Parental Consent and Review

A board shall adopt guidelines to ensure that written consent is obtained from the parent, legal guardian, or other person entitled to enroll the student under Education Code 25.001(j) for the student to participate in those activities for which parental consent is required. *Education Code 33.003*

Each school shall obtain, and keep as part of the student's permanent record, this written consent by the parent or legal guardian. The consent form shall include specific information on the content of the program and the types of activities in which the student will be involved.

Each school, before implementing a comprehensive school counseling program, shall annually conduct a preview of the program for parents and guardians. All materials, including curriculum to be used during the year, must be available for a parent or guardian to preview during school hours. Materials or curriculum not included in the materials available on the campus for preview may not be used.

Education Code 33.004

Child Consent to Counseling

A child may consent to counseling for:

1. Suicide prevention,
2. Chemical addiction or dependency; or
3. Sexual, physical, or emotional abuse.

Family Code 32.004(a)

[For more information about consent for mental health treatment, see FFEB.]

Comprehensive School Counseling Program

A school counselor shall work with the school faculty and staff, students, parents, and the community to plan, implement, and evaluate a comprehensive school counseling program that conforms to the most recent edition of the Texas Model for Comprehensive School Counseling Programs developed by the Texas Counseling Association.

The school counselor shall design the developmental guidance and counseling program to include:

1. A guidance curriculum to help students develop their full educational potential, including the student's interests and career objectives.
2. A responsive services component to intervene on behalf of any student whose immediate personal concerns or problems

put the student's continued educational, career, personal, or social development at risk.

3. An individual planning system to guide a student as the student plans, monitors, and manages the student's own educational, career, personal, and social development.

4. System support to support the efforts of teachers, staff, parents, and other members of the community in promoting the educational, career, personal, and social development of students.

Education Code 33.005

Higher Education Counseling

Each school counselor at an elementary, middle, or junior high school shall advise students and their parents or guardians regarding the importance of postsecondary education, coursework designed to prepare students for postsecondary education, and financial aid availability and requirements.

During the first school year a student is enrolled in high school, and again during each year of a student's enrollment in high school, a school counselor shall provide information about higher education to the student and the student's parent or guardian. The information must cover:

1. The importance of postsecondary education;

2. The advantages of earning an endorsement and a performance acknowledgment and completing the distinguished level of achievement under the foundation high school program;

3. The disadvantages of taking courses to prepare for a high school equivalency examination relative to the benefits of taking courses leading to a high school diploma;

4. Financial aid eligibility;

5. Instruction on how to apply for federal financial aid;

6. The center for financial aid information established under Education Code 61.0776;

7. The automatic admission of certain students to general academic teaching institutions as provided by Education Code 51.803;

8. The eligibility and academic performance requirements for the TEXAS Grant;

9. The availability of programs in a district under which a student may earn college credit, including advanced placement programs, dual credit programs, joint high school and college credit programs, and international baccalaureate programs;

10. The availability of education and training vouchers and tuition and fee waivers to attend an institution of higher education as provided by Education Code 54.366 for a student who is or was previously in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services; and

11. The availability of college credit awarded by institutions of higher education to veterans and military servicemembers for military experience, education, and training obtained during military service as described by the information materials developed by the commissioner in cooperation with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board under Labor Code 302.0031(h).

When providing information under item 10, above, the school counselor must report to the student and the student's parent or guardian the number of times the counselor has provided the information to the student.

When providing information under item 11, the school counselor must explain to any student who is enlisted or intends to enlist in the armed forces of the United States the informational materials developed under Labor Code 302.0031.

Automatic Admission

At the beginning of grades 10 and 11, a certified school counselor shall explain the requirements of automatic admission to a general academic teaching institution to each student who has a grade point average in the top 25 percent of the student's high school class. [See EIC]

Education Code 33.007; 19 TAC 61.1071

Notice of Grant Programs

In a manner that assists the district in implementing the district improvement plan, a district shall notify students in middle school, junior high school, and high school and those students' teachers, school counselors, and parents of:

1. The TEXAS Grant and the Teach for Texas Grant programs;

2. The eligibility requirements of each program;

3. The need for students to make informed curriculum choices to be prepared for success beyond high school; and

4. Sources of information on higher education admissions and financial aid.

Education Code 56.308(b)(1)