

Strategy Guidance for use of funds under The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009



Strategy Number 5
Student Services Personnel

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Statement of need:

Schools require a continuum of services that encompasses efforts to facilitate students' academic, social, emotional and physical development and to address students' learning, behavior, and emotional problems. Student Services personnel provide an infrastructure designed for assisting students in overcoming barriers that impede the learning process. Student services personnel include school psychologists, school social workers, counselors and school nurses who:

- Facilitate school-based intervention teams using problem-solving methods and data-based decision-making
- Develop, implement and monitor interventions
- Assist families and schools in managing and preventing crisis situations through intervention support and follow-up
- Coordinate resources to provide services that address physical, social, and psychological needs of students
- Provide timely evaluations for students suspected of having a disability
- Provision of these services is cost-effective; directly assists teachers, administrators, and families; and improves student outcomes.

Proposed areas for implementation:

Personnel:

- Appropriately certificated/licensed student services personnel to assist in lowering barriers to learning and to provide support needed by teachers
- Access to services and the amount of services provided by school psychologists, school social workers, counselors, and school nurses depends on the level of student need at each school

Professional Development:

- Skill building activities to support Problem Solving/Response to Intervention, Positive Behavior Support and data collection/analysis
- Training to function as coaches/facilitators for the development of interventions for students, teachers, and families.

Technology/Resources:

- Technology support for Student Services personnel for the purpose of providing progress monitoring for students' academic and behavior issues and for communicating with families
- Intervention programs/resources that promote positive mental health and educational environments

Funding Sources:

- Title II-A