

COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY PHD
Application Process
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the application deadline?

We start accepting application September and completed applications are due December 1. ALL materials must be received by this date. It takes time to process files; therefore, it is wise to get your materials in 4-6 weeks before the deadline to ensure that all is ready for consideration. The [Graduate Admission application](#) is submitted online through [Graduate Admissions](#).

What standardized tests are required?

The [Graduate Record Examination \(GRE\)](#) (General Test) is not required. An applicant whose native language is not English must provide proof of English proficiency regardless of current residency. This program requires a TOEFL score of at least 600 (pBT) or 100 (iBT).

How many letters of recommendation are required for the application?

Include three letters of recommendation as part of your application materials. As part of the online application, you will provide the names and email addresses for each of their recommenders so that ASU can contact them directly to solicit letters of recommendation. The recommenders will upload their letters directly through the ASU electronic system. We prefer that two of these letters be from persons familiar with your academic work, unless you have been away from school for many years. It is in your best interests to request that these letters address, in a detailed way, a) your promise as a scientist-practitioner, b) career goals, and c) interpersonal competence.

Is an admission interview required as part of the application process?

Yes, admission interviews are required. We schedule an Interview Day, generally early February. Interviews are helpful in introducing you to our program by meeting faculty and students, getting program information, and providing an opportunity for you to ask us questions. Since the pandemic, we have conducted remote interviews. Applicants invited for interviews will be contact by our Admissions Committee.

Is a specific undergraduate degree required?

No. However, we prefer students with degrees in psychology and related fields so that they are prepared for the rigors of our program.

Is a specific graduate degree required?

No. The program is providing preference to applicants with a master's degree in psychology, counseling, or a closely related field. Please consider applying to the [Master of Counseling program](#) if you do not have a graduate degree.

How can I get information about counseling psychology faculty?

You can find a list of faculty with information about their research and professional interests in the [program handbook](#), our [website](#), or through ASU faculty directory. You can find information about their research labs and scholarship. We recommend you contact faculty who you share interest in their research.

If a person is not accepted, what options exist?

Students may apply again the following year. Updated materials may improve one's application materials. Due to the numbers involved, it is impossible to meet individually with each applicant who was denied admission. Additionally, consider applying to our [Master of Counseling program](#) or earning a master's degree in psychology or a closely related field.

How many years does it take to complete the PhD?

Most students complete the program in 6 years, on average. Please view our Student Admission, Outcomes, and Other Data available [here](#).

How many credits should I take in my first semester?

Most full-time students take 13 credits in their first semester. Keep in mind that 9 credit hours is full-time status per Graduate College and 6 credit hours is full time with a TA/RA position.

Is there a maximum course load?

The office for Graduate Admission Services does not have a maximum credit hour enrollment policy. It is expected that academic units will set course loads for their students that facilitate academic success. Throughout the program, it is recommended that students take no more than 12-15 credits each semester. Students are encouraged to discuss course load with their advisor. Unit approval is required for more than 15 credits per semester.

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May I complete the program on a part-time basis?

The program curriculum is designed for students attending full-time. Students may complete the program part-time; however, course availability may be limited at times. Please note pre-doctoral internship requires a full-time commitment.

May I enroll in courses offered by Counseling and Counseling Psychology if I am not in the program?

In some cases, ASU graduate non-degree seeking students or students in other ASU programs are able to enroll in our courses. If you so desire, please review our course offerings and descriptions for the upcoming semesters. If you have not done so already, you would need to apply to ASU as a non-degree student. In addition to being admitted to ASU, you would need to gain instructor's approval to take courses that our program offers. Seats are not guaranteed as we must prioritize students who are admitted to our programs. Some courses like practicum and internship are only available to students in the MC or PhD programs. We generally hold seats until about a week or so prior to the start of the term. You may search for courses via ASU's [Class Search](#).

Can I transfer credits?

The PhD program considers up to 12 graduate-level credit hours with grades of "B" or better that were not used towards a previous degree. Preadmission credits must have been taken within three years of admission to the ASU degree program to be accepted pursuant to ASU [Graduate College Policy and Procedures](#). Admission to the program is required before approval of transfer credits.

Does Counseling and Counseling Psychology have student groups available?

PhD students may participate in Doctoral Students in Counseling Psychology (DSCP). Details are distributed via the student listserv. Students may also participate in CCP's Diversity Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) committee. Please contact ccp@asu.edu to be connected with the current student leaders. In addition, ASU has a variety of student organizations available. Details are available [here](#).

Where could I find information regarding veteran resources?

The [Pat Tillman Veterans Center](#) provides support for student veterans and dependents. Explore ASU's veteran affairs and services and get help with your education benefits.

Does ASU have international student services?

Yes, please visit the [International Students and Scholars Center](#).

What is the cost of the program?

The costs of enrollment for the current academic year can be obtained from the [ASU Tuition Estimator](#). Tuition and fees are subject to annual approval by the Arizona Board of Regents. Current tuition and fees are listed below but can change. Always check the current costs. For questions or comments about tuition and fees, please contact the Student Accounts Office. For questions or comments about financial aid and cost of attendance, please contact Student Financial Assistance.

What funding is available for students in the program?

Most doctoral students are able to secure graduate assistantships (i.e., teaching and research assistantships) either within the program or in other units across ASU. Assistantships with .50 FTE (20 hours per week) appointments receive a full tuition remission and student health insurance at no cost; however, enrollment in the insurance plan is required each semester. Spring semester insurance coverage includes the summer months. Assistantships with .25 FTE (10 hours per week) appointments receive a 50% reduction in tuition, and are considered to be in-state residents for tuition purposes. Unfortunately, academic year assistantships do not cover summer tuition.

Students may be nominated by the program for the [Graduate College Enrichment Fellowship](#) and [Presidential Graduate Assistantship Program](#) pending criteria. Students should consult with their faculty advisors regarding external fellowships. Our students have been successful in procuring national fellowships like the MFP and NIH.

Is there a campus tour available?

Yes, on-campus tours could be scheduled [here](#). In addition, virtual tours are available. Campus amenities could also be reviewed on this [webpage](#), which include the Memorial Union, University Health Services, ASU Police Department, Student Services Building, and Sun Devil Camps Stores.

How do I schedule an academic advising appointment as a prospective student?

Please note, our program does not have academic advisors; our faculty serve as advisors to our students. *We encourage you to contact faculty members via email to discuss their research interests and potential program fit before applying.* Please be patient in contacting faculty members as due to the large number of applicants faculty members are not always able to meet in person with potential applicants. The faculty information is available in the Counseling Faculty section of the [PhD Handbook](#).

