

Pre-Professional Psychology

<http://www.pacificu.edu/spp>

The School of Professional Psychology seeks students with both academic aptitude and personal qualities that will enable them to develop personally and professionally into effective psychologists, applied researchers, and therapists. A personal interview is required for all finalists who apply to any program.

Clinical Psychology Psy.D. Program

Requirements for admission with a bachelor's degree:

- Satisfactory completion of a bachelor's degree.
- A grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.4 during the last two years of study is desirable.
- The General Graduate Record Examination (GRE) taken within 5 years of application, scoring in the 150s for the verbal and quantitative portions and earning a 4.0 or higher for the writing portion.
- A strong undergraduate background in psychology. Applicants do not need to have a psychology major, but a math-based statistics course is required. In addition, at least 3 of the 7 following courses are required as preparation for work at the graduate level: Introduction to Psychology, Personality Theory, Abnormal Psychology, Developmental Psychology, Experimental Psychology, Physiological Psychology, and Social Psychology.

Additional criteria that make applicants more successful:

- Clinical experience - Applicants who have worked with mental health populations through volunteer or work efforts often have a better idea of what it is needed to become a psychologist.
- Research experience - Applicants who have aided others in research data collection, data entry, and data analysis or who have completed their own projects are competitive candidates for admission.
- Good interpersonal skills - Applicants who can engage in professional, appropriate conduct with peers, faculty, and others are well regarded. Comfort with public speaking is also helpful as the work of graduate school and being a psychologist involves being able to speak to various groups in public settings.

Clinical Psychology Ph.D. Program

Requirements:

- Satisfactory completion of a bachelor's degree.

- By the time of enrollment, applicants must have completed the following courses and received a grade better than a C+: Research Methods, Abnormal Psychology, and Statistics. Additionally, we recommend that applicants take the following courses: Cognition/Learning, Experimental Psychology, Physiological Psychology, Social Psychology, and Introduction to Psychology.
- A cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.3 is desirable.
- The General Graduate Record Examination (GRE) taken within 5 years of application.
- Applicants are expected to have had previous research experience. Examples of this include completion of an empirical honors thesis, assisting a professor in her/his research lab, or completing a research internship. Applicants must be clear about their commitment to the research aspect of clinical psychology in their application materials.

Applied Psychological Science M.S. or M.A. Program

Admissions decisions are based on many factors:

- Strength and breadth of academic record
- A cumulative grade point average of 3.0 on a four-point scale is desired. Those who have less than a 3.0 undergraduate GPA, but show other evidence of high potential are encouraged to apply. (Applicants may demonstrate their academic potential by taking the Graduate Record Exam.)
- Applied and research experience
- Essay responses
- Strength of letters of evaluation
- Content of application forms and the care with which they have been prepared
- Personal interview

Requirements:

- Conferral of a bachelor's degree is required prior to matriculating into the Applied Psychological Science program.
- Prior to entering the program students must have satisfactorily completed an Introduction to Psychology course and a Statistics course. We recommend additional undergraduate courses in psychology, particularly Physiological Psychology, Social Psychology, Cognition, Human Development, Learning, Personality Theory, and Research Methods.

Questions concerning admission to the School of Professional Psychology should be directed to 503-352-7226. For the Applied Psychological Science program questions please call 503-352-7229.

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