

Counseling Psychology Applicants

Selection Criteria

Selection Process. The Counseling Psychology committee evaluates all doctoral applicants and selects only outstanding applicants with strong academic backgrounds who show exceptional promise to perform at the doctoral-level, to practice as expert Counseling Psychologists, and to make a significant impact in helping others.

Selection Criteria. Among the criteria evaluated are undergraduate grades (and graduate grades if relevant). Further committee uses GRE scores as another indicator of academic potential at the doctoral- level:

Undergraduate GPAs and GRE scores of students accepted into the CP Program:

	Undergraduate GPA	GRE-V*	GRE-Q*
Mean	3.57	155.58	150.29
Median	3.63	156	150

*The scores are based on the year range 2012-2022 and the new GRE scoring system

Among the other criteria we use are the student's letter of intent (500 word essay) -- it is critical that the student understands fully the nature of the program and its demands (e.g., from the CP website and the CP graduate student handbook). Further, the committee weighs the three letters of recommendation in making a decision, all of which should indicate that the student's interests match the nature of the program, particularly in a willingness to serve others from diverse, multicultural backgrounds; to conduct and present meaningful scientific research; and to practice as a health-service provider in counseling psychology. The committee also considers relevant activities (e.g., extracurricular activities, related job experiences, and leadership positions).

Finally, the committee will invite the top applicants as determined by the above criteria for a one-day intensive interview during the spring. The day will consist of group interviews with faculty and the other top applicants, as well as individual interviews with faculty. Each applicant will be assigned a mentor, a current doctoral student in the CP program. (Students who may have to travel long distances or who have clear-cut extenuating circumstances may be granted a phone or Skype interview, at the discretion of the CP committee).