

Self-efficacy Levels of Candidate Counselors and Their Opinions about Areas of the Competency of Counselors

F. Sülen Sahin Kiralp

*Department of Psychological Counseling and Guidance, European University of Lefke,
Faculty of Education, Lefke, Turkey, 99728
Telephone: +90 0392 6602000, E-mail: sulens@hotmail.com*

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ABSTRACT The aim of this paper is to determine the level of the perceived self-efficacy of candidate counselors and to determine the areas of competency that psychological counselors should possess. A mixed method was used in research. Survey method and open-ended questions were used to collect data. Based on the quantitative data collected from 431 candidate counselors, it was observed that the perceived self-efficacy of the candidates is at a moderate level and have some self-confidence regarding their consultancy skills. According to the qualitative data, candidate counselors think that counselors must be competent in counseling skills, ethical issues, and managing sessions. However, according to the responses in all three areas, they see themselves as not being fully adequate. Considering that they are responsible for the children's educational, personal and social development, school counselors' positive perception of self-efficacy is important for the whole community.