Ask a School Psychologist

School psychologists can make a positive, lasting difference in students' academic, social, behavioral and emotional functioning. These professionals are a vital part of the effort to unlock each child's potential for success.



To inquire about your school psychologist, contact the school site for additional information.



Serving youth in LAUSD to create a safe, healthy and supportive learning environment.

LAUSD Psychological Services (213) 241-8303

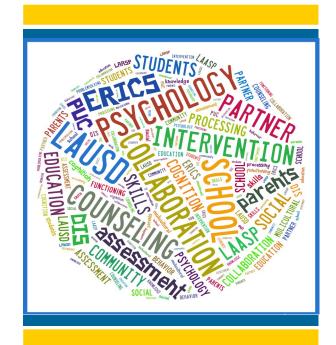


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LAUSD

Division of Special Education

Psychological Services



What is a School Psychologist?

School psychologists are highly trained in both psychology and education. Their training emphasizes preparation in counseling and educational interventions, child development, learning, behavior, motivation, curriculum and instruction, assessment, and school law. They help children and youth succeed academically, socially, emotionally, and behaviorally. They tailor their services to the individual needs of each youth. To address social-emotional needs, they provide services to help them access the educational curriculum. They work collaboratively with school staff, parents and other professionals to create a safe, healthy, and supportive learning environment.



How can they help?

School psychologists can help children and adolescents when they are:

- Fearful about attending school
- Struggling with time management, study, or organizational skills
- Lacking the ability to focus on school performance as a result of life stressors
- Questioning their aptitudes or abilities
- Feeling sad, unhappy, or contemplating self-harm



School Psychologist's Primary Duties and Responsibilities



 Conduct psycho-educational assessments and develop case studies of individual students to determine their educational needs and social behavior. When serving bilingual students, assessments will be conducted in the students' native

language as mandated by law.

- Interpret findings of individual case studies to principals, teachers, parents, students, Individual Education Program (IEP) team members, and others directly concerned with the welface of students
- Evaluate the results of tests in relation to a student's cultural, environmental, and language background.
- Participate in IEP meetings to assist the team in determining eligibility for special education services, if applicable, discuss appropriate educational placement and propose supports, as needed. In addition, school psychologists may offer input regarding positive behavioral intervention strategies, collaborate with the development of Behavior Support Plans or Functional Behavior Assessments.
- Counsel students
 individually or in groups to
 assist them with academic
 achievement, problem solving,
 and social-emotional
 adjustment.





 Collaborate with teachers and staff regarding pre-referral intervention strategies for academic and social-emotional achievement. Collaborate with community agencies to facilitate

service provision for students and families.

 Consult with parents to facilitate communication between home and school. Help parents understand their child's unique needs, and offer strategies to support overall student success in school.



 Provide professional development opportunities for teachers, staff, parents, and community members on a variety of topics which may include prereferral interventions, strategies

for behavior modification, anti-bullying programs, working with students with disabilities and many more.

 Participate in prevention and intervention activities through the Student Success Team (SST). By promoting pre-referral intervention supports and assisting with



progress monitoring, school psychologists are an integral component in maximizing students' educational success. They provide information to school staff and parents regarding developmental expectations in language/communication, social skills, behavior and cognitive abilities as they relate to learning.