

REFERENCE TITLE: school counselors; grants

State of Arizona
Senate
Fifty-fourth Legislature
First Regular Session
2019

SB 1344

Introduced by
Senators Bowie: Alston, Navarrete, Otondo, Rios, Steele; Representatives
Jermaine, Pawlik

AN ACT

AMENDING TITLE 15, CHAPTER 1, ARTICLE 1, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTION 15-119; AMENDING TITLE 15, CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE 1, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTION 15-220; AMENDING TITLE 15, CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE 2, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTION 15-249.14; APPROPRIATING MONIES; RELATING TO SCHOOL COUNSELORS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Title 15, chapter 1, article 1, Arizona Revised
3 Statutes, is amended by adding section 15-119, to read:

4 15-119. School counselor ratio; exception; definition

5 A. EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION B OF THIS SECTION, BEGINNING IN
6 THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR, IF SUFFICIENT MONIES ARE APPROPRIATED FOR THIS
7 PURPOSE, EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT AND CHARTER SCHOOL SHALL HIRE AT LEAST ONE
8 SCHOOL COUNSELOR FOR EVERY FIVE HUNDRED FIFTY PUPILS WHO ARE ENROLLED IN
9 THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL.

10 B. IF A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL HAS FEWER THAN FIVE
11 HUNDRED FIFTY PUPILS WHO ARE ENROLLED, THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER
12 SCHOOL SHALL EITHER:

13 1. HIRE ONE SCHOOL COUNSELOR WHO MAY BE EMPLOYED ON A PART-TIME
14 BASIS.

15 2. ENTER INTO AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH ONE OR MORE OTHER
16 SCHOOL DISTRICTS OR CHARTER SCHOOLS TO CONTRACT FOR SCHOOL COUNSELOR
17 SERVICES.

18 C. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, "SCHOOL COUNSELOR" MEANS A
19 PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR WHO HOLDS A VALID SCHOOL COUNSELOR CERTIFICATE
20 ISSUED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 15-220.

21 Sec. 2. Title 15, chapter 2, article 1, Arizona Revised Statutes,
22 is amended by adding section 15-220, to read:

23 15-220. School counselors; certification; rules; definition

24 A. THE STATE BOARD SHALL ISSUE A CERTIFICATE TO SCHOOL COUNSELORS
25 WHO SATISFY THE CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS ADOPTED BY THE STATE BOARD. IN
26 DEVELOPING THE CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS, THE STATE BOARD SHALL RECOGNIZE
27 THAT THE PURPOSE AND ROLE OF THE SCHOOL COUNSELOR IS TO PLAN, ORGANIZE AND
28 DELIVER A COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING PROGRAM THAT
29 PERSONALIZES EDUCATION AND THAT SUPPORTS, PROMOTES AND ENHANCES THE
30 ACADEMIC, PERSONAL, SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT OF ALL
31 STUDENTS. THE CERTIFICATION SHALL CONFORM TO STANDARDS ADOPTED FOR SCHOOL
32 COUNSELING PROGRAMS BY A NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL COUNSELORS.

33 B. A PERSON MAY NOT BE EMPLOYED AS A SCHOOL COUNSELOR IN A SCHOOL
34 DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL IN THIS STATE AFTER JUNE 30, 2020 UNLESS THAT
35 PERSON OBTAINS A SCHOOL COUNSELOR CERTIFICATE FROM THE STATE BOARD.

36 C. THE STATE BOARD SHALL ADOPT RULES TO CARRY OUT THE PURPOSES OF
37 THIS SECTION.

38 D. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, "SCHOOL COUNSELOR" HAS THE
39 SAME MEANING PRESCRIBED IN SECTION 15-119.

40 Sec. 3. Title 15, chapter 2, article 2, Arizona Revised Statutes,
41 is amended by adding section 15-249.14, to read:

42 15-249.14. School counseling plan grant fund; application;
43 selection criteria; advisory committee;
44 definition

45 A. THE SCHOOL COUNSELING PLAN GRANT FUND IS ESTABLISHED CONSISTING
46 OF LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATIONS. THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL

1 ADMINISTER THE FUND. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DISTRIBUTE MONIES IN THE FUND
2 TO SCHOOLS, SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND CHARTER SCHOOLS TO ASSIST WITH THE COSTS
3 OF SCHOOL COUNSELING PLANS AS PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION. MONIES IN THE
4 FUND ARE SUBJECT TO LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATION.

5 B. THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL ESTABLISH APPLICATION AND
6 SELECTION PROCEDURES TO DISTRIBUTE GRANTS FROM THE FUND.

7 C. SCHOOLS, SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND CHARTER SCHOOLS MAY APPLY TO THE
8 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR A GRANT FROM THE FUND. SCHOOLS, SCHOOL
9 DISTRICTS AND CHARTER SCHOOLS THAT HAVE ENTERED INTO AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL
10 AGREEMENT FOR SCHOOL COUNSELING SERVICES MAY JOINTLY APPLY PURSUANT TO
11 THIS SUBSECTION. THE APPLICATION SHALL INCLUDE ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

12 1. A LETTER OF COMMITMENT TO ADOPT A COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL
13 COUNSELING PLAN THAT DEFINES THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE SCHOOL COUNSELOR TO
14 LOCAL COMMUNITY RESOURCES.

15 2. A DESCRIPTION OF THE METHODS FOR EVALUATING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF
16 THE SCHOOL COUNSELING PLAN.

17 3. POLICIES ON CONFIDENTIALITY UNDER THE SCHOOL COUNSELING PLAN.

18 4. POLICIES ON NOTIFYING AND PROVIDING SERVICES TO PARENTS AND
19 OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS.

20 5. A DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHOOL'S OR SCHOOL DISTRICT'S REFERRAL
21 PROCEDURES TO THE APPROPRIATE COMMUNITY ENTITIES AND STATE AGENCIES.

22 6. A DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE SERVICES THAT THE SCHOOL OR
23 SCHOOL DISTRICT WILL PROVIDE.

24 D. THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION MAY APPOINT A SCHOOL
25 COUNSELING PLAN GRANT FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF
26 EDUCATION TO ADVISE THE DEPARTMENT AND THE SUPERINTENDENT ON ADOPTING
27 SELECTION CRITERIA FOR THE AWARD OF GRANTS FROM THE FUND. THE ADVISORY
28 COMMITTEE CONSISTS OF ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING:

29 1. SCHOOL COUNSELORS.

30 2. SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS.

31 3. SCHOOL PRINCIPALS.

32 4. TEACHERS.

33 5. PARENTS OF PUPILS WHO ARE ENROLLED IN SCHOOL DISTRICTS OR
34 CHARTER SCHOOLS.

35 6. COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS.

36 E. THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, IN COOPERATION WITH THE
37 SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION, MAY ADOPT POLICIES TO CARRY OUT THE
38 PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION.

39 F. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, "SCHOOL COUNSELING PLAN" MEANS
40 A COUNSELING PLAN IN A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL THAT IS MANAGED
41 BY ONE OR MORE PROFESSIONAL EDUCATORS WHO HOLD A VALID SCHOOL COUNSELOR
42 CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION PURSUANT TO SECTION
43 15-220.

