

Growing Up Is Not Easy

All children and adolescents face problems from time to time. They may:

- Feel afraid to go to school
- Have difficulty organizing their time efficiently
- Lack effective study skills
- Fall behind in their school work
- Lack self-discipline
- Worry about family matters such as divorce and death
- Feel depressed or anxious
- Experiment with drugs and alcohol
- Think about suicide
- Worry about their sexuality
- Face difficult situations, such as applying to college, getting a job or quitting school
- Question their aptitudes and abilities

LSSPs help students, families, teachers and community members understand and resolve these concerns

Children and adolescents are remarkably resilient when they get the help they need. They thrive when they feel safe and supported. Effective support systems include:

- Love and encouragement of parents and family
- Guidance of teachers and other important adults
- Consistent expectations and support
- Access to mental health and other helping professionals
- Services that respect and respond to personal and cultural differences

LSSP TRAINING

LSSP's are highly trained in both psychology and education. Their specialized training emphasizes mental health, child development, school organization, learning styles and processes, behavior, motivation and effective teaching.

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WHAT IS A LICENSED SPECIALIST IN SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY?

A Licensed Specialist in School Psychology (LSSP) can help children and youth succeed academically, socially and emotionally. They collaborate with educators, parents and other professionals to create safe, healthy and supportive learning environments for all students, that strengthen connections between home and school.



LSSPs PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING SERVICES

LSSP's work to find the best solution for each student and situation and use different strategies to address student needs and to improve school and district-wide support systems.

LSSPs work with students individually and in groups. They also develop programs to train parents and teachers regarding effective techniques to manage behavior at home and in the classroom, effective teaching and learning strategies, working with student with special talents as well as special problems, abuse of drugs and other substances and preventing and managing crises.

In addition, LSSPs can provide the following services:

Intervention

- Provide psychological counseling to help resolve interpersonal or family problems that interfere with school performance.
- Work directly with children and their families to help resolve problems in adjustment and learning.
- Provide training in social skills and anger management.
- Help families and schools manage crises, such as death, illness or community trauma

Consultation

- Collaborate with teachers, parents and administrators to find effective solutions to learning, mental health and behavioral problems.
- Help others understand child development and how it affects learning and behavior.
- Strengthen working relationships between teachers, parents and service providers in the community

Evaluation

- Assess academic skills and aptitude for learning
- Determine social-emotional development, competence and mental health status
- Evaluate learning environment
- Evaluate eligibility for special services

Prevention

- Design programs for children at risk of failing at school.
- Promote tolerance, understanding and appreciation of diversity within the school community.
- Develop programs to make schools safer and more effective learning environments.

- Collaborate with school staff and community agencies to provide services directed at improving psychological and physical health.
- Develop partnerships with parents and teachers to promote healthy school environments.

Research and Planning

- Evaluate the effectiveness of academic and behavior management programs.
- Identify and implement programs and strategies to improve schools.
- Use evidence-based research to develop and/or recommend effective interventions