 1-year license or endorsement to a person who holds a renewable license issued in this State if the person otherwise meets the requirements for licensure, but:

(a) Has a deficiency in credits of 6 semester hours or less; *or*

(b) Is a teacher, licensed and practicing in this State, applying for an additional license, other than for the teaching of pupils with disabilities, outside his or her grade level of experience as a student teacher; *or*

(c) Lacks confirmation from a college that the person has completed a school counseling practicum or internship if applying for a school counseling endorsement, but:

(1) Has completed all the required course work for the school counseling endorsement;

(2) Has completed 200 hours of the practicum or internship through a regionally accredited college or university, to include a minimum of 100 hours in a school setting at the time of application for licensure; and

(3) Is currently and continuously enrolled in a regionally accredited college or university school counseling practicum or internship program.

2. Any experience as a teacher's aide, a teacher's assistant, an instructor of pupils in a Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps or Jobs for America's Graduates program or a substitute teacher obtained by the holder of a provisional license, who is a teacher, licensed and practicing in this State, but who lacks student teaching experience at the

proper grade level, will not be credited towards the requirement for teaching experience or student teaching necessary to qualify for the additional license or endorsement.

3. Any credits earned by the holder of a provisional license or endorsement to qualify for an elementary, secondary or special license, a license to teach special education, a license to teach middle school or junior high school education or a license to teach pupils in a program of early childhood education will not be counted as credits required to renew the elementary, secondary or special license, the license to teach special education, or the license to teach middle school or junior high school education.

4. If holding an elementary, secondary or special license, a license to teach special education, a license to teach middle school or junior high school education or a license to teach pupils in a program of early childhood education is a prerequisite to qualifying for a particular provisional endorsement, any credits earned by the holder of the applicable license to qualify for that provisional endorsement may be counted toward:

(a) Removal of the provision under which the provisional endorsement was issued; and

(b) Renewal of the applicable license.

NAC 391.056 as amended by R063-23 Provisional nonrenewable licensure: Qualifications; term of validity; addition of endorsements. (NRS 391.019, 391.021, 391.032) [\(removing counseling from this regulation\)](#)

1. The Superintendent of Public Instruction may issue a provisional nonrenewable license to an applicant applying for a license pursuant to NAC 391.045 if the applicant:

(a) Otherwise meets the requirements for a license pursuant to NAC 391.045, but:

(1) Has a deficiency in credits of 6 semester hours or less for all areas of licensure or endorsement, unless the provision is for an endorsement as a substitute teacher; or

(2) If the applicant is applying for a school counseling endorsement pursuant to NAC 391.185, lacks confirmation from a college that the applicant has completed a school counseling practicum or internship, but:

(I) Has completed all necessary course-work requirements for the school counseling endorsement;

(II) Has completed 200 hours of the practicum or internship through a regionally accredited college or university, including, without limitation, a minimum of 100 hours in a school setting at the time of his or her application for licensure; and

(III) Is currently and continuously enrolled in a regionally accredited college or university school counseling practicum or internship program;

(b) Has not passed the tests required by NAC 391.036 and is not exempt from taking such tests; or

2. A license issued pursuant to this section expires 3 years after the date on which the license was issued.

3. The holder of a license issued pursuant to this section may add endorsements with provisions to the license during the first year in which the license is valid. Endorsements without provisions may be added to the license at any time during the period in which the license is valid. If an endorsement is added to the license, the endorsement does not affect the date on which the license becomes invalid.

NAC 391.180 as amended by R120-22 Endorsement as a school counselor, *and Authorization to serve as school counselor without endorsement.* (NRS 385.380, 391.019)

1. The Department will issue an endorsement as a school counselor to provide counseling to pupils enrolled in kindergarten through grade 12 to qualified applicants.

2. 1. Except as otherwise provided in *subsection 6 NAC 391.187*, a person must hold an endorsement as a school counselor before counseling pupils.

