

# Psy.D. In School Psychology

## Program Requirements

The Psy.D. in School Psychology program provides comprehensive training in school psychology. Psy.D. students take courses in assessment, interventions, and consultation as well as supervision. The Psy.D. program of study prepares graduates to utilize databased problem-solving methods to enhance outcomes for children and adolescents.

The Psy.D. in School Psychology program requires a minimum of 60 credit hours of coursework beyond a Master's degree. The Psy.D program includes two different sets of course requirements. Those students who are admitted to the Psy.D. program already holding the Nationally Certified School Psychologist (NCSP) credential are required to complete at least 60 credit hours. Those students admitted to the Psy.D. with a bachelor's degree are required to complete at least 117 credit hours. Those students admitted to the Psy.D. who hold a prior graduate degree in a field other than school psychology and who do not hold the NCSP will be required to complete the full 117 credit hour Psy.D. program except for any courses allowed to be transferred in (see policy) and any courses waived by program faculty.

The culminating experience of the Psy.D. in School Psychology program is minimum 2,000 hour pre-doctoral internship in a school or community setting. Students are eligible for internship only after they have completed all pre-requisite courses and obtained the approval of the program faculty. The internship must be completed under the supervision of a licensed psychologist. The internship must take place over a period of no more than two calendar years with a minimum of 20 hours per week at a given site. During the course of internship, students demonstrate competencies in assessment, intervention, and consultation.

Only two (2) School Psychology courses (up to six credits) may be taken prior to admission. Those prospective applicants who wish to take a course prior to applying or being admitted to the program may want to start with one of the following: HRD 668, SPY 671, SPY 674, SPY 676, or SED 540.

## Admission

Admission to the USM Psy.D. in School Psychology Program is competitive with 6-8 applicants having been admitted in recent years. Applications for admission are considered only once a year and the School Psychology program admission application deadline is December 1st. Late applications are not accepted.

For more information:

[www.usm.maine.edu/cehd/school-psychology](http://www.usm.maine.edu/cehd/school-psychology)

### For an admission application, contact: Office of Graduate Admissions

39 Exeter Street  
(207) 780-4386  
TTY: (207) 780-5646  
FAX: (207) 780-4969  
[gradstudies@usm.maine.edu](mailto:gradstudies@usm.maine.edu)

Mailing Address  
P.O. Box 9300  
Portland, ME 04104-9300  
[usm.maine.edu/grad/admission.html](http://usm.maine.edu/grad/admission.html)

School Psychology holds monthly information sessions. To pre-register for a session contact:

Rose Mahoney  
(207) 780-5220  
[rmahoney@usm.maine.edu](mailto:rmahoney@usm.maine.edu)

To view the schedule:  
[www.usm.maine.edu/cehd/prospective\\_students/info-sessions.htm](http://www.usm.maine.edu/cehd/prospective_students/info-sessions.htm)

## Special Admission Requirements

In addition to meeting the minimum admission requirements of the College of Education and Human Development, to be eligible for admission to the Psy.D. program, an applicant must meet the following requirements:

1. Hold a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution, and;
2. Have earned a cumulative grade point average of 2.75 or higher (on a 4.0 scale) in a baccalaureate degree program; or have earned a cumulative grade point average of 3.25 or higher (on a 4.0 scale) in a master's/graduate degree program, and;
3. Have earned a score of 1000 points or above on the combined verbal and quantitative scores on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE), or, for those with certification as a Nationally Certified School Psychologist (NCSP), submit a copy of a current and valid Nationally Certified School Psychologist (NCSP) Certificate and have earned a score of 900 points or above on the combined verbal and quantitative scores on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). Standardized test scores required of all applicants;
4. Two personal essays (see application form);
5. Documentation of professional experiences form (see application form).

The Psy.D. admissions process requires a formal interview. Candidates to be interviewed will be selected on the basis of the above information.

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## Program of Study

Skill Area	Course	Course Title	Credits	
			No NCSP	NCSP
Biological aspects of behavior	SPY 671	Physical Bases of Behavior	3	
Cognitive and affective aspects of behavior	SPY 676	Behavioral Principles of Learning	3	3
	SPY 684	Advanced Applied Behavior Analysis	3	
Social aspects of behavior	EDU 670	Organizational Behavior	3	3
	HCE 626	Group Process and Procedures	3	
	SPY 673	Social Foundations of Behavior	3	
History and systems of psychology	SPY 709	History and Systems of Psychology	3	3
Psychological measurement	HCE 605	Psychological Measurement and Evaluation	3	
	SPY 677	Cognitive Assessment	3	
	SPY 678	Functional Behavioral Assessment	3	
Research methodology	EDU 600	Research Methods	3	
	SPY 659	Clinical Research Methods	3	
Techniques of data analysis	EDU 697	Statistics I	3	3
	EDU 698	Statistics II	3	3
	SPY 751	Advanced Research Seminar	3	3
Individual differences in behavior	SED 540	Nature and Needs of Exceptional Learners	3	
Human development	HRD 668	Human Development	3	
Dysfunctional behavior/ psychopathology	SPY 674	Child and Adolescent Psychopathology	3	
Professional standards and ethics	SED 682	Special Education Law	3	
	SPY 609	Professional Ethics in Psychology	3	
Theories and methods of assessment and diagnosis	SPY 672	Assessment of Academic Achievement	3	
	SPY 675	Indirect Behavioral Assessment	3	
Effective interventions	HCE 620	Fundamental of Counseling Theories	3	3
	HCE 644	Crisis Intervention	3	3
	SPY 727	Advanced Academic Interventions	3	3
	SPY 728	Advanced Interventions for Individuals with Behavioral Disabilities	3	3
	SPY 729	Advanced Interventions for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities	3	3
Consultation and supervision	HCE 680	Clinical Supervision	3	3
	HRD 630	Facilitating Adult Learning	3	3
	SPY 603	Consultation in School Psychology	3	
Evaluation of the efficacy of interventions	SPY 759	Psy.D. Dissertation	6	6
Practica	SPY 693	School Psychology Practicum 1	3	
	SPY 694	School Psychology Practicum 2	3	
Internship	SPY 788	Pre-doctoral Internship	9	9
Electives		Chosen from the CEHD catalog	6	6
<b>TOTAL CORE PROGRAM CREDITS</b>			<b>117</b>	<b>60</b>