



The Massachusetts School of  
Science, Creativity and Leadership

## School Counselor 9/20/19

*Overview: Acera is looking for a School Counselor to become a support for our students and a member within our counseling team. At Acera, we foster intrinsic motivation and good judgement in students within a progressive, student-centered school. For this role, we require 3+ years of experience. As a counselor, enable students to develop their emotional intelligence, conflict resolution skills, teamwork, and decision making. Send resume and cover letter which describes your educational and counseling philosophies and your salary expectations to: [hiring@aceraschool.org](mailto:hiring@aceraschool.org)*

**Job Description:** Bring your highly collaborative approach, and deep commitment to customizing students' experiences to fit their needs to our school. You will need to have a highly collaborative and accountable approach to support, team with teachers and counseling staff, and intervene with good judgement. We have a core school program with 130 students ages 5-14, and a summer time STEAM Learning Lab program that offers year-round enrichment to the public. We are continuously improving our school as a microcosm of what is possible in education, in which students' voice, capacities and needs are understood. At Acera, we build relationships with each student as the cornerstone of our practice, and we partner with parents to help each child become the best version of themselves.

### Responsibilities:

As a school counselor, use strong skills in listening, supporting, skill building, and facilitation to:

- o Enable student growth in emotional intelligence (self awareness, self regulation, social skills)
- o Partner with teachers, counseling team and parents to assure students get interventions and skill building opportunities that align with their learning profile
- o Provide individualized support for students via our Student Support Program under the guidance of the Student Support Program Manager
- o Intervene, as needed, to re-direct and coach students during transitions, recesses, during class time
- o Be a flexible member of the community to step in as needed across the school
- o Support parent meetings and education efforts
- o Continuously learn and improve practice by learning from others on staff and participating in professional development programs.

As a staff member at Acera, be a flexible member of our small school and high commitment team, flexibly helping out as needed. Ask for help, and escalate issues you see. Live and practice Acera's core values of community, curiosity, openness, innovation, integrity, and leadership.

**Acera Mission:** We envision a world in which schools engage students in meaningful learning, in which teachers are freed as entrepreneurs in their classrooms, and in which students can become the best version of themselves, given each students' unique capacities, needs, and passions. The Acera school day program provides students with unbounded access to learning, offering gifted students opportunity according to their ability not age. The Acera community, across all its programs and partnerships, learns, discovers, and explores at a pace appropriate to each child's unique motivation



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and potential. Our culture is not about pressure; it is about freedom. We keep alive students' innate curiosity and love of learning. We also partner with organizations beyond our walls, creating programs rich in sciences, technology, engineering, creativity and arts. We operate both as a lab school and a microcosm of what is possible for other schools. We seek to grow students' emotional intelligence and enable them to become the best version of themselves. Our mission, across our core school day program, enrichment programs and within our partnerships, is to develop the next generation of innovators, leaders and creative thinkers who can make a positive impact in the world.

### **Skills and Requirements:**

- 3+ years of experience supporting student development (as counselor, social worker, teacher, etc.)
- Experience coordinating across staff members, as a team member and/or team leader
- Ability to scan complicated social and community gatherings, and hone in and offer support as needed
- Excellent organization, follow through, documentation, and project management skills in written and verbal formats
- Ability to facilitate and support student groups to work through conflict, maintain a culture of mutual respect, and make plans and next steps to learn and evolve
- Mac proficiency
- A bring-it-on, can-do, let's make it happen, whatever it takes attitude!
- A kind heart, a thoughtful mind, and a generous spirit
- BA / BS degree in social sciences is highly preferred. MSW or other advanced degree in therapy or psychology related field is nice to have but not required.
- See challenges as opportunities for invention. Positive, the "glass is half full" orientation. Enables others to reframe their distress into seeing challenges as opportunities.
- Flexibility to step in, help and do whatever is needed to support our programs, our teachers, our parents, and our students

### **Salary & Benefits**

- School year position
- Four weeks paid vacation (2 weeks for December break, 1 week February break, 1 week April break)
- Health and dental benefits available
- School-aged children of full time employees are able to attend Acera's after school and summer programs free of charge

### **Application:**

- Please submit cover letter, resume, philosophy of education and beliefs about counseling/intervention, and salary expectations to: [hiring@Aceraschool.org](mailto: hiring@Aceraschool.org)

**Anticipated start date:** immediately



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**For more information please contact:** Courtney Dickinson, Founder & Director [hiring@aceraschool.org](mailto:hiring@aceraschool.org)  
[www.aceraschool.org](http://www.aceraschool.org)

***Equal Opportunity Employer*** Acera is committed to maintaining a work and learning environment free from discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, pregnancy, gender, sexual orientation, marital/civil union status, ancestry, place of birth, age, citizenship status, veteran status, political affiliation or disability as defined and required by state and federal laws.