



*Meeting the Need
Making a Difference*

MSPP Application Guidelines 2012/2013

Clinical Psychology PsyD | Leadership Psychology PsyD
School Psychology PsyD | School Psychology MA/CAGS
School Psychology MA/CAGS/PsyD | Counseling Psychology MA
Forensic & Counseling Psychology MA | Counseling Psychology &
Global Mental Health MA | Counseling Psychology & Primary
Care MA | Organizational Psychology MA | Organizational
Psychology MA Online | Applied Psychology in Higher
Education Student Personnel Administration MA

Thank you for considering the Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology programs. Applicants are considered on their overall potential for successful performance in graduate level coursework as well as the potential “fit” with our programs and fields of study.

Pre-Requisites

- Possession of a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution.
- Basic coursework necessary to apply. *(Please see chart on page two).*
- Academic achievement at the undergraduate and/or graduate levels *(Although there is no cut-off GPA requirement, 3.0 (of 4.0) is expected).*

Ready to apply?

Log on to **www.mspp.edu/apply**. Transcripts should be sent in one package (with the exception of any standardized test scores which you arrange to have sent to us) to the Admissions Office. All other materials must be submitted through your online application account. Please begin the process early as we will consider only those completed applications which arrive on or before the deadline.

Program	Application Deadlines		Interviews		Pre-requisite Courses <i>Must be completed before enrollment</i>
	<i>For Early Consideration</i>	<i>For General Consideration*</i>	<i>For Early Consideration</i>	<i>For General Consideration</i>	
Clinical Psychology (PsyD)	Wed, Nov 30, 2011	Wed, Jan 11, 2012*	Fri, Jan 27, 2012 Sat, Jan 28, 2012 <i>Advanced Standing applicants will be interviewed on different days by appointment.</i>	Fri, Mar 2, 2012 Sat, Mar 3, 2012 Fri, Mar 9, 2012 Sat, Mar 10, 2012 <i>Advanced Standing applicants will be interviewed on different days by appointment.</i>	General Psychology; Abnormal Psychology AND <u>two</u> out of the following six courses: Developmental Psychology; Social Psychology; Personality Theories; Behavioral Statistics; Tests & Measurements; Physiological Psychology. <i>Those with an MA degree in psychology are exempt from the prerequisites.</i>
Leadership Psychology (PsyD)	N/A	Wed, Mar 14, 2012	N/A	Fri, Apr 20, 2012 <i>or by appointment</i>	Earned Master's degree in related field.
School Psychology (PsyD ONLY)	N/A	Wed, Nov 28, 2011*	N/A	Sat, Jan 28, 2012	30 or more credits applicable to programs requirements from a prior School Psychology MA degree.
School Psychology (MA/CAGS)	N/A	Wed, Jan 11, 2012*	N/A	Sat, Mar 10, 2012	Basic coursework or work/ volunteer experience in psychology or education.
Counseling Psychology (MA)	N/A	Wed, Jan 11, 2012*	N/A	Fri, Mar 2, 2012 Sat, Mar 3, 2012 Fri, Mar 9, 2012 Sat, Mar 10, 2012	Basic coursework or work/ volunteer experience in psychology or education
Forensic & Counseling Psychology (MA)	N/A	Wed, Jan 11, 2012*	N/A	Fri, Mar 2, 2012 Sat, Mar 3, 2012 Fri, Mar 9, 2012 Sat, Mar 10, 2012	Basic coursework or work/ volunteer experience in psychology or education.
Counseling Psychology & Global Mental Health (MA)	N/A	Wed, Mar 14, 2012	N/A	Fri, May 4, 2012 <i>or by appointment</i>	Basic coursework or work/ volunteer experience in psychology or education.
Counseling Psychology & Primary Care (MA)	N/A	Wed, Mar 14, 2012	N/A	Fri, May 4, 2012 <i>or by appointment</i>	Basic coursework or work/ volunteer experience in psychology or education.
Organizational Psychology (MA)	N/A	Wed, Mar 14, 2012	N/A	Fri, Apr 20, 2012	Suggested 2 years of business work experience or training and background in business education or mental health.
Organizational Psychology (MA) <i>Online Spring 2012 Entrance Only</i>	N/A	Wed, Nov 9, 2011	N/A	Fri, Dec 16, 2011 <i>or by appointment</i>	Suggested 2 years of business work experience or training and background in business education or mental health.
Applied Psychology in Higher Education Student Personnel Administration (MA)	N/A	Wed, Mar 14, 2012	N/A	At the discretion of the Program Director.	N/A

**Complete applications received after the general consideration deadline will only be considered on a space available basis.*

International Applicants

An international applicant, that is, neither a citizen nor a permanent resident of the U.S., must meet MSPP's regular admission requirements, as well as those listed below.

