School Counselor

Administer school guidance and counseling programs, which must be developmentally appropriate and designed to address the educational and career needs of all students. Guidance and counseling programs must deliver career, occupational, and educational information; student appraisal activities; placement services; and identification and referral of students in need of special services, including suicide prevention and psychiatric referrals. High school guidance programs must also provide for the delivery of career and college counseling.

Legislation
Statute: NH RSA 186
Administrative Rules: Chapter Ed 500

Certification Requirement
• Qualify through one of the available Alternative Pathways for licensure described on NH Department of Education webpage.

There are two School Counseling endorsements, each with different licensure requirements:

• **School Counselor**
  1. Have completed a State Board of Education approved school counseling collegiate program at the Master’s degree level or higher; or
  2. Have completed courses related to school counseling at the Master’s degree level or higher and have done a counseling internship in a school setting; or
  3. Experience in comparable positions in school counseling or other professions closely related to school counseling

• **School Counseling Director**
  1. Minimum of a Master’s degree in Counseling
  2. Currently possess New Hampshire licensure as a school counselor
  3. At least three years of successful paid and progressively responsible experience in the field of school counseling, with recent leadership experience

There are multiple levels of credentials, each with varying requirements:

• **Intern Authorization**
  ° Have met the requirements for a Statement of Eligibility
  ° Currently be employed in the field of education in a New Hampshire public or non-public school
  ° Intern authorizations are granted for the duration of the individualized professional development plan
  ° Educators who hold a valid intern authorization receive a beginning educator license after the Bureau approves the required report of completion under the individualized professional development plan

Regulatory Agency

Bureau of Credentialing
Division of Educator Support and Higher Education
New Hampshire Department of Education
101 Pleasant Street
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

phone (603) 271-2409
fax (603) 271-4134
web <www.education.nh.gov/certification/>
contact Administrator
e-mail cert.info@doe.nh.gov
**School Counselor** (continued)

- **Beginning Educator License**
  - Beginning educator certificates are issued for an initial period of three years
  - Upon completion of three years of full-time educator experience while maintaining a valid credential, a beginning educator is qualified for an experienced educator license only if the educator is determined to be “effective” or better under the local supervision and evaluation system for at least two consecutive years.

- **Experienced Educator License**
  - Upon completion of three years of full-time educator experience while maintaining a valid credential, a beginning educator is qualified for an experienced educator license only if the educator is determined to be “effective” or better under the local supervision and evaluation system for at least two consecutive years.
  - An experienced educator credential shall be issued for three years

### Examination
Not required

### Continuing Education
Staff development activities totaling 45 Professional Education continuing education units and 30 continuing education units per endorsement during the three-year licensure period.

### Reciprocity
Permitted in accordance with the NASDTEC Interstate Contract

### Active Licenses
Not provided

### Related Training
Educational, School, and Vocational Counselors

### Fees

<table>
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<th>Service</th>
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<tr>
<td>Three-year licensure</td>
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<tr>
<td>Three-year renewal</td>
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*Additional fees vary by pathway for licensure and number of endorsements applied for. Go to <www.education.nh.gov/certification/documents/fee_sched.pdf>*

*Exam fees are set by each testing company.*

### O*Net Codes

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<td>21-1012.00</td>
<td>Educational, Guidance, School and Vocational Counselors</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### Additional Information Sources

- National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC)  
  <www.nasdtec.org>
- American School Counselor Association  
  <www.schoolcounselor.org>