2. *To qualify for an endorsement to serve as a school counselor, a person:*

(a) Must hold a master's or more advanced degree in school counseling

(i) conferred by a regionally accredited college or university; and

(ii) conferred by a college or university that is accredited by a nationally

recognized school counseling accreditor (e.g. Council for

Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs);

(b) Must hold a master's degree or more advanced degree and meet the

requirements of subsection 3; or

(c) Must hold a specialty credential as a national certified school counselor issued by the National Board for Certified Counselors.

3. Required coursework, practica, and internship for school counselors aligned with CACREP accreditation standards or ASCA Standards for School Counselor Preparation Programs (or their successor organizations):

(a) At least 48 semester hours of graduate credits in counseling to include each of the following areas:

- (1) Professional Counseling Orientation & Ethical Practice*
- (2) Social & Cultural Identities and Experiences*
- (3) Lifespan Development*
- (4) Career Development*
- (5) Counseling Practice & Relationships*
- (6) Group Counseling & Group Work*
- (7) Assessment & Diagnostic Processes*
- (8) Research & Program Evaluation*

(b) At least 600 hours of a practicum, internship, or field experience in school counseling at any grade level in kindergarten through grade 12 must be served in an accredited school system or a school system which is approved by the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

4. **3.** A person who holds only a special license with an endorsement as a school counselor is exempt from the requirements of subparagraphs (1) and (2) of paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of *basic competency exams in reading, writing, and mathematics as required in* NAC 391.036.

5. To renew an endorsement as a school counselor, the holder of the endorsement must:

- a. Comply with the provisions of NAC 391.065 for the license held by the person and complete professional development consisting of:
 - i. At least 1 hour during the previous calendar year related to ethics in the

practice of school counseling;

- ii. At least 1 hour during the previous calendar year related to evidence-based suicide prevention and awareness or another course of instruction on suicide prevention and awareness; and
 - iii. At least 1 hour during the previous calendar year related to cultural competency and diversity, equity and inclusion;
- b. Provide proof that the person holds a valid certificate as a National Certified School Counselor issued by the National Board for Certified Counselors, or its successor organization; or
 - c. Provide proof that the person holds a valid certificate as a Certified School Counselor issued by the American School Counselor Association or its successor organization.

6. A school district or charter school may hire an applicant to serve as a school counselor without an endorsement during the pendency of their application for an endorsement if the candidate:

- a. Submits a current, valid, renewable, unencumbered license from another state;***
- b. Submits a receipt showing they have applied for a Nevada Educator license;***
- c. Has cleared a fingerprint background check with the Department of Public Safety as described in NRS 391.104.***
- d. Is supervised by a person who has been endorsed to serve as a school counselor pursuant to NAC 391.180; and***
- e. Is not otherwise prohibited from being employed as a school counselor in this state.***

7. If the candidate meets the requirements of subsection 4, a school district or charter school may place the candidate in a school counselor assignment for up to one

year, not to exceed the length of the current school year in which the candidate was hired.

- 8. The school district or charter school shall notify the Department on a form prescribed by the Department at the time the person is hired without a Nevada educator license pursuant to subsection 4.*
- 9. The school district or charter school shall immediately discontinue employment with an employee who was hired and placed in assignment if the employee does not submit a valid Nevada educator license to their employer upon receipt from the Department.*

NAC 391.185 Qualifications for endorsement as school counselor. (NRS 385.080, 391.019)

1. To qualify for an endorsement to serve as a school counselor, a person:
 - (a) Must hold a master's degree or a more advanced degree in school counseling;
 - (b) Must hold a specialty credential as a national certified school counselor issued by the National Board for Certified Counselors;
 - (c) Must hold a master's degree or a more advanced degree with a major in counseling conferred by a regionally accredited college or university and meet the requirements of subsection 2; or
 - (d) Must
 - (1) Hold a master's degree or a more advanced degree conferred by a regionally accredited college or university;
 - (2) Have at least 2 years of teaching experience or at least 2 years of school counseling experience; and
 - (3) Meet the requirements of subsection 2.
2. A person who desires to qualify for an endorsement pursuant to paragraph (c) or (d) of subsection 1 must have completed:
 - (a) At least 600 hours of a practicum, internship or field experience in school

counseling at any grade level in kindergarten through grade 12; and

(b) At least 36 semester hours of graduate credits in school guidance and counseling in each of the following areas of study:

- (1) The process of individual counseling;
- (2) The process of group counseling;
- (3) Testing and educational assessments;
- (4) Legal and ethical issues in counseling;
- (5) Career counseling;
- (6) Organization and administration of school counseling programs;
- (7) Multicultural counseling;
- (8) Child and family counseling; and
- (9) Two of the following:
 - (I) The use of technology in education.
 - (II) Exceptional children.
 - (III) Human growth and development.
 - (IV) Substance abuse counseling.

