



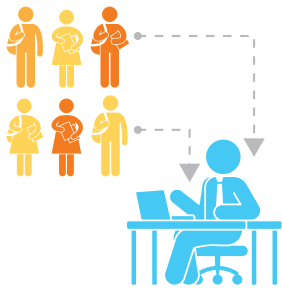
School Counselors Matter in Delaware

School counselors can play a critical role in making sure that students receive opportunities to have safe, enriching experiences in and out of school, and in helping to prepare students for postsecondary success. Our [school counselors fact sheet](#) paints a clear picture: In too many states, students — particularly students of color and students from low-income families — do not have enough access to school counselors. But what about Delaware specifically?

There are not enough school counselors overall, and on top of that, high-poverty schools have higher student-to-school-counselor ratios than low-poverty schools.

ADEQUACY: ARE THERE ENOUGH SCHOOL COUNSELORS?

The [American School Counselor Association recommends](#) that schools maintain a ratio of 250 students per school counselor. Delaware’s schools do not meet this benchmark, but high schools are fairly close to meeting the benchmark.



- **Across all schools**, the average student-to-school-counselor ratio is **429:1**.
- **Across all schools**, **about 13 percent** of students — **nearly 18,000** children — do not have access to a school counselor at all, and **about 4,500** of those students do not even have access to other school support staff, such as school psychologists or social workers.
- **Across high schools**, the average student-to-school-counselor ratio is **277:1**.
- **Across high schools**, **1 in 5** students is enrolled in a school where there is a sufficient amount of school counselors. This means there are **about 29,000** students who are enrolled in a school without enough school counselors.

EQUITY: ARE STUDENTS OF COLOR AND STUDENTS FROM LOW-INCOME FAMILIES GETTING THEIR FAIR SHARE?

Delaware is shortchanging students from low-income families because schools with the highest percentages of students from low-income families have higher student-to-school-counselor ratios than schools with the lowest percentages of those students.

