



Social Worker

Pay Plan: ET

Grade: 15 (10 Month)

Union: WTU

Step/Salary: 1-16 / \$55,209 - \$108,262

Location: Washington, DC

Certified 04-01-2020

Our public school students need your expertise, passion and leadership.

We are looking for highly motivated and skilled talent to join our team at District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS). We seek individuals who are passionate about transforming the DC school system and making a significant difference in the lives of public school students, parents, principals, teachers, and central office employees.

DCPS serves 50,000 students in the nation's capital through the efforts of approximately 4,000 educators in 118 schools. As part of a comprehensive reform effort to become the preeminent urban school system in America, DCPS intends to have the highest-performing, best paid, most satisfied, and most honored educator force in the nation and a distinctive central office staff whose work supports and drives instructional excellence and significant achievement gains for DCPS students.

Position Overview

The School Social Worker is jointly managed by DCPS local school administration and the Office of Teaching and Learning; receiving technical assistance, guidance and instruction while working in coordination with managers from the OTL. The offices are responsible for providing services to students with special needs and the general education student population. As such, the School Social Worker is involved in the following three (3) key areas: (1) preventive and advocacy work with students, staff, and families that promotes positive school climate and social/emotional well-being; (2) program development and planning to meet the unique needs of the school through contributions to school wide policies; and (3) direct services to students and families inclusive of general and special education students. This position is a safety-sensitive position. As a result, throughout employment this position will be subject to the Employee Mandatory Drug and Alcohol Testing Policy.

The Social Worker will report to the Principal.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

The below statements are intended to describe the general nature and scope of work being performed by this position. This is not a complete listing of all responsibilities, duties, and/or skills required. Other duties may be assigned.

Preventive work with students, staff, and families

- Providing consultation to school staff and parents to facilitate student educational, social, and emotional growth.
- Obtaining information concerning the effects of environment, including family, cultural, and economic disadvantages that may be adversely affecting student progress.
- Conducting home visits that encourage home/school communication.
- Working collaboratively with the Student Support Team (SST) to develop plans of assistance for students at risk of academic and/or behavioral difficulty.
- Coordinating school and community services.
- Serving as the home-school-community liaison responsible for effective resource utilization and positive relations with stakeholders.

Program Development

- Conducting needs assessments.
- Planning for support services both within and outside the school.
- Facilitating special support groups, i.e. students with incarcerated parents, grief and loss, divorce, teen parents, conflict resolution, etc. as needed.
- Managing family resource centers, where parents/guardians can access needed information and participate in opportunities to learn how to support their student(s).

Program Planning

- Working with administrators to implement effective policies that address school safety, school attendance, substance abuse, teen pregnancy, child abuse, and neglect.

Advocacy

- Serving as a mediator within the school.
- Communicating with other agencies involved with students.
- Attending court hearings as a DC Public Schools representative.
- Making appropriate referrals for community resources.

Direct Services

- Providing individual counseling.
- Providing group counseling.
- Providing psycho-education.
- Providing crisis intervention.
- Providing parent training.

Special Education

- Serving as a member of the multi-disciplinary team (MDT).
- Conducting social work evaluations and other related assessments for initial evaluations and re-evaluations.

- Providing related services as prescribed by Individualized Education Plans (IEPs), including social skills, life skills, and transitional skills that can be transferred from school to community.
- Participating in MDT, IEP, manifestation determination, and other related meetings.
- Working collaboratively within the classroom setting to implement student IEPs.
- Collecting data for the purpose of monitoring social/emotional progress and evaluating effectiveness of services.
- Providing technical assistance on strategies that improve outcomes for special education students.
- Coordinating the design and implementation of behavior intervention plans and functional behavior assessments.
- Keeping thorough records of each student receiving services.
- Completing student progress reports.

