



#### **RECOMMENDATION TO SUNSET COMMISSION**

#### **4. Align State Law and Regulation for Practice to Reflect National Standards for the Practice of School Psychology**

##### **Background**

The National Association of School Psychologists Model for Comprehensive and Integrated School Psychological Services is designed to be used in conjunction with the NASP Standards for Graduate Preparation of School Psychologists, Standards for the Credentialing of School Psychologists, and Principles for Professional Ethics to provide a unified set of national principles that guide graduate education, credentialing, professional practice and services, and ethical behavior of effective school psychologists and reflect the following principles:

- Foundation in the knowledge bases for both psychology and education.
- The use of effective strategies and skills to help students succeed academically, socially, behaviorally, and emotionally.
- Application of knowledge and skills by creating and maintaining safe, supportive, fair, and effective learning environments and enhancing family–school collaboration for all students.
- Knowledge and skills relevant for professional practices and work characteristics in their field.
- Understanding and respect for human diversity and promote effective services, advocacy, and social justice for all children, families, and schools.
- Integrated knowledge and professional skills that result in direct, measurable outcomes for children, families, schools, and/or other consumers.

The current statute and rules and regulations are based on national standards that were adopted in 2000. The revised and improved standards adopted in 2010 reflect evidence-based best practice in all areas of school psychology.

##### **Applicable Current State/Federal Law**

Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act, Public Law 108-446  
Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Public Law 107-110

##### **How Issue is Addressed in Other States**

Other states, most notably Maine, Nevada, Connecticut and New York, have begun implementing the practice model into statutes describing school psychological services, professional evaluations and job descriptions.

##### **Benefit to the Community**

The model provides direction to school psychologists, administrators and consumers of school psychological services regarding excellence in professional school psychology. It also delineates what services might reasonably be expected to be available from most school psychologists and, thus, should help to further define the field. In addition, the model is intended to educate the profession and the public regarding appropriate professional practices and, hopefully, will stimulate the continued development of the profession.



**Financial Cost to the State**

None

**Suggested Statute Language**

**Sec. 501.260. SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST.**

(c) The rules of practice for a school psychologist must comply with the most current Model for Comprehensive and Integrated School Psychological Services and ethics standards as published by the National Association of School Psychologists or a successor organization for the practice of school psychology.