NAC 391.187 *Provisional License as a school counselor* Authorization to serve as school counselor without endorsement. (NRS 391.019)

1. The Superintendent of Public Instruction may authorize a person who has not received an endorsement pursuant to NAC 391.185 to serve as a school counselor in a school district or charter school if the school district or charter school demonstrates that a person with an endorsement issued pursuant to NAC 391.185 is not available for employment. To receive an authorization pursuant to this subsection, a person must:

- (a) Hold a current license issued by the Superintendent of Public Instruction, excluding a business and industry endorsement;
- (b) Hold a master's degree in a field related to school counseling or an advanced

degree in a field related to school counseling;

(c) Have completed at least:

(1) Two years of teaching experience at any grade level in kindergarten through grade 12;

(2) Two years of school counseling experience at any grade level in kindergarten through grade 12; or

(3) A practicum, internship or field experience in school counseling at any grade level in kindergarten through grade 12 in addition to the practicum, internship or field experience that is completed pursuant to paragraph (e);

(d) Be admitted into a regionally accredited graduate-level program in school counseling;

(e) Complete at least 600 hours of an initial practicum, internship or field experience in school counseling at any grade level in kindergarten through grade 12; and

(f) Have completed at least 24 graduate credits in the following areas of study:

(1) The process of individual counseling;

(2) The process of group counseling;

(3) Testing and educational assessments, as applicable to a school setting at any grade level in kindergarten through grade 12;

(4) Legal and ethical issues in counseling;

(5) Developing careers and choosing occupations;

(6) Organization and administration of school counseling programs;

(7) Multicultural counseling;

(8) Child and family counseling, as applicable to a school setting at any grade level in kindergarten through grade 12; and

(9) One of the following:

(I) The use of technology in education.

(II) Exceptional children.

(III) Human growth and development.

(IV) Substance abuse counseling.

2. The Superintendent shall not authorize a person to serve as a school counselor pursuant to subsection 1 for more than 3 years. Such an authorization may be issued only once per person.

1. A school counselor provisional endorsement may be issued to a person if they:

(a) have a bachelor's or higher degree;

(b) completed at least 48 credits of the requisite coursework and practica in the field of school counseling (NAC 391.180.3);

(c) are enrolled in a school counseling training program and need to complete an internship in school counseling; and

(d) applicants who meet the requirements of (a), (b), and (c) do not need to meet the requirement of a master's or more advanced degree in school counseling for this provisional endorsement.

(e) A provisional endorsement shall be issued for three (3) years and cannot be renewed

2. A person serving under a provisional license issued pursuant to section 1:

(a) Must practice under the direct and ongoing supervision of a person who holds a full endorsement as a school counselor issued pursuant to NAC 391.180;

(b) Must maintain regular consultation with a representative of the graduate program of the educational institution where the intern is earning their degree; and

(c) May perform duties within the scope of school counseling practice, including but not limited to instruction, individual/group counseling, and consultation.

(d) May participate in mental health risk assessments only as a member of a

multidisciplinary team and under the direct supervision of a fully endorsed school counselor

(e) Shall not be the primary signatory or sole evaluator for any formal mental health risk assessment or threat assessment.

3. For the purposes of this regulation, a person who is an intern:

(a) is defined as an individual who has started their internship concurrently with or after the last required training in the program of school counseling provided by the educational institution and is participating in an internship as described in paragraph 2.

(b) should be expected to work under a memorandum of agreement (MOA) between the training program and field site. The MOA must delineate the duration of the internship which may include work provided during the Local Education Agency academic school year that may extend beyond the enrollment in a college/university course/program that includes intern or internship in the title.