



## **INFORMATION BRIEF: Provisions for Pupil Personnel Services (PPS) to Provide Supervision for Counseling-Related Services in Grades PreK-12**

**Summary.** A Services Credential with a specialization in Pupil Personnel Services (PPS) authorizes the holder to perform pupil personnel services in four specialization areas: School Counseling, School Psychology, School Social Work and Child Welfare and Attendance within grades 12 and below, including preschool, and in programs organized primarily for adults. Specific Requirements for the Professional Clear Services Credential for PPS are listed in Title 5, Education, Division 8, Commission on Teacher Credentialing of the California Administrative code: [Cal. Admin. Code tit. 5, s 80049, CA Code of Regulations](#). Credentials are issued under the *Teacher Preparation and Licensing Law of 1970*. PPS ([standards](#)) were updated and approved by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing in 2020.

LEAs are increasingly offering services for students through programs that link school systems with local healthcare and social service programs. Approximately 40% of Pre-K-12 grade LEAs utilize some form of integrative behavioral health service model. The range and scope of services and the professional authorization to provide these services varies significantly.

PPS staff are required to supervise those who provide counseling services in grades PreK through twelve which includes all non-credentialed providers. Those requiring supervision include but are not limited to volunteers, classified staff, pre-service interns, and licensed individuals who are authorized through the [California Board of Behavioral Sciences \(BBS\)](#).

### **Supervision Statute:**

#### **[Cal Admin. Code 80049.1 \(c\)](#)**

*Nothing in this section shall be construed to preclude school districts from utilizing community-based service providers, including volunteers, individuals completing counseling-related internship programs, and state licensed individuals and agencies to assist in providing pupil personnel services, provided that such individuals and agencies are supervised in their school-based activities by an individual holding a pupil personnel services authorization.*

**Supervision Defined.** The term supervision has several meanings. In some settings, it means a function of supervising pre-licensed individuals including university trainees, interns, and post-graduate associates. Other interpretations have to do with supervision as an action between and employer and employee. Another meaning that aligns most closely with 80049.1(c) is that supervision is a function of oversight and managing. Individuals are supervised through the act of providing coordination of individuals, programs, and other functions. It connotes an act of being responsible for something or someone. It is the

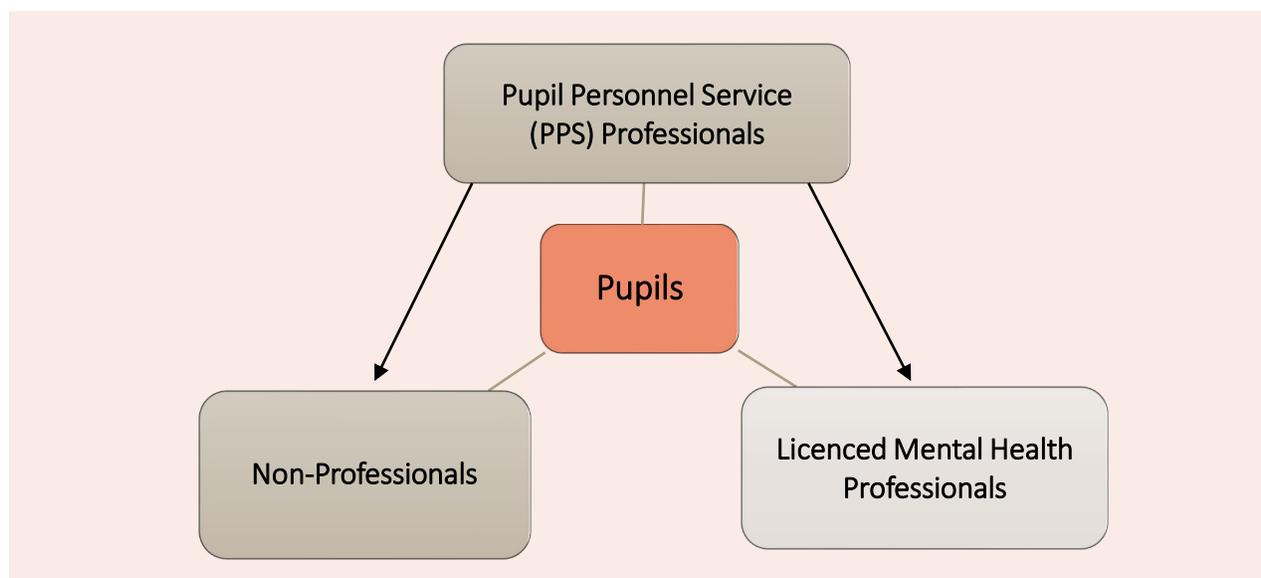
responsibility of LEAs to ensure supervision is provided for all non-credentialed individuals when counseling-related services are conducted.

**Project Cal Well defined supervision related to 800049.1(c) as follows:**

*Non-PPS Credentialed mental health personnel do not necessarily understand the public school system and the legal requirements governing student confidentiality. Good communication between the contracted agency and district would reduce misunderstandings between the parties involved. It is important that the district includes this information in the agency contract: communication practices, personnel clearances, identification badges, emergency procedures, provider liability insurance coverage, counseling expectations, and district and agency information sharing under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and Health 6 Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (e.g., Releases of Information, email communications, and authority to access district student data systems etc.).*

- [A Guide to Increase Mental Health Services for Students](#), (Page 5, 2018)

**CHART: EXAMPLE OF SUPERVISION APPROACHES/CONSIDERATIONS**



<sup>1</sup>. Supervision provided to non-credentialed providers of services differ significantly from intensive supervision methods to coordination depending on the authorization or lack thereof.

**Historical Significance.** [Cal Admin. Code 80049.1 \(c\)](#) was passed by the California Legislature and signed into law by Governor Reagan in 1970. It was intended to expand school-based mental health services, allowing LEAs to provide a broader array of integrative care. Oversight and supervision of non-credentialed individuals was a necessary element in safeguarding children and provided a mandate for the coordination of school-based services as part of the assigned responsibilities for Pupil Personnel Service (PPS) credential holders. PPS have the professional preparation, training, knowledge, and authority to ensure integrative services are coordinated, monitored and are effective.