



MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELOR MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

Green River Regional Educational Cooperative
Project ACCESS

This document serves as the Memorandum of Agreement between **Kaitlyn Mitchell**, the **Simpson County**, and the Green River Regional Educational Cooperative (GRREC), the fiscal agent of Project ACCESS. This document details the educator's commitment to the Project ACCESS Grant as a School-Based Mental Health Counselor.

Fiscal Agent: Green River Regional Educational Cooperative

As the fiscal agent, GRREC will provide the overall management of the School-Based Mental Health Counselor. School districts will support the work of the grant, the implementation of grant programming, and progress monitoring over the course of the three-year contract with the Mental Health Counselor. Districts will have flexibility in scheduling the Mental Health Professional's day-to-day duties related to direct counseling services to students. The Mental Health Counselor will be considered an employee in their district which includes supervision, salary, and fringes. Salary will be based on the district salary schedule. The Advisory Council as outlined in the grant application will serve as thought partners, monitoring progress and providing feedback throughout implementation.

Candidates for positions in the 2024-2025 school year will be eligible for a \$7,500 stipend, payable in the fall semester. Candidates who do not fulfill the three-year commitment will be required to forfeit or reimburse the Project ACCESS Grant or the district a portion of the signing bonus equivalent to the unfulfilled portion of the three-year contract or MOU.

The Mental Health Counselor agrees to the following:

- Remain with the district for a minimum of three years.
- Complete state-required graduate credit and professional learning for counseling licensure.
- Attend professional learning which will include at least three sessions annually related to the immediate and ongoing needs of the new Mental Health Professionals and their schools.
- Participate in a cohort model of continuous professional development, networking, and support.

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- Work with school officials and the district point of contact to ensure that students identified as having the most needs are supported by the Mental Health Counselor(s) for a period of three years.
- Fulfill professional obligations as a part of the learning community, including but not limited to attending required meetings and trainings, participating in community engagement activities, participating in data team meetings, attending parent conferences, attending Individual Education Plan (IEP) and 504 meetings, and counseling students.
- Collaborate with principals, school counselors, and teachers to ensure the goals of the grant.
- Work with Mental Health Counselor(s) and Project ACCESS staff to maximize the amount of time scheduled to directly work with students.
- Help establish a supportive environment with equitable access for all students through understanding youth mental health illnesses, early warning signs, and creating a trauma-sensitive learning environment. This includes, but is not limited to reviewing and revising school-wide behavior plans.
- Work with school or district officials to access student data and reporting tools involving attendance, behavior, suspensions, alternate placements, and expulsions.
- Collaborate with school staff to implement preventative strategies (e.g., Break Cards, Safe Spaces) for students as needed.

I, **Kaitlyn Mitchell** , understand the Project ACCESS Grant is investing in me as an educator working in the **Simpson County school district**. As an investment in the future of learning for the students in our district, I therefore agree to remain in the **school district** for a minimum of three years. Should I choose to leave the above-mentioned district before completing three years of employment, I understand that I will be personally financially responsible for reimbursing the grant for a prorated amount of the participant signing bonus.

**First year completed 2023-2024 School Year*

Mental Health Professional Signature

Date

Superintendent Signature

Date

GRREC Executive Director Signature

Date

