

Educational Specialist (Ed.S.) in School Psychology



The purpose of the Millersville University School Psychology Educational Specialist program is to recruit, retain and prepare diverse and culturally responsive, highly effective school psychologists who, as data-based decision-makers and problem-solvers, advocate for and support the educational success of all children.

This program is a graduate course of study, leading to certification in School Psychology in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The program is recognized by the National Association of School Psychology (NASP) and has had this distinction since 1990. Students are provided with a competency-based program which moves sequentially from a strong knowledge base to acquisition of applied skills, and then to the supervised practicum and internship experiences.

Upon successful completion of a specified 30 credit hours of coursework, a Master of Science (M.S.) in psychology is awarded. Following successful completion of the remaining 34 credit hours, which includes a practicum and 1200-hour, full-year internship, the student earns an Educational Specialist (Ed.S.) degree and is recommended for certification as a school psychologist to the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

This program ascribes to a practical ecological model which trains candidates to work effectively within the various student-support systems: the school, the family and the community. The program prepares candidates to function as strong advocates, who are mindful of intersectionality and social justice, by relying on research evidence and incorporating best practices into the training program. Our program strives to incorporate new knowledge about the most effective practices as it emerges in the ever-changing field of school psychology.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The program objectives have been designed to reflect NASP's training standards:

1. Enhance the development of wellness, resiliency, social skills and life competencies.
2. Enhance the development of cognitive and academic skills.
3. Provide leadership in promoting effective and caring systems that support learning.
4. Make informed decisions based on data.
5. Practice in ways that meet all appropriate ethical, professional and legal standards and with mindfulness of their social responsibility in serving others.
6. Apply technology to improve outcomes and support their efforts in serving others.
7. Be aware of issues of diversity and provide sensitive quality service to diverse populations.
8. Assist with and monitor the development of those interpersonal and collaborative skills that will enable candidates to work effectively and cooperatively with others.



REQUIRED COURSEWORK

MASTER OF SCIENCE, PSYCHOLOGY (30)

- PSYC 530: Child Development Within the Family System (3)
- PSYC 536: Applied Biopsychology (3)
- PSYC 540: Applied Behavior Analysis in an MTSS Framework (3)
- PSYC 547: Applied Social Psychology (3)
- PSYC 600: Seminar in School Psychology (3)
- PSYC 612: Research Design and Statistics (3)
- PSYC 631: Psychotherapy/Intervention (3)
- SPED 600: Orientation to Special Education (3)
- RDED 621: Foundations of Reading/Writing (3)
- EDUC 671: Curriculum Development in the Schools (3)

EDUCATIONAL SPECIALIST, SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY (64)

- Master of Science, Psychology, School Psychology (30)
- PSYC 671: Cognitive, Achievement and Adaptive Assessment (3)*
- PSYC 672: Academic Assessment and Intervention in a MTSS (3)*
- PSYC 674: Assessment of English Language Learners (3)*
- PSYC 675: Behavioral Assessment of Children and Youth (3)*
- PSYC 634: Child Psychopathology/Therapy (4)*
- PSYC 646: Consultation (3)*
- Elective – choose one, determined with consultation of advisor (3)
 - GFED 670 Psychology of the Gifted
 - ECHD 611 Affective and Psychomotor Emphasis
 - EDUC 561 Second Language Acquisition
 - EDFN 545 Advanced Educational Psychology
 - EDFN 590 Social Foundations of Education
 - EDFN 604 Education and Public Policy
 - PSYC 517 Test and Measurements
 - PSYC 527 Childhood Disorders
 - PSYC 537 Ethics and Professional Practice
 - PSYC 630 Group Processes
 - PSYC 633 Systems of Psychotherapy
 - PSYC 635 Psychopathology
 - PSYC 637 Family Therapy
 - PSYC 638 Cognitive Behavioral Therapies
 - PSYC 699 Thesis Credits
 - SCCN 630 Multicultural Counseling
 - SCCN 657 Brief Counseling
 - SPED 580 Diagnostic and Assessment Strategies
 - Summer Institutes, as appropriate and with advisor approval (e.g., ESL, Trauma, ABA, ASD)
- PSYC 685: Practicum in School Psychology (3)
- PSYC 686: Internship in School Psychology (9)

***Students are required to take and pass the three core cores (PSYC 530, 612, 600) with a "B-" or better, as well as pass all three CCEs before enrolling in these courses.**

DEGREE/CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

To earn a degree and certificate in School Psychology, students must:

- Complete 64 semester hours of coursework, including 1200-hour internship.
- Maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0.
- Pass core competency exam (CCE).
- Receive satisfactory evaluation from the psychology department graduate committee.
- Pass various Praxis exams to earn Commonwealth Certification, including School Psychology specialty exam.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- 18 undergraduate semester hours in psychology
- Minimum GPA of 2.75
 - If undergraduate cumulative GPA is 3.0, no GRE scores are required. Below a 3.0 cumulative GPA, you must have minimum GRE scores of 150 on verbal and quantitative components, and a 29 minimum score on analytical writing.
- 3 letters of recommendation
- An autobiographical sketch indicating the student's academic and professional goals
- Official undergraduate transcripts
- Personal interview
 - The personal interview process will include an individual interview, a group interview and a writing exercise, which you will complete at the interview appointment.

APPLICATION TIMELINES

School Psychology has application **deadlines** as follows:

- January 15 for admission beginning summer/fall.
- June 1 for admission beginning fall (on a space-available basis) for those who have missed the January 15 deadline.
- October 1 for admission beginning winter/spring.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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