

# SCHOOL COUNSELOR CERTIFICATE

## Pre-Kindergarten - Grade 12

The School Counselor Certificate is valid for assignment as a School Counselor in grades PK - 12 in Rhode Island public schools.

### **Certification Requirements for full Rhode Island Certification<sup>1</sup>**

To be issued a certificate in School Counselor an applicant must satisfy all of the following:

- Advanced degree from a regionally accredited institution
- Completion of an approved program for the preparation of School Counselor Support Professional
- Completion of 300 Hour Internship
- Demonstration of meeting the Content Competencies as prescribed by the Council for the Accreditation of Counseling and Related Education Programs (CACREP)
- Other requirements:
  - There are no other preparation and/or experience requirements for this certificate. However, applicants must meet all Rhode Island assessment requirements.

### **Assessment Requirements**

**All applicants must meet the following Rhode Island assessment requirements:**

- Applicants prepared in a program where the language of instruction was not English must achieve a passing score of 64 on the Versant Pro Speaking and Writing assessments.

### **Current Routes to Certification**

Certification may be attained through the following routes:

- Completion of RI approved program from one of the following: Providence College, Rhode Island College
- Reciprocity
- Transcript Analysis

### **Reciprocity Requirements**

Reciprocity is recognition of preparation or certification in another state as comparable to Rhode Island. Applicants seeking certification through reciprocity must demonstrate that they meet all Rhode Island certification assessment requirements, hold the additional required certificate and meet all experience requirements when applicable. Applicants can attain certification by completing a state approved program for Educator Certification in a state other than Rhode Island within the last 5 years OR by demonstrating that they hold a currently valid full certificate in another state.

### **Transcript Analysis Requirements**

Applicants who have not completed an approved program or do not meet reciprocity requirements can be certified by Transcript Analysis until December 31, 2014. Beginning January 1, 2015 a Credential Review process will replace transcript analysis in areas for which there are no Rhode Island approved preparation programs.

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<sup>1</sup> Full Certification in Rhode Island means a multi-year certificate that demonstrates the educator has met all Rhode Island requirements for certification in the three-tier certification system (Initial, Professional, or Advanced certification). Full Certification does not include Preliminary Certifications which require educators to meet additional requirements to attain full certifications. Full certifications in Rhode Island are comparable to National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC) stage three or higher certificates and are recognized by other states for certificate reciprocity.

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- Applicants who have not completed an approved program can be certified by transcript analysis by presenting evidence of the following:
  - Advanced degree from an approved program in School Counseling within 5 years from application date
  - OR
  - Master's degree from a regionally accredited institution and completion of 24 semester hours of graduate coursework in each of the following areas:
    - Introduction to Pupil Personnel Service
    - Techniques of Counseling
    - Psychological and Educational Assessment
    - Vocational and Educational Placement
    - A minimum of 3 semester hour internship in School Counseling

