



SCHOOL COUNSELORS: PROVIDING
LESSONS FOR LIFE |

2019

- Focus public attention on the unique contribution of school counselors within the U.S. school systems.
- Highlight the tremendous impact school counselors can have in helping students achieve school success and plan for a career.



FEBRUARY 4-18, 2019

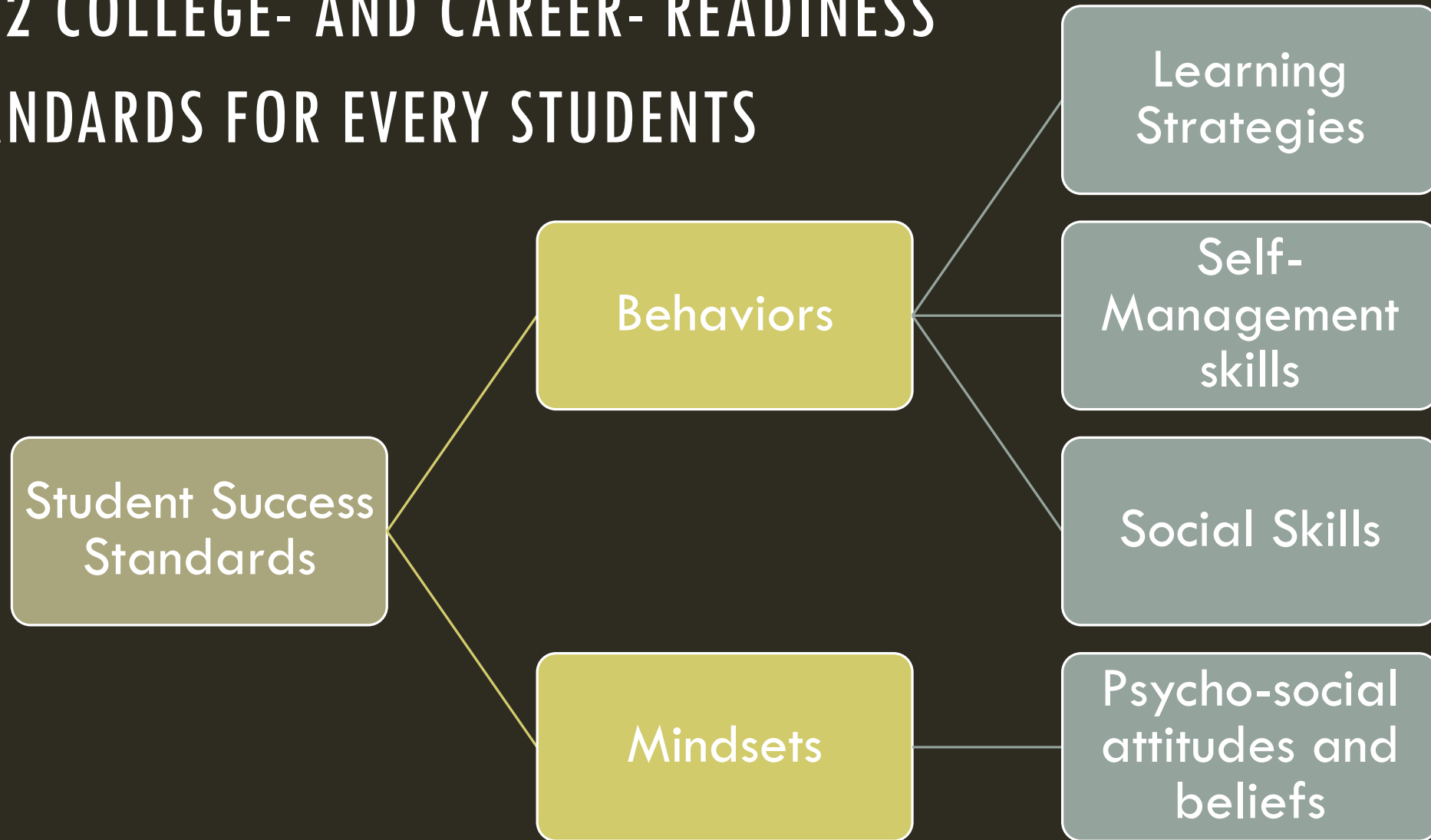
SCHOOL COUNSELOR QUALIFICATIONS

- Minimum of a Master's degree
- Meet the state certification/licensure standards
- Fulfill continuing education requirements
- Uphold the American School Counseling Association ethical and professional standards

