

## THE COUNSELOR'S CLASSROOM

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### NEEDS ASSESSMENT FOR SCHOOL COUNSELING

By Julia Taylor, MA for the [American School Counselor Association](#) for [GuidanceChannel.com](#)

A comprehensive school counseling needs assessment provides schools with the data they need to create programs that empower students to succeed. School counselors will be able to focus their efforts on the appropriate personal, social, and academic skills once they've identified and analyzed their students' needs. Such assessments are an integral part of the American School Counselor Association's National Model.

For many, collecting data can seem like a daunting task. However, it doesn't have to be difficult. To help you get started, here are links to sample surveys on student and parent needs.

[School Counseling Services: Anonymous Parent Survey](#)

[School Counseling Services: Student Survey](#)

While both surveys should be handed out in the beginning of the school year, you can deliver them in a variety of ways. The student needs survey can provide you with an ideal opportunity to visit each classroom to introduce yourself and what you do. You may also ask the teachers to deliver the survey and return it to you in a timely manner. The parent survey can be passed out at back to school night, sent home with students, featured in a newsletter, deployed in a mass email, or posted on the school's website. Feel free to change the questions around based on your individual school population or differentiated needs (Both forms can be easily modified by clicking on Select Text and making your changes.)

### FEATURED RESOURCE: FORMS BOOK SET

Have all the forms, charts, and checklists you'll need to work with children with this 5 book pack that includes...



[Forms For Use In Counseling Children](#)

This book offers 50 reproducible forms for use in counseling children. For example, it includes a behavioral contract, values profile, an assertiveness training chart, Parent Cooperativeness Rating Scale, Joint Custody Checklist, Children's Stress Scale, Blank Treatment Plan,

Techniques in a Multi-Modal Therapy Plan, and Play Observation Checklist.

#### [Forms For Helping The Oppositional Child](#)

This book is a must for those who treat children with ODD. It is full of checklists, charts, and activities to aid clinicians with intake, treatment, and monitoring progress.

#### [Forms For Helping Children with O.C.D.](#)

A wealth of reproducible forms for the child with OCD. Featuring reproducible forms to be used by clinicians during treatment with OCD. This volume focuses on parent and child psychoeducation, targeting OCD symptoms, and building hierarchies. All forms and activities include a brief description of their therapeutic value.

#### [Forms For Helping The ADHD Child](#)

This hands-on book, filled with forms, charts and checklists for treating children with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, covers a wide range of approaches. It includes effective aids in assessing, treating and monitoring the progress of the ADHD child such as: an Activities Schedule; a Children's Self-Control Checklist; a Homework Completion Chart; a Rules Form; a Self-Monitoring Chart and many others.

#### [Forms For Helping The Socially Fearful Child](#)

The forms in this book are designed to help in the entire treatment process: from assessing symptoms to implementing techniques, from developing therapeutic homework to assessing progress.

To purchase this valuable collection of effective techniques that saves time for busy counselors, [click here!](#)

### **ABOUT GUIDANCECHANNEL.COM**

[GuidanceChannel.com](#), a brand of [Sunburst Visual Media](#), is an online portal that offers newsletters and an online magazine including insightful articles, thought-provoking interviews, tips website reviews, and other content that addresses the social, emotional, and educational issues facing today's youth. We are an educational publishing company that develops award-winning guidance and health videos, DVDs games, activity books, curricula, pamphlets and print materials for the K-12 school market.

For over 30 years, Sunburst Visual Media has been producing the highest quality guidance and health programs. From the start, Sunburst Visual Media's mission has been to enhance learning and help teachers get students thinking and talking about the difficult issues they face every day. Sunburst Visual Media's reputation as the recognized leader in the field of guidance and health, is built on its ability to present tough-to-teach topics in a realistic, non-judgmental, and captivating manner. Sunburst Visual Media's prides itself on consistently providing educators with award-winning programs in such areas as: anger management, bullying and harassment, character education, violence prevention, conflict resolution, drug abuse prevention, sex education, career education, health, and parenting skills.

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## **ABOUT JULIA TAYLOR, MA**

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## **ABOUT THE AMERICAN SCHOOL COUNSELOR ASSOCIATION**

Professional school counselors everywhere share the same vision to support their schools by serving their students. School counselors know that guiding students toward personal and social development leads to improved academic achievement. Through their partnership with principals and teachers, school counselors help prepare today's students to become tomorrow's adults.

The American School Counselor Association (ASCA) responds to school counselors' unique needs, helping them grow individually as professionals and providing them with real tools to guide their students. As an international nonprofit organization founded in 1952, ASCA has the benefit of foresight and hindsight. It has grown to fit counselors' changing needs through social and educational movements from desegregation to standardized testing. Responding to the needs of counselors as voiced by counselors has enabled ASCA to remain vital and forward-thinking.

ASCA serves as the voice of school counselors on Capitol Hill and helps members ensure their voices are heard in state legislatures. ASCA has active government affairs representatives who monitor activities in Congress, the Department of Education and throughout Washington to advocate on behalf of school counselors' interests: funding, certification, student-to-counselor ratios and more.

A full-color bimonthly magazine, *School Counselor* provides practical information and how-to articles to help school counselors help their students and themselves. Each issue has a focus on something school counselors care about, from public relations to grief counseling, as well as departments and columns covering a range of topics. Professional School Counseling is ASCA's award-winning bimonthly academic journal, providing peer-reviewed articles on school counseling theory, research, practice and techniques. The journal and the magazine together provide counselors with the most well-rounded and up-to-date information in the field.

For more information, visit [www.schoolcounselor.org](http://www.schoolcounselor.org) or call 703.683.ASCA.

## **FOR ADDITIONAL NEWSLETTERS...**

If you've found *The Counselor's Classroom* useful and informative, you may also be interested in subscribing to some of our other newsletters. *Dr. Playwell's Newsletter* is a unique newsletter full of play therapy techniques to help you address the social and emotional needs of children and young adolescents. *FYI From Wellness* offers practical tips and suggestions for use in the clinic or classroom written by professionals from a variety of disciplines. *The Guidance Channel Zine* is a monthly online magazine that includes interviews, website reviews, statistics and articles by many national organizations such as the National Association of School Psychologists, the American School Counselor Association and National S.A.V.E. (Students Against Violence Everywhere). To subscribe to these newsletters, [click here!](#)

**If you would like to share this newsletter with a colleague,  
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