

Professional Support Services in Education

Professional Support Services in Education is a one-credit course that provides knowledge and skills for students who are interested in pursuing careers in the professional support services area of education. The prerequisite for this course is Education and Training. Students become familiar with strategies and techniques of assessment, support services, and intervention resources available to students and their families.

Career and technical student organizations are integral, cocurricular components of each career and technical education course. These organizations serve as a means to enhance classroom instruction while helping students develop leadership abilities, expand workplace-readiness skills, and broaden opportunities for personal and professional growth.

Support Services

Students will:

1. Distinguish among types of professional support services careers to determine the area of interest.
Examples: psychologist, social worker, parent educator, counselor, speech language pathologist, audio pathologist
2. Analyze tasks and responsibilities performed by professional support services staff to enhance student achievement and meet instructional goals.
3. Explain principles of support and service processes.
4. Evaluate the impact of professional support services in education.
5. Assess ways technology impacts professional support services.

Assessment

6. Determine needs of students by employing strategies and techniques used by professional support services staff.
Examples: observation, interview, consultation, testing, review of documents
7. Evaluate assessment tools used by professional support services.
8. Explain assessment results to prepare stakeholders to participate in developing an action plan for education.

Support and Intervention

9. Stimulate stakeholders to identify interests and needs of students.
10. Discuss resources available to stakeholders that enhance student educational success.

11. Stimulate stakeholders to recognize the need for proactive support, including existing barriers for educational enhancement.
12. Construct a personal or group action plan for educational success.
Examples: setting educational goals, identifying multiple sources of data and interpretation
13. Coordinate support and services to meet needs of students.
Example: stakeholder meetings
14. Explain benefits and potential resources for intervention.
15. Determine skills for advocacy of increased resources to meet needs of learners.