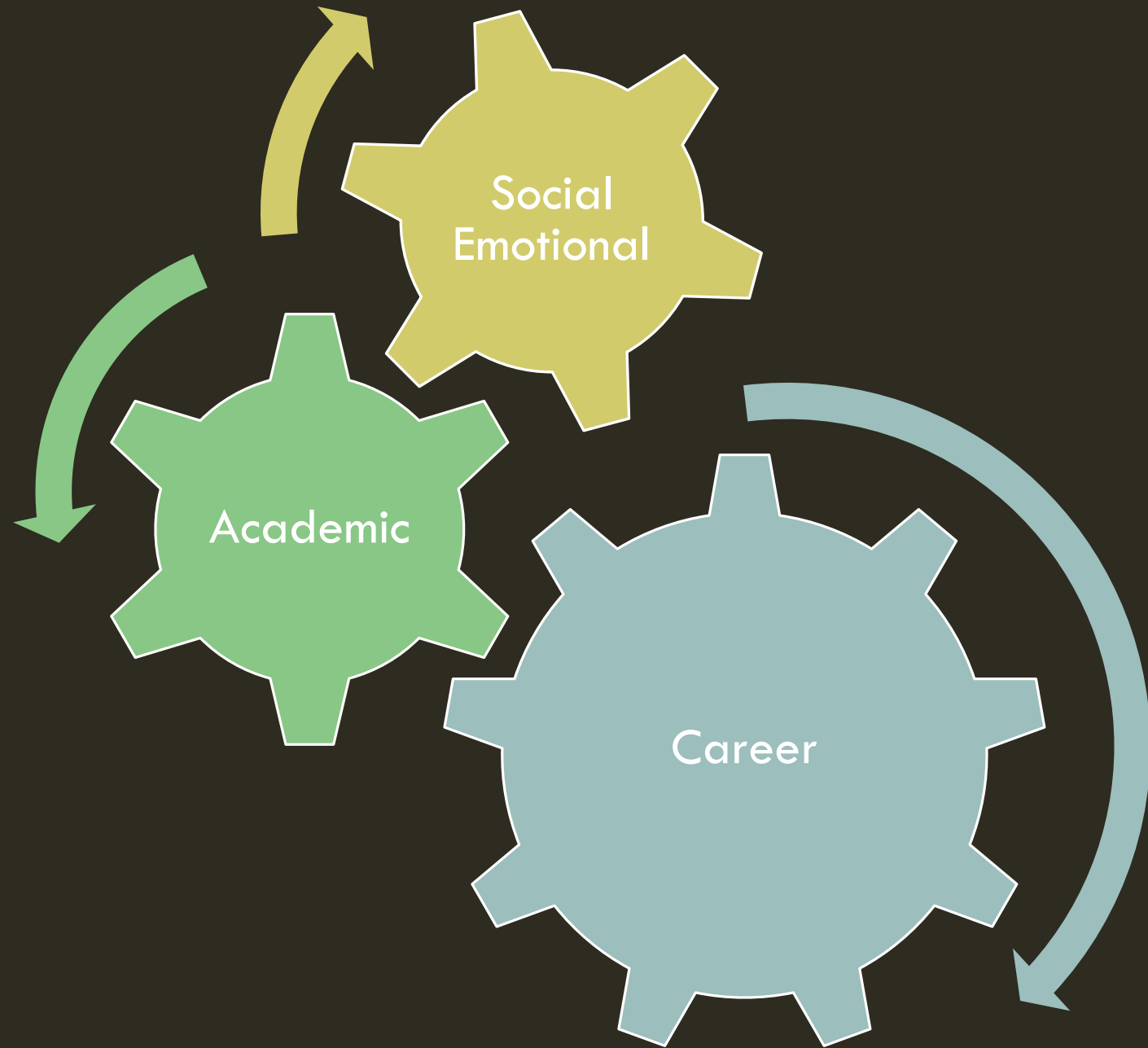
COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAMS



