

Position Description: School Social Worker
215 Day Contract

Health Leadership High School is a charter school designed to equip high school students interested in the health sector to become leaders in developing healthier communities. We value social workers who are passionate, creative and motivated to establish strong relationships and learning environments that meet students' needs and encourage success.

The mission of Health Leadership High School is to equip students who are interested in health with the skills they need to become leaders in developing healthier communities. Through experiential and project-based learning, our students develop as deep and complex thinkers to have a broad understanding of the determinants of improving healthier communities. Our mission is to take a holistic approach in supporting youth to have successful careers by caring for their intellectual, physical and emotional well-being as students.

The School Social Worker is a trained mental health professional, who serves as part of the Student Support Team. The chief responsibility of this role is ensuring that students have the highest level of support possible and the tools, knowledge, and resources necessary to thrive socially, emotionally, and academically. This includes positive behavioral support, use of restorative practices, academic and classroom support, student advocacy, coordination of resources, consultation with teachers, parents, and administrators, as well as providing individual and group therapeutic support services. The school social worker is instrumental in supporting the school's Advisory program and furthering the academic mission where home, school and community collaboration is necessary to supporting student success. At Health Leadership High School, we believe that all students deserve social work support. In addition, to special education students and IEP goals, the social worker provides global service to the whole school environment.

The School Social Worker carries out the vision and mission of the school through the following roles:

- Provide individual social work services as part of the IEP for students enrolled in Special Education.
- Facilitate trauma-informed individual and group interventions with students and their families.
- Complete periodic home visits as needed to address attendance and truancy concerns
- Perform suicide/homicide/self-harm and other threat assessments, complete safety plans, make appropriate referrals and report relevant information as needed
- Work closely with teachers and other staff members to support classroom learning by modeling, scaffolding and teaching about Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) strategies
- Help to address behavioral concerns and work to develop solutions using a Positive Youth Development (PYD)
- Attend annual IEP meetings as an advocate for the student and family

- Complete social work evaluations for students with an IEP
- Refer students and families to community resources, including but not limited to legal, advocacy, financial, mental health and substance abuse programs
- Consult with community mental health professionals to address student needs
- Promote and lead health and wellness initiatives
- Help guide and promote the school Advisory Program and provide push-in support in Advisories
- Participate in individual, group and reflective social work supervision with Student Support team

Minimum Qualifications:

- Master of Social Work degree from an accredited institution of higher education
- Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW); will consider candidates with a Provisional LMSW
- Must have demonstrated experience working with children, youth and families
- Must be willing to comply with a state and federal background check
- Must be able to work at least 40 hours
- Must be comfortable with completing home visits as needed
- Must have strong critical thinking skills, experience working on teams, commitment to ethical practice and the ability to work autonomously

Preferred Qualifications:

- Bilingual in English and Spanish
- Licensed as a School Social Worker by the New Mexico Public Education Department or eligible and willing to become licensed within two to three months
- Experience working with diverse populations, including refugees and undocumented immigrants and knowledge of their unique needs and challenges
- Experience working in a secondary educational setting, preferably as a school social worker
- Knowledge of IDEA, Restorative Justice, Positive Youth Development and SEL and experience applying these to a school setting

Compensation:

- Salary ranges from **\$58,600 - \$75,000+** and is commensurate with experience, degrees and licensure.
- Full benefits are offered, including medical, dental, vision, ERB retirement plan

***To ensure safety for all students, all staff members will be fingerprinted. Background checks will be conducted on all school staff prior to their service as employees. At Health Leadership High School, we seek to embrace equity, diversity and inclusion. We strive to have employees who have a deep commitment to supporting youth and community as a whole. Health Leadership High School is proud to be an equal opportunity employer.