

NC School Psychologists 2017-18 Fact Sheet

October 2017

Issues: Statewide shortage of School Psychologists: Shortages impact NC’s capacity for schools to address Mental Health needs statewide and impacts communities. New School Psychologists are leaving NC to work in neighbor states. NC needs to keep its highly trained School Psychologists in NC.

Actions: NCSPA asks all NC School Psychologists to share information with stakeholders locally and at the state level. We ask the NCGA to increase the salary for School Psychologists for increased retention/recruitment statewide. NCSPA requests pay parity equal to NBCT stipend. We ask the NCGA to expand the university training programs across NC to an additional three programs.

*This information was compiled by the NCSPA Legislative and Public Policy Committee. Sources include: NCDPI, NCSPA, NASP, & NC SMHI.

Areas of Comparison	North Carolina School Psychologists				
Volume of training for NCDPI Licensure Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 60 Graduate Credit Hours, 1200-hour full-time internship over one year • At least 600 hours of the internship must be completed in a school setting. • Highest licensure requirement in NC: Advanced Degree is Required only for School Psychologists. 				
Total number of School Psychologists within NC	Total School Psychologists in NC = 740 currently employed National Recommended ratio is 1:700 for comprehensive services. Currently, the NC ratio is 1:2,100 .				
Staff Vacancies Statewide (Sept. 2017)	Statewide Vacancies = 65 Nationally Certified School Psychologists are not recognized for licensure reciprocity within NC. (SC recognizes NCSP for licensing reciprocity.) NC Districts without a School Psychologist on staff = 12				
University SP Training Programs within NC	5 (In other words, NC is unable to graduate enough School Psychologists to fill statewide vacancies.)				
NC Salary Comparison	Speech Therapists (Same as School Psychs)	Teachers (M.Ed) w/NBCT	School Counselors w/NBCT	Occupational Therapist	Physical Therapist
School Psychologists 10-yr: \$5,137 15-yr: \$5,439 20-yr: \$5,769	10-yr: \$5,137 15-yr: \$5,439 20-yr: \$5,769 http://www.ncpublicschools.org/docs/finance/finance/salary/schedules/2017-18schedules.pdf	10-yr: \$4,948 15-yr: \$5,558 20-yr: \$5,893	10-yr: \$4,948 15-yr: \$5,558 20-yr: \$5,893	Salary Grade 78 Range: 4,404.67-7,966.30	Salary Grade 78 Range: 4,404.67-7,966.30
National certification recognition with pay	School Psychologists ARE NOT eligible for a National Board Certification Teacher stipend. School Counselors ARE eligible for NBCT stipend.				
Skill Breadth: Social Emotional Learning, Assessment, Curriculum, & Academic Interventions	Yes NC School Psychologists support <i>Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child</i> model. http://www.nchealthyschools.org/wholechild/ Our role positively impacts and supports Career- and College-Readiness.				
Special Education Connection/IDEA	Yes School Psychologists’ training includes special education policies and procedures.				