

## What can I do with a master's degree in **School Counseling**?

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### **Description of School Counseling**

School counselors are certified/licensed educators with a minimum of a master's degree in school counseling, making them uniquely qualified to address all students' academic, career and social/emotional development needs by designing, implementing, evaluating and enhancing a comprehensive school counseling program that promotes and enhances student success. School counselors are employed in PK-12 school settings; in district supervisory positions; and counselor education positions.

School counselors have a minimum of a master's degree in school counseling, meet the state certification/licensure standards,\* and abide by the laws of the states in which they are employed. School counselors serve a vital role in maximizing student success. Through leadership, advocacy, and collaboration, school counselors promote equity and access to rigorous educational experiences for all students. School counselors support a safe learning environment and work to safeguard the human rights of all members of the school community and address the needs of all students through culturally relevant prevention and intervention programs that are a part of a comprehensive school counseling program.

**Best of all, you only need a master's degree to become a licensed School Counselor!**

### **Roles and Functions of School Counselors**

#### **Help All Students**

- apply academic achievement strategies
- manage emotions and apply interpersonal skills
- plan for post-secondary options (college, military, employment)

#### **Provide**

- individual student academic planning and goal setting
- school counseling classroom lessons based on student success standards
- short-term counseling to students
- referrals for long-term support
- collaboration with families/teachers/ administrators/ community for student success
- advocacy for students at individual education plan meetings and other student-focused meetings
- data analysis to identify student issues, needs, and challenges

*The information above describes typical occupations and employers associated with this major.*

*Understand that some of the options listed above may require additional training.*

*Moreover, you are not limited to these options alone when choosing a possible career path.*

### **Professional Organizations in School Counseling**

American School Counselor Association  
[www.schoolcounselor.org](http://www.schoolcounselor.org)

American Counseling Association  
[www.counseling.org](http://www.counseling.org)

### **For More Information Contact**

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\*If you are seeking employment outside of Tennessee, it is important to check with the State Department of Education to make sure that your program and experience meet the state licensure requirements.