

POSITION DESCRIPTION: SCHOOL GUIDANCE COUNSELLORS' ADVISORY GROUP MEMBER

The NZAC's School Guidance Counsellors' Advisory Group represent NZAC school counsellors in a working group.

Reports to:

National Executive through National Executive Liaison to Advisory Group

Purpose:

One of NZAC's key projects is to secure and promote counselling as primary intervention in youth mental health by:

- Increasing counsellor ratio in schools 1:400
- Lobbying for qualified counsellors in primary and intermediate schools

Key Tasks:

- Working to support SGC conferences and to recommend professional development within schools.
- Providing professional support and guidance for SGCs.
- Working on projects which promote SGCs in their role as key professionals supporting youth wellbeing, for example, the 2019 Research Project.
- Responding to queries on issues relating to management of "at risk" students in schools.
- Collaborating with National Executive to develop strategic direction and complete tasks on SGC portfolio plan

Criteria for School Guidance Counsellor Advisory Group Members:

1. Be a Member of NZAC committed to upholding the Association's values and principles and hold a current Annual Practising Certificate
2. Be committed to honouring our Te Tiriti o Waitangi relationship with Tangata Whenua.
3. Have at least five years' experience as an NZAC school guidance counsellor, preferably in more than one school.
4. Be able to identify the unique challenges and concerns of youth, including rangatahi Māori (Māori youth) and other disadvantaged groups

5. Have knowledge and experience in the functions of NZAC at Branch and/or National Māori Roopu level
6. Agree to be accountable to the NZAC Executive for decisions and actions undertaken as a member of the SGC advisory group and work as a team to promote and advance the work of school guidance counsellors in Aotearoa.
7. Agree to attend at least two meetings annually of the advisory group and contribute to online discussions and reports as required.

Reviewed: July 2023

For Review: July 2026