

School Social Worker, Coordinated Comprehensive Early Intervening Services

*This position opens on **August 20, 2021** and closes **August 31, 2021**.*

The Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) is one of the top school systems in the state of Maryland and the nation. Serving approximately 58,000 students, our mission is to ensure academic success and social emotional well-being for each student in an inclusive and nurturing environment that closes opportunity gaps.

The ideal candidate for this position believes in a strengths-based approach to support student achievement. They value diverse perspectives and demonstrate commitment to providing culturally competent services to meet the needs of students, families, schools, and communities. Their service to students, schools and families will be guided by social work's core values of service, social justice, dignity and worth of the person, importance of human relationships, integrity, and competence.

To learn more about employment with the Howard County Public School System (HCPSS), please visit our website at <https://www.hcpss.org/employment/>.

DESCRIPTION

Working under the direction of the Executive Director of Special Education and the Coordinator of Student Support Programs, the Social Worker, Coordinated Comprehensive Early Intervening Services (CCEIS) will work with HCPSS staff, schools, offices, and community partners to support initiatives focused on decreasing disproportionality in the identification, placement, and discipline practices and serve as a liaison between the Office of Program Innovation and Student Well-being and the Department of Special Education.

ESSENTIAL POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES

- Collaborates with other system personnel to increase student achievement and performance outcomes for all students.
- Supports the implementation of HCPSS's Strategic Call to Action and DSE initiatives to improve outcomes for students with disabilities.
- Strengthens community partnerships to provide access to resources for students and families receiving special education services and remove potential barriers.
- Assesses needs and provides direct services and case management to students and families regarding the social, emotional, behavioral, and mental health interventions to support student achievement and well-being. Direct services and interventions may include individual and group therapy.
- Identifies barriers to student learning and receiving support services outside of school and facilitates access to school-based mental health services in assigned schools.
- Utilizes a multi-tiered system of supports and restorative practices to support students well-being.
- Promotes student belonging and implements actions to support positive school culture and climate.

Dr. Michael J. Martirano, Superintendent

- Determines and implements a range of therapeutic services and appropriate intervention strategies with students and families, including risk assessment and support during mental health crises.
- Utilizes specialized social work skills and training to provide clinical support, crisis intervention, and consultation to school teams during crises situations.
- Mobilizes and coordinates community resources for students and families to address academic, social, emotional, behavioral, and mental health needs.
- Identifies and assesses sources of academic concerns, including factors in the school environment, home setting, and community, which interfere with school success.
- Serves on school-based and system-wide committees to address students' emotional, social, and behavioral needs, with an emphasis on the provision of evidence-based services.
- Provides staff development and consultative services on pertinent issues affecting students' learning, social/emotional well-being, mental health, and behavioral health.
- Conducts psychoeducational groups on topics such as, emotional management, conflict resolution, decision-making, mindfulness, etc. in collaboration with student service colleagues.
- Collaborates with identified community agencies and their staff who provide school-based mental health services in selected schools. These responsibilities include:
 - Identifying students and families who would benefit from regular ongoing mental health interventions.
 - Establishing of a schedule for individual sessions at the school.
 - Communicating with community provider(s) and/or agency(ies) to ensure mental health services are provided as recommended.
 - Serving as a liaison to share updates and foster communication between families, schools, and community providers serving the mental health needs of students in assigned schools.
 - Addressing any school or parent concerns regarding the services of the community provider.
 - Assisting with required data collection and evaluating the impact of the services on student's academic and behavioral performance at school, home and in the community.
- Maintains required documentation and prepares reports as required in adherence with School Social Work Services.
- Attends required meetings for professional development purposes.

The above list is a summary of the functions of the job, not an exhaustive or comprehensive list of all possible job responsibilities, tasks, and duties.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Applicants must meet all the following qualifications, listed below, to be considered for the vacancy. Use the application, letter of introduction, and resume to specifically address each qualification.

Education:

- Master's degree in social work from a Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) accredited college or university.

Licensure:

- Hold one of the following social worker licenses issued by the Maryland State Board of Social Work Examiners:
 - Licensed Master’s Social Worker (LMSW)
 - Licensed Certified Social Worker (LCSW)
 - Licensed Certified Social Worker-Clinical (LCSW-C)

Certification:

- Hold, or be eligible for, a current Maryland State Department of Education School Social Worker Certificate.

Experience:

- Two years of professional social work experience completed following conferral of a master’s degree in Social Work.
- Experience providing direct social work services for children, birth to age 21, and their families.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Work experience in a mental health field and/or school social work experience.
- Knowledge of restorative practices and their implementation in the preK-12 school setting.
- Knowledge of and/or experience working with learners who receive early interventions or special education services and their families.
- Evidence of fluency in Spanish as demonstrated in oral and written communication skills.

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

This is an 11-month per year position in the [Howard County Educators Association \(HCEA\)](#). The current salary range for this position is on the Other Certificated Staff Salary Scale, Grade II, \$75,585 - \$120,089. Salary placement will be in conjunction with the salary procedures of the Howard County Public School System. Under the Fair Labor Standards Act, this position is exempt from overtime.

The work year for 11-month social workers will be 215 days from July 1 to June 30. The additional 20 days worked outside of the regular school year will be determined by the department.

This is a grant-funded position. Continuation of this position beyond one year may be contingent upon continued grant funding.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Only applicants who submit all the requested information by the closing date of the vacancy will be considered for this position. Interviews will be limited to those applicants who, in addition to meeting the basic requirements, have experiences and education which most closely match the position qualifications and the needs of the school system.

Please note that a completed application includes:

- A complete application form that includes a listing of employment locations with dates of employment and names of direct supervisors.
- All supplemental materials (i.e.: resume, letter of introduction, and transcripts) required to verify that you meet the minimum qualifications.

HCPSS requires an official [evaluation of foreign credentials](#) to verify educational qualifications.

For questions regarding this vacancy, please contact:

Sandy Saval
Human Resources Business Partner
Office of Human Resources
(410) 313-6689
sandy_saval@hcpss.org

Equal Opportunity Employer

The Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) is an Equal Opportunity Employer. HCPSS ensures equal employment opportunity for all persons without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, disability, sexual orientation, or political affiliation.