UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL ARKANSAS

*Department of Psychology & Counseling*

**Ph.D. in School Psychology**

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

*The Ph.D. in School Psychology program is typically a five-year, 120 credit hour program. Four years are spent in full-time coursework at UCA, and the fifth year is a full-time internship in a school or other appropriate setting. Other major requirements include presenting or publishing research and completion of a dissertation. Upon successful completion of program requirements, graduates are eligible to become (1) licensed as a School Psychology Specialist by the Arkansas Department of Education, (2) a Nationally Certified School Psychologist by the National Association of School Psychologists, and (3) licensed as a Psychologist by the Arkansas Board of Psychology.*

**Step 1:** Complete TWO applications

Application #1 – Apply for admission to the UCA Graduate School (501.450.3124 or <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 Ph.D. Program in School Psychology (501.450.3193 or [www.uca.edu/psychology/](http://www.uca.edu/psychology/)). The only application deadline is **January 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 (3 hours of general psychology and 3 hours of statistics are required as part of the 12 hours).
* 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 - either a minimum undergraduate GPA of 3.25 or a completed graduate degree with a minimum GPA of 3.25 is preferred

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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 January 15th.

**Step 3:** Selected applicants are asked to participate in personal interviews.

**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 criminal background check at the student's expense.

For additional information,

contact Dr. John Murphy, School Psychology Program Director,

at 501.450.5450 or [jmurphy@uca.edu](mailto:jmurphy@uca.edu).

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL ARKANSAS

*Department of Psychology & Counseling*

**Ph.D. 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 (statistics and general psychology are required)

COURSE TITLE GRADE COURSE TITLE GRADE

Graduate Record Examination Scores Verbal Quantitative Psychology Test (optional)

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 Fall admission: **January 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

**Ph.D. in School Psychology**

**Sample Course Sequence**

**Fall I (15 hours)**

P6330 Advanced Statistics

P6375 Professional School Psychology

P6360 Organization and Operation of Schools

P6354 Theories of Counseling

P6370 Advanced Developmental Psychology

**Spring I (12 hours)**

P6314 Psychopathology

P6331 Research Design

P6373 Individual and Organizational Consultation

P6313 Psycho-Educational Assessment I

**Summer I (12 hours)**

P7325 Physiological Psychology or P6372 Psychopharmacology

P6335 Identification and Remediation of Learning Problems

P6398 Legal and Ethical Issues

P6355 Multicultural Issues in Psychology and Counseling

**Fall II (10 hours)**

P8305 Psycho-educational Interventions I

P6332 School Psychology Practicum I

P6315 Applied Behavioral Analysis

P7141 Doctoral Research Seminar

\*Master’s Comprehensive Exams

**Spring II (10 hours)**

P6333 School Psychology Practicum II

P6356 Group Psychotherapy

P7141 Doctoral Research Seminar

P6376 Psycho-Ed Assessment II

**Summer II (10 hours) (13 hours for students taking the Teaching of Psychology course)**

P7315 General Linear Models

P6393 Marriage and Family Counseling

P7350 Teaching of Psychology (Optional)

P7141 Doctoral Research Seminar

**Fall III (9 hours)**

C6381 Counseling Practicum I (Non-school)

P7320 Regression and Multivariate Analysis

P6350 History and Systems of Psychology

**Spring III (12 hours)**

P7305 Doctoral Practicum in School Psychology I

P8310 Psycho-educational Interventions II

P6363 Advanced Social Psychology

P9310 Dissertation

**Summer III (3 hours)**

P7312 Learning and Cognition

**Fall IV (9 hours)**

P8315 Mental Health Promotion and Prevention

P7306 Doctoral Practicum in School Psychology II

P9310 Dissertation

\*Doctoral Comprehensive Exams

**Spring IV (6 hours)**

P7335 Program Evaluation in School, Community, and Mental Health Settings

P7307 Doctoral Practicum in School Psychology III

**Fall V (6 hours)**

P9605 Internship

**Spring V (6 hours)**

P9606 Internship