Become a School Counsellor …

In 2008 the NSW Department of Education and Training is offering qualified teachers the opportunity to retrain as school counsellors or to complete a major in psychology prior to retraining as a school counsellor.

Existing teachers who are successful applicants for the 2008 programs will:

• have at least the equivalent of two years’ successful full-time teaching experience and current permanent approval to teach in NSW public schools
• be covered for tuition costs associated with retraining
• receive a one-off general purpose allowance for technology support, printing and textbooks
• receive reimbursement of travel and accommodation costs to attend compulsory residential sessions and examinations, if applicable
• be subject to a probity check
• be subject to a medical check (if not already working as a permanent teacher with the Department).
• agree to work as a school counsellor for two years following retraining.

Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander teachers and teachers in a racial, ethnic or ethno-religious group which is a minority in Australian society are encouraged to apply.

2008 School Counsellor Retraining Program

Successful applicants are sponsored for up to two years to complete a postgraduate qualification in psychology. The program includes university study, residentials (where required), practicum and Departmental orientation sessions. The program will be delivered either as a:

• full-time face-to-face program in a metropolitan location in the first year followed by one year of part-time study. Participants are appointed to full-time school counsellor positions mainly in western and south western Sydney following the successful completion of the full-time component of the program.

or

• part-time distance education program of two years of study. Participants are placed in school counsellor-in-training positions from the first year of retraining in non-coastal rural NSW schools and are released for up to two days per week for study.

Successful applicants will:

• have completed an Australian Psychological Society (APS) accredited psychology major within the last ten years at credit average grade
• receive full-time teacher salary whilst undertaking retraining

2008 Psychology Sponsorship Program

Successful applicants are sponsored to complete the second and/or third year of an APS accredited psychology major by distance study. They will:

• have completed APS accredited first year psychology subjects within the last ten years at credit average grade
• receive reimbursement of tuition fees for second and/or third year subjects completed at credit average grade
• sign a Deed of Agreement to commence school counsellor retraining in 2009 or 2010.

NB: It is an offence for a person convicted of a serious sex offence to apply for this retraining opportunity. Relevant screening checks will be conducted on recommended applicants.

Applications and information package: www.teach.nsw.edu.au/retraining
Enquiries: 1300 300 634
Applications close: 23 July 2007