Qualifications

Certified 04-01-2020

- Master's degree in Social Work (MSW).
- District of Columbia Government, Department of Health Professional License, which must be renewed every two years by obtaining the required continuing education units: Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker (LICSW).
- District of Columbia Certification as a School Social Worker, which must be maintained throughout employment with DC Public Schools.
- At least three years of work experience as a Social Worker in an urban school/setting with a track record of high student achievement.
- Ability to conduct clinical interviews and write comprehensive social history evaluations.
- Ability to administer, interpret, and analyze related assessment instruments.

Personal Qualities of Top Candidates

- **Commitment to Equity:** Passionate about closing the achievement gap and ensuring that every child, regardless of background or circumstance, receives an excellent education.
- **Leadership:** Coaches, mentors, and challenges others to excel despite obstacles and challenging situations.
- **Focus on Data-Driven Results:** Relentlessly pursues the improvement of central office performance and school leadership, instruction, and operations, and is driven by a desire to produce quantifiable student achievement gains.
- **Innovative Problem-Solving:** Approaches work with a sense of possibility and sees challenges as opportunities for creative problem solving; takes initiative to explore issues and find potential innovative solutions.
- **Adaptability:** Excels in constantly changing environments and adapts flexibly in shifting projects or priorities to meet the needs of a dynamic transformation effort; comfortable with ambiguity and non-routine situations.
- **Teamwork:** Increases the effectiveness of surrounding teams through collaboration, constant learning and supporting others; sensitive to diversity in all its forms; respects and is committed to learning from others.
- **Dependability:** Does whatever it takes to consistently deliver with high quality under tight deadlines; successfully manages own projects through strong organization, detailed workplans, and balancing of multiple priorities.
- **Communication and Customer Service Skills:** Communicates clearly and compellingly with diverse stakeholders in both oral and written forms; anticipates and responds to customer needs in a high-quality and courteous manner.

DCPS Notice of Nondiscrimination:

The District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) is committed to ensuring that all of its employees act in conformity with federal and District of Columbia nondiscrimination laws, including Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, the District of Columbia Human Rights Act of 1977, and the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008.

Accordingly, DCPS does not discriminate or tolerate discrimination against employees, applicants for employment, or students on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, sex (including pregnancy), age, marital status, personal appearance, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, family status, family responsibilities, matriculation, political affiliation, genetic information, disability, source of income, status as a victim of an interfamily offense, or place of residence or business.

DCPS also prohibits harassment based on any of the aforementioned protected traits and retaliation against a person because he or she has complained about discrimination, filed a charge of discrimination, or participated in a discrimination investigation or lawsuit. Employees found to have engaged in prohibited discrimination, harassment, or retaliation will be subject to disciplinary action.

Notice of Non-Retaliation

District of Columbia Public Schools will not intimidate, threaten, coerce, discriminate against, retaliate or take adverse employment action against any employee, student, or volunteer that in good faith and with honest and non-malicious intent makes a report regarding potential violations of laws, regulations or policies.

Retaliation includes, but is not limited to, adverse job actions such as termination; denial of any bonus, benefit or training; reduction of salary or decrease in hours; or change in or transfer to a lesser position.

Individuals who violate this policy will be subject to the appropriate and applicable disciplinary process, up to and including termination.

The following Federal and District law concerning non-retaliation supports our Non-Retaliation Policy.

Title VII, Section 704(a), of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, states the following:

(a) Discrimination for making charges, testifying, assisting, or participating in enforcement proceedings

It shall be an unlawful employment practice for an employer to discriminate against any of his employees or applicants for employment, for an employment agency, or join labor-management committee controlling apprenticeship or other training or retraining, including on-the-job training programs, to discriminate against any individual, or for a labor organization to discriminate against any member thereof or applicant for membership, because he has opposed any practice made an unlawful employment practice by this subchapter, or because he has made a charge, testified, assisted, or participated in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing under this subchapter.

