

Jamie Anello

English 12

Mr. Monsen

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Benefits of a Career in School Counseling

Working in a school can be one of the most satisfying and rewarding experiences an individual can have. There are numerous job titles and positions in the education field, one being a School Counselor. School Counselors earn a living while helping students overcome social, emotional, and developmental problems. **Choosing a career in School Counseling proves to have many benefits such as social connection, personal fulfillment, and vacation time.**

School Counselors are licensed educators who improve student success in a variety of ways. They lead, advocate, and collaborate with the end goal of fulfilling student, parent, and teacher needs. For counselors that work in a high school, their job includes but is not limited to helping plan and prepare students for their future. Although the majority of their focus is on their students' future academic and career plans, they are always there to help and handle any other concerns. School Counselors play one of the most important roles in school communities, every student deserves a helping hand from a counselor.

School Counseling is an advantageous career for assured, lively people who find pleasure in social interaction. They are frequently in contact with others, whether it be in their own office or scattered around the building. "School Counselors don't work in isolation - their days are filled with collaborations and interactions with students, parents, teachers, support staff, activities administrators, and outside service providers..."(CHRON 1). Many counselors say that there is no greater feeling in the world than having a career that allows you to leave such a positive

impact on so many people. Chelsey from Confident Counselors expressed that her "favorite thing about being a School Counselor is getting to build relationships with the students and staff" (1).

Due to how much contact they have with so many different people, they do not just give support, they get it too. Counselors are a part of a team. Social interaction is a huge benefit in this career, but their positions are unique in more than just this one way.

Leaving an everlasting impact on almost everybody in the school, the work of a School Counselor comes with so much personal fulfillment. The job provides an infinite amount of "this is why I do what I do" moments. Many pick this career because of their innate desire to help and do not expect anything in return, but counselors often get back all that they put in. "Many counselors say that the deeply meaningful work they do is a reward in and of itself" (Career Shift 1). Knowing that they are a champion for their students is a constant reminder as to why counselors wake up every morning and go to work. The job is so rewarding and Susan Cann, a School Counselor herself, stated that "the most rewarding part of being a counselor is knowing that you had a part in affecting the life of another human being" (1). At the end of most school days, counselors are left feeling like they're on top of the world. Although this job is heavily based on devoting a lot of time and energy to others, School Counselors are very fortunate in what their schedule looks like and how much time they have for themselves.

In any career, having an ideal work-life balance and the ability to arrange your schedule in a way that fits your lifestyle should play a big role. School Counselors are blessed in that aspect, as their work schedules resemble school schedules. "During the school year, their schedules follow school schedules, so they also have time off for the holiday, winter and spring breaks, and other days when schools are closed" (CHRON 1). Careers are obviously important, but top priority should always be family. Some occupations do not allow for that time needed for

yourself and your family, but School Counseling does. "Typically, school counselors work for nine months out of the year. They get summers off, which is extremely beneficial for those who are working parents" (CHRON 1). The meaningful work that counselors spend their days doing can be exhausting, but they are given time that makes all that they do attainable. According to LearningPath.org "ample vacation time is one of the main advantages of guidance and counseling" (1). Having a good schedule can make or break a job. Nobody wants to be working 365 days a year, 24 hours a day. So often people say that they want to be a teacher because they make a good income and do not work their entire life away given the vacation time they are granted. Being a School Counselor includes all the teacher benefits and then some. "Many school counselors work the same hours as teachers, and this can mean they have a consistent schedule. School counselors rarely have to work weekends or nights..." (Indeed 1). For those who have an excellent work ethic and can not get enough of the job, as a counselor you can sometimes be presented with the ability to work over the summer too. "Some counselors may choose to work during the summer if their services are required and they wish to earn additional income" (CHRON 1). As easy as it is to love the job, it is important to have some time off. School Counselors are rewarded with so many benefits, vacation time is definitely one.

Choosing a career in School Counseling proves to have many benefits such as social connection, personal fulfillment, and vacation time. There are a countless number of other ones that come along with the job, but these three stand out. School Counseling is not for everyone, it takes a person with several important attributes to effectively help students with challenges they may face in and out of school. For those with the right personality and a natural love for helping, there is no regret in making this a career. School Counselors are the greatest benefit to any school and in return, they are rewarded with plenty of benefits of their own.

Works Cited

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