

Analyzing the Impact of ESOL School Counselor Ratios on ESOL/ELL Student Outcomes

Study shows addition of ESOL school counselors improves achievement, attendance and behavior



WHAT ARE THE FINDINGS?

The addition of 64 ESOL school counselors in high-need, Title 1 schools in one large South Florida school district resulted in beneficial student outcomes across several measures of achievement, attendance and behavior. Importantly, all of these school counselors graduated from a CACREP-accredited school counseling graduate program and were well-trained to deliver a comprehensive, data-informed program. Highlighted findings from before these additional ESOL school counselors were employed to after they were added include:

ACHIEVEMENT DATA:

- **Promotion Rate** - before the addition = 83% compared with after the addition = 85%
- **Retention Rate** - before the addition = 16.4% compared with after the addition 14.0%
- **Average GPA** - before the addition = 2.48 compared with after the addition = 2.57
- **Proficiency Level on Standard Assessment in Geometry** - before the addition = 68.3% compared with after the addition = 71.3%
- **Graduation Rate** - before the addition = 78.9% compared with after the addition = 83%
- **Number of Students in Course Recovery** - before the addition = 82.11% compared with after the addition = 59.11%

ATTENDANCE DATA:

- **Percent of Students Present** - before the addition = 95.1% compared with after the addition = 95.7%

BEHAVIOR DATA:

- **Number of Referrals** - before the addition = 606.73 compared with after the addition = 439.07
- **Number of Expulsions** - before the addition = .16 compared with after the addition = .04.
- **Number of Bullying Incident Reports** - before the addition = 5.04 compared with after the addition = 2.69



Read the full report: schoolcounselor.org/effectiveness

SOURCE: ASCA grant-funded research analyzing the impact of ESOL school counselor ratios on ESOL/ELL student outcomes

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WHAT CAN WE LEARN?

- 1** School counselors, including ESOL school counselors, must have ready access and adequate resources to support their students, particularly those with specific needs, like ESOL/ELL students.
- 2** Adding school counselors who have specific education, training and personal experiences can better relate to and advocate for underrepresented and marginalized populations, such as ELL/ESOL students.
- 3** Reducing ratios and permitting school counselors ready access to students can improve their outcomes across achievement, attendance and behavior