DC Law 2-38 (Human Rights Act of 1977), Part G, Sec. 1-2525, states the following:

1-2525. Coercion or retaliation

- a. It shall be an unlawful discriminatory practice to coerce, threaten, retaliate against, or interfere with any person in the exercise or enjoyment of, or on account of having exercised or enjoyed, or on account of having aided or encouraged any other person in the exercise or enjoyment of any right granted or protected under this chapter.
- b. It shall be an unlawful discriminatory practice for any person to require, request, or suggest that a person retaliate against, interfere with, intimidate or discriminate against a person, because that person has opposed any practice made unlawful by this chapter, or because that person has made a charge, testified, assisted, or participated in any manner in an investigation, proceeding or hearing authorized under this chapter.
- c. It shall be an unlawful discriminatory practice for any person to cause or coerce, or attempt to cause or coerce, directly or indirectly, any person to prevent any person from complying with the provisions of this chapter.

DC Municipal Regulations, Title 5, (Board of Education) Subsection 1401.2(z) states the following:

(z) Retaliation for reporting harassment and sexual harassment. An employee commits an offense under this provision when he/she retaliates against any person who reports alleged harassment or sexual harassment, or any person who testifies, assists or participates in an investigation, or who testifies, assists or participates in a proceeding or hearing relating to such harassment or sexual harassment. An employee retaliates against a person if, as a result of action taken by the employee described in the previous sentence, 1) such person is reasonably intimidated by verbal threats or physical conduct of the employee, or 2) such person is denied an opportunity, right or privilege to which he/she would otherwise be entitled, or 3) such person is subjected to detrimental treatment to which he/she would not otherwise be subjected.

Persons filing charges of discrimination are advised of these Non-Retaliation Policy and are instructed to notify the DCPS Equal Employment Opportunity Office, 1200 First Street, NE, 10th Floor, Washington, DC 20002, 202-442-5424, if any attempt at retaliation is made.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

The Office of Labor Management & Employee Relations (LMER) ensures that eligible employees receive benefits and opportunities equal to those provided to non-disabled employees. LMER also ensures that eligible disabled employees receive requested reasonable accommodations. Employees with inquiries regarding ADA policies should contact the Equal Employment Opportunity Unit, District of Columbia Public Schools, 1200 First Street, NE, 10th Floor, Washington, DC 20002, (202) 442-5424.

Applicants or employees with concerns about discrimination, harassment, or retaliation should contact:

Labor Management & Employee Relations, District of Columbia Public Schools, 1200 First Street, NE, 10th Floor, Washington, DC 20002, dcps.lmer@dc.gov, 202-442-5424

or

D.C. Office of Human Rights, 441 4th Street, NW, Suite 570N, Washington, D.C. 20001, 202-727-4559

or

The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, 131 M Street, NE, Fourth Floor, Suite 4NWO2F, Washington, DC 20507, 1-800-669-4000

Students, parents and guardians with concerns regarding disability discrimination should contact:

District of Columbia Public Schools Central Office Section 504 and Student Accommodations Team can be reached at the following: 504@dc.gov or (202) 442-5471, 1200 First St, NE, 8th Floor, Washington, DC 20002, 202-645-6073

or

D.C. Office of Human Rights, 441 4th Street, NW, Suite 570N, Washington, D.C. 20001, 202-727-4559

Students, parents and guardians with concerns regarding sex discrimination should contact:

DCPS Central Office Section 504 and Student Accommodations Team can be reached at the following: 504@dc.gov or (202) 442-5471, 1200 First St, NE, 8th Floor, Washington, DC 20002, 202-645-6073

or

Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20202-1100, Telephone: 1-800-421-3481, TDD: 877-521-2172, FAX: 202-245-6840, Email: OCR@ed.gov

Students, parents and guardians, and others with concerns regarding discrimination may also utilize the DCPS grievance procedure process. Students, parents and guardians and others with discrimination concern should contact:

DCPS Office of Integrity, 1200 First Street, NE, 11th Floor, Washington, DC 20002, (202) 442-4404

or

Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20202-1100, Telephone: 1-800-421-3481, TDD: 877-521-2172, FAX: 202-245-6840, Email: OCR@ed.gov

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