

## **Fresno Unified Board Policy (BP) 6164.2 Guidance/Counseling Services**

The Governing Board recognizes that a structured, coherent and comprehensive counseling program promotes academic achievement and serves the diverse needs of all district students. Counseling staff shall be available to provide students with individualized reviews of their educational progress toward academic and/or career and vocational goals and, as appropriate, may discuss personal and social, or other issues that may impact student learning.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all persons employed to provide school counseling, school psychology, and/or school social work services shall possess the appropriate credential from the Commission on Teacher Credentialing authorizing their employment in such positions. Responsibilities of each position shall be clearly defined in a job description.

*(cf. 4112.2 - Certification)*

### **Educational Counseling**

Beginning in grade 7, parents/guardians shall receive a general notice at least once before career counseling and course selection so that they may participate in the counseling sessions and decisions. (Education Code 221.5)

The educational counseling program shall include academic counseling in the following areas: (Education Code 49600)

1. Development and implementation, with parent/guardian involvement, of the student's immediate and long-range educational plans
2. Optimizing progress towards achievement of proficiency standards
3. Completion of the required curriculum in accordance with the student's needs, abilities, interests, and aptitudes
4. Academic planning for access and success in higher education programs, including advisement on courses needed for admission to public colleges and universities, standardized admissions tests, and financial aid
5. Career and vocational counseling, in which students are assisted in doing all of the following:
  - a. Planning for the future, including, but not limited to, identifying personal interests, skills, and abilities, career planning, course selection, and career transition
  - b. Becoming aware of personal preferences and interests that influence educational and occupational exploration, career choice, and career success
  - c. Developing realistic perceptions of work, the changing work environment, and the

effect of work on lifestyle

- d. Understanding the relationship between academic achievement and career success, and the importance of maximizing career options
- e. Understanding the value of participating in career technical education and work-based learning activities and programs, including, but not limited to, service learning, regional occupational centers and programs, partnership programs, job shadowing, and mentoring experiences

*(cf. 6178 - Career Technical Education)*

*(cf. 6178.1 - Work-Based Learning)*

*(cf. 6178.2 - Regional Occupational Center/Program)*

- f. Understanding the need to develop essential employable skills and work habits
- g. Understanding the variety of four-year colleges and universities and community college vocational and technical preparation programs, as well as admission criteria and enrollment procedures

The district's educational counseling program also may include, but not be limited to, identification of students who are at risk of not graduating with the rest of their class, development of a list of coursework and experience necessary to assist students to satisfy the curricular requirements for college admission and successfully transition to postsecondary education or employment, and counseling regarding available options for a student to continue their education if they fail to meet graduation requirements.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish and maintain a program of guidance, placement, and follow-up for all high school students subject to compulsory continuation education. (Education Code 48431)

All Counseling staff and materials are prohibited from discriminating against any student based on actual or perceived age, ancestry, color, mental or physical disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information, national origin, race, ethnic group identification, immigration status, parental status, pregnancy status, marital status, medical condition, religion, sex or sexual orientation in the counseling or guidance of students or in the use of materials for testing, appraising or counseling students. (Education Code 221.5; 5 CCR 4930, 4931; 34 CFR 106.36)

Guidance counseling regarding school programs and career, vocational, or higher education opportunities shall not be differentiated on the basis of any protected category specified in BP 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities.

*(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)*

*(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)*

In addition, counselors shall affirmatively explore with students the possibility of careers, or courses leading to careers, that are nontraditional for that student's sex. (Education Code 221.5)

For assessing or counseling students, the district shall not use testing or other materials that permit or require impermissible or unlawful differential treatment of students. (5 CCR 4931)

Colleges and prospective employers, including military recruiters, shall have the same access to students for recruiting purposes. (Education Code 49603; 10 USC 503; 20 USC 7908)

*(cf. 5125.1 - Release of Directory Information)*

*Fresno Unified School District prohibits discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying based on actual or perceived race, color, ethnicity, national origin, immigration status, ancestry, age, creed, religion, political affiliation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information, mental or physical disability, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, pregnancy or parental status, medical information, military veteran status, or association with a person or a group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics or any other basis protected by law or regulation, in its educational program(s) or employment.*

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

221.5 Prohibited Sex Discrimination

44266 Pupil personnel services credential

48431 Establishment and maintenance of guidance, placement, and follow-up program (high school district)

49600-49604 Educational counseling

51250-51251 School age military dependents

51513 Personal beliefs

PENAL CODE

11166-11170 Reporting known or suspected cases of child abuse

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

4930-4931 Counseling

80049-80049.1 Pupil personnel services credential

80632-80632.5 Preparation programs for pupil personnel services

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 10

503 Military recruiter access to directory information

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1232g Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

7908 Armed forces recruiter access to students and student recruiting information

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34

99.1-99.67 Family educational rights and privacy of child abuse

Policy FRESNO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

adopted: March 26, 1992 Fresno, California

revised: December 18, 2019

*Policy Section: 6000 Instruction*