UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL ARKANSAS

*Department of Psychology & Counseling*

**M.S. in School Psychology**

**Steps in Application Process – Page 1 of 2**

*The M.S. in School Psychology program is a three-year, sixty credit hour program. Two years are spent in full-time coursework at UCA, and the third year is a full-time internship in the school setting. Upon successful completion of program requirements, graduates are eligible to become (1) licensed as School Psychology Specialists by the Arkansas Department of Education and (2) a Nationally Certified School Psychologist by the National Association of School Psychologists.*

**Step 1:** Complete TWO applications

Application #1 – Apply for admission to the UCA Graduate School (501.450.3124 or [www.uca.edu/graduateschool/admission\_process/](http://www.uca.edu/graduateschool/admission_process/)). The completed application will be reviewed by the Graduate School, and the student will be informed of admission status by the Graduate School in writing.

Application #2 – Apply for admission to the M.S. Program in School Psychology (501.450.3193 or [www.uca.edu/psychology/](http://www.uca.edu/psychology/)). Application deadline: **March 15th** of each year. The completed application will be reviewed by the School Psychology Program Committee, and the student will be informed of admission status by the Program Committee in writing.

Materials required in application #2:

* Completed, typed application form
* Twelve (12) successfully completed semester hours of undergraduate preparation in psychology
* Current resume or vita
* Goal statement – The goal statement should include an explanation (1-3 pages in length) of why you have chosen to pursue a career in School Psychology and why you have chosen to pursue graduate studies at the UCA.
* Three letters of recommendation – These letters are to be sent directly to the School Psychology Program Director, Department of Psychology & Counseling, Box 4915, Conway, Arkansas 72035-0001. At least one letter should be from a person familiar with your academic performance.
* Official copy of scores from Graduate Record Examination
* Official transcripts of all completed college coursework

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**Steps in Application Process – Page 2 of 2**

**Step 2:** The School Psychology Program Committee carefully reviews all applications that are completed by March 15th.

**Step 3:** Selected applicants are asked to participate in personal interviews, scheduled for March 30.

**Step 4:** After the interview process, an assessment is made of each of the interviewed applicants based on his/her application and

* Career goals and their compatibility with those of the program;
* Understanding of program goals and requirements;
* Potential for successful completion of program;
* Sensitivity to needs of children, families, school personnel, etc.;
* Interpersonal skills;
* Oral and written communication skills; and
* Commitment to social justice and interest in contributing to the well-being of others.

**Step 5:** Based on assessment in Step 4, a prioritized list of acceptable candidates is compiled by the School Psychology Program Committee. Offers of admission are made to the top candidates based on the number of openings available in the program. Additional acceptable candidates will be placed on a waiting list. Those applicants who are offered a place in the program are asked to respond with their decision within a specified time period.

**Step 6:** Applicants on the waiting list may be offered admission if additional vacancies occur.

**Step 7:** Acceptances into program are conditional pending a FBI and Arkansas background check at the student's expense.

For additional information,

contact Dr. Joan Simon, School Psychology Program Director,

at 501.450.5411 or jsimon@uca.edu.

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL ARKANSAS

*Department of Psychology & Counseling*

**M.S. in School Psychology**

**Application for Admission**

**(Please Type)**

Name (Last) (First) (Middle)

Address

(Street or Box) (City) (State) (Zip)

Phone \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(home) (work)

Email address

Educational history (use additional pages if necessary)

DEGREE MAJOR INSTITUTION DATE

Twelve completed semester hours of psychology coursework

COURSE TITLE GRADE COURSE TITLE GRADE

Graduate Record Examination Scores Verbal Quantitative

Three letters of recommendation from former professors or individuals otherwise qualified to comment

on your professional and academic potential.

Name Position

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

On a separate sheet, please prepare a **typed** essay (approximately 1-3 pages) of why you chose

School Psychology as a professional area and why you want to attend UCA.

***DEADLINE*** for admission: **March 15th.** Incomplete folders will **NOT** be reviewed.

Signature of Applicant Date

***Send application materials to***

School Psychology Program Director

University of Central Arkansas, 201 Donaghey Ave., UCA Box 4915,

Conway, Arkansas 72035-0001

**M.S. in School Psychology**

**Sample Course Sequence**

**Fall I (12 hours)**

P6330 Advanced Statistics

P6375 Professional School Psychology

P6354 Theories of Counseling

P6370 Advanced Developmental Psychology

**Spring I (12 hours)**

P6314 Psychopathology

P6331 Research Design

P6373 Individual and Organizational Consultation

P6313 Psycho-Ed Assessment I

**Summer I (12 hours)**

P6335 Identification and Remediation of Learning Problems

P6398 Legal & Ethical Issues

P7325 Physiological Psychology **or** P6372 Psychopharmacology

Elective (Pick one: P6393 Marriage and Family Therapy **or** P6356 Group Psychotherapy

**or** P6355 Multicultural Issues in Psychology and Counseling)

**Fall II (9 hours)**

P8305 Intervention I

P6332 School Psychology Practicum I

P6315 Applied Behavior Analysis

\*Master’s Comprehensive Exams

**Spring II (9 hours)**

P6333 School Psychology Practicum II

P7310 Child Personality Assessment

P6376 Psycho-Ed Assessment II

**Fall III (3 hours)**

P6342 Internship

**Spring III (3 hours)**

P6342 Internship