K-12 COLLEGE- AND CAREER- READINESS STANDARDS FOR EVERY STUDENTS

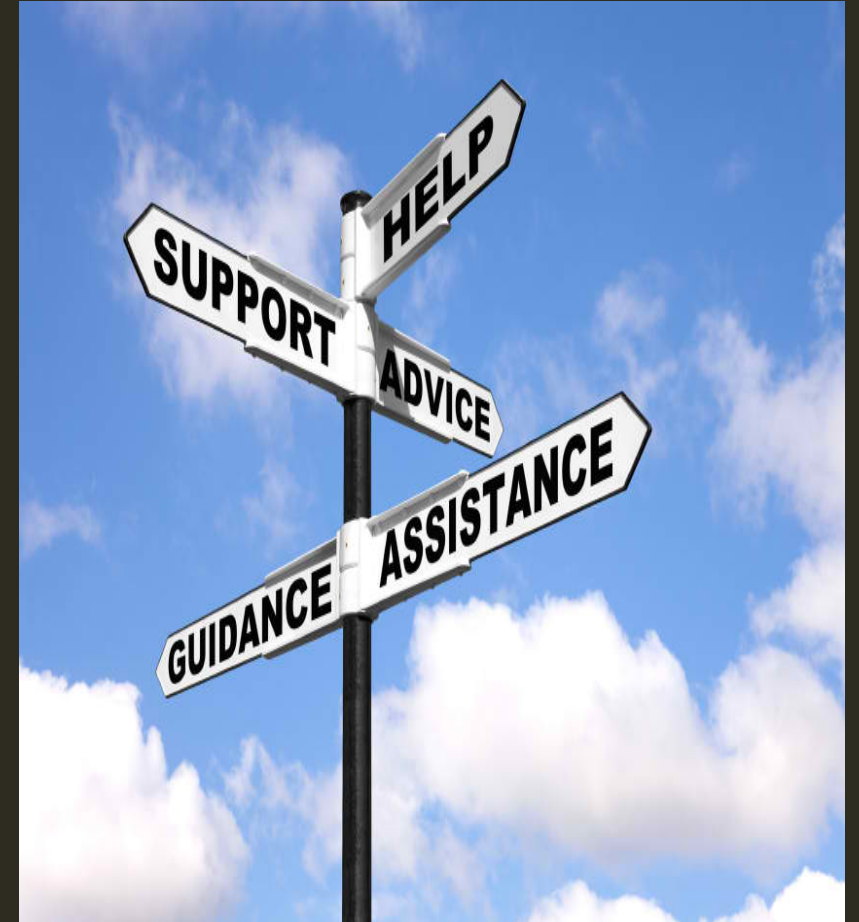


SCHOOL
COUNSELING
DOMAINS &
DEVELOPMENT



HIGH IMPACT PREVENTION & SUPPORTS

- Suicide Prevention
- Substance Abuse Prevention
- Violence Prevention
- Bullying & Cyberbullying Prevention
- Early Identification & referral for mental and behavioral health
- Drop-out prevention
- Foster Care planning
- Children in Transition
- Trauma informed care



THE IMPORTANCE OF SCHOOL COUNSELOR RATIOS

IDEAL

250:1

REALITY

485:1



Student-to-School-Counselor Ratio 2015-2016

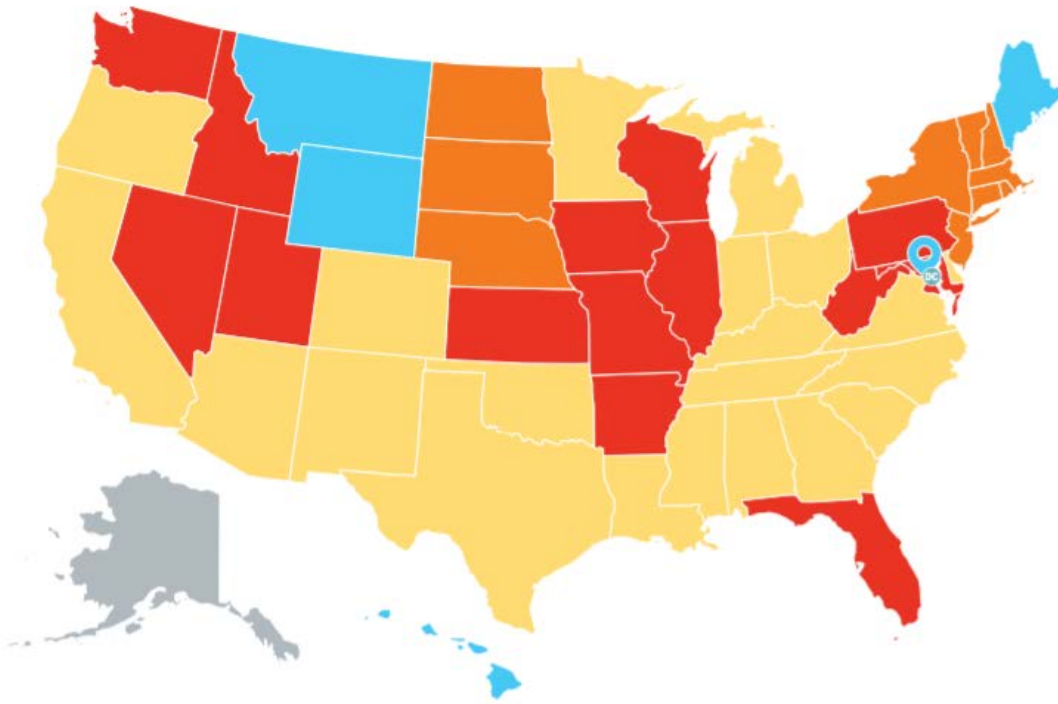


The American School Counselor Association recommends a ratio of 250-to-1.



RATIO IMPACT ON STUDENTS OF COLOR

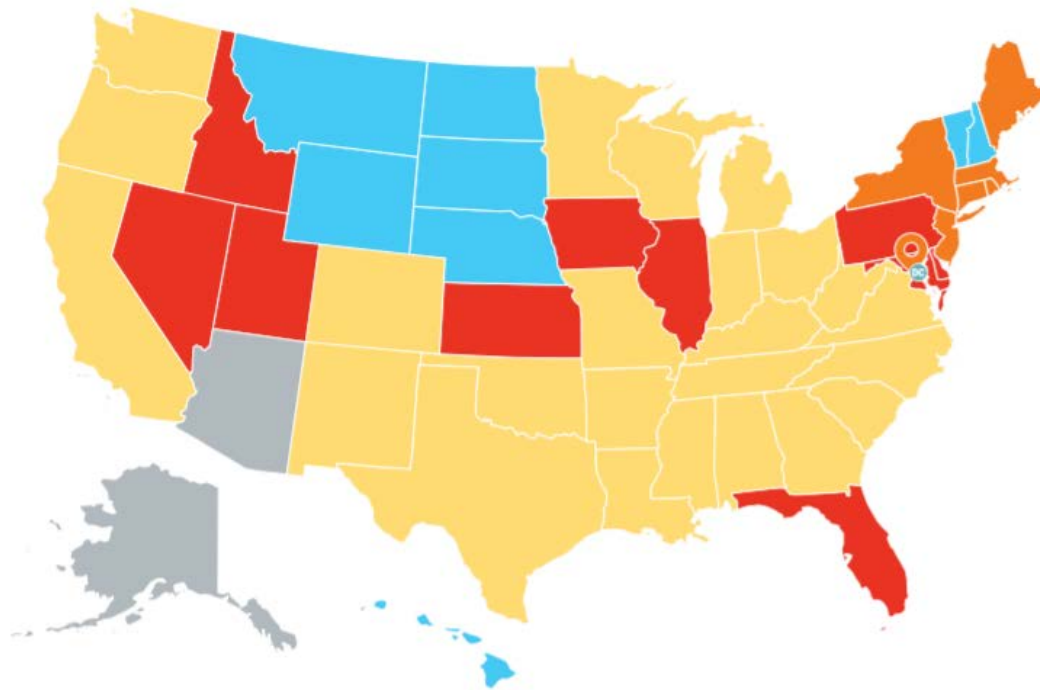
Figure 1: Statewide High School Student-to-School-Counselor Ratio *and* Access for Students of Color



-  Unequal access, too few counselors
-  Unequal access, enough counselors
-  Better than equal access, too few counselors
-  Better than equal access, enough counselors

RATIO IMPACT ON LOW-INCOME STUDENTS

Figure 2: Statewide High School Student-to-School-Counselor Ratio *and* Access for Students from Low-Income Families



-  Unequal access, too few counselors
-  Unequal access, enough counselors
-  Better than equal access, too few counselors
-  Better than equal access, enough counselors

IMPACT OF SCHOOL-COUNSELOR TO STUDENT RATIOS ON STUDENT OUTCOMES

Significant effect on student attendance, SAT mathematics, SAT writing and SAT verbal scores.

In Indiana, the average school-counselor-to-student ratio of 1:250 resulted in:

- 0.3% higher attendance (i.e. every day in a school of 1,000
- students, three more students attend class than otherwise).
- 18 points higher SAT mathematics scores.
- 19 points higher SAT verbal scores.
- 16 points higher SAT writing scores.

Students in districts with elementary school counselors have improved performance outcomes versus districts without.

Connecticut school districts report:

- Schools with K–12 school counselors:
 - 69.4% report graduation rates greater than 90 percent.
- Schools without elementary school counselors:
 - 45.8% report graduation rates greater than 90 percent.
 - Approximately 72% of school districts provide no comprehensive school counseling services to students in grades K–5.

IMPACT CONTINUED

Lower-performing schools/schools in lower-socioeconomic-status communities maintain higher caseloads than higher-performing schools.

In Connecticut:

- High-performing schools average school-counselor-to-student ratio:

High school = 1:182

Middle school = 1:211

- Low-performing schools average school-counselor-to-student ratio:

High school = 1:285

Middle school = 1:891

Engagement in higher-quality college counseling learning activities.

- 85% in low ratio school reported their school counselor made an effort to get to know them and treat them as an individual.
- First generation students applied to and were **accepted** into more colleges than high ratio schools.
- Lower ratios + complete ASCA model implementation plays a role in **closing the gap** between first generation college students and continuing-generations students.

THE VALUE OF A SCHOOL COUNSELOR



LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT FOR NEVADA'S STUDENTS

Mandate school counselors in every school

Work to improve school counselor to student ratios

Mandate at minimum- 80% of school counselor time be spent in direct and indirect student services.

THANK YOU!