If written in a foreign language, all transcripts and other documents must be accompanied by an official English translation and certification of equivalency to the American education system. You can have both, the translation and equivalence certified by the World Education Service (WES). For detailed information visit www.wes.org.

Upon acceptance to the program, international students will be sent a Foreign Student Certification of Finances (FSCF) form which must be submitted by every student who does not hold a permanent resident (immigrant) visa in the United States. Since international students are not eligible to borrow Federal loans, and alternative

loans may be difficult to secure, the FSCF is needed to confirm that all of the necessary financial supports are secured for the duration of study, and to issue the INS I-20 form.

International applicants must provide a copy of their visa before beginning the program.

Application Materials

- \$50 Application Fee (*non-refundable*) \$75 if applying to two programs
- Completed application
- Three (3) letters of recommendation
- Curriculum Vitae
- Application Essay
- Official transcript(s)
- GRE General test is required for all Doctoral Programs. For Master's programs it is optional.

- Re-Application Statement*
- Change of Career Statement*
- * *if applicable, see appropriate section below.*

Recommendations

Three letters of recommendation are required from people who are able to attest to your personal qualities, such as: professional; academic; intellectual; motivational; interpersonal; and, emotional. References should not be provided by family members, friends, or others who do not know you in either a professional or academic context.

The electronic recommendation form is required and although a supplemental letter is optional it is strongly recommended. Both, the recommendation form and letter must be submitted electronically through your online application account.

The Interview

About a month after the Application deadline you will receive notification via email from the Admissions Office as to whether you have been selected to interview. If you are selected, we will offer you an interview to be held on one of the above dates depending on your program of choice.

Applicants who apply after the general consideration deadline, if selected for further consideration and there is space in the program, will be notified directly by the appropriate department to schedule an interview.

MSPP does not share information or provide any feedback regarding admissions decisions.

Curriculum Vitae (CV)

Please attach a current CV or résumé which includes the following: educational background; current activity; length and description of employment and/or training experiences; hours per week at each job or training site; names of supervisors at each facility; workshops and seminars attended; and any other professionally-related material (e.g., presentations, publications, etc.). You may also include any extracurricular activities or interests that you deem relevant.

Application Essay

Please provide a 4-6 page personal narrative that thoroughly includes these items in the following order:

- Your academic background and career interests.
- Previous personal, relational, and professional experiences related to your career pursuits.
- How self-awareness and self reflection contribute to developing your professional role.
- How you navigate challenges and overcome obstacles.
- Abilities as they relate to the professional training that you seek at MSPP.
- How you anticipate the MSPP program will meet your learning goals and advance your career path.
- What you will offer the MSPP community.
- Major strengths and weaknesses in your application to the program.
- Commitments to volunteerism or community service.

Official Transcripts

Please request an official transcript from each undergraduate and graduate institution that you have attended. Supply each institution with a self-addressed envelope, and request that the envelope be signed across its seal. We ask that if possible you request official transcripts to be forwarded to you for inclusion unopened in one packet that you will mail to the MSPP Admissions Office.

Test Scores

The General Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is required of all applicants to the Clinical and School Psychology PsyD applicants and to the School Psychology MA/CAGS program. Applicants to other programs are encouraged to submit GRE scores to enhance their application. The psychology subject test is optional. MSPP's School Code/Reporting Number is 3501.

GRE results (*verbal and quantitative*) are expected to be at least 1150 combined (or a comparable score of approximately 310 on the "REVISED" GRE). Score level for the Analytical Writing section GRE-A is expected to be 4.0 or higher. Non-native speakers of English may be required to take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). TOEFL results (*listening, structure and writing expression, speaking and reading*) combined scores are expected to be at least 637 (*paper-based*), 270 (*computer-based*) or 110 (*internet-based*).

The general Graduate Record Exam (GRE) is required of all doctoral applicants who are native speakers of English. The psychology subject test is optional. If English is not the primary language contact the Admissions Office if you are unsure about which test to take). GRE test scores are valid for five years, and TOEFL test scores are valid for two years.

For information regarding the GRE (MSPP Reporting Number 3501), please call Educational Testing Services at (609) 771-7670, or visit www.gre.org.

For information regarding the TOEFL (Reporting Number 3501), call (609) 771-7100, or visit www.toefl.org.

PRAXIS II Test for School Psychologists is optional for School Psychology Program doctoral applicants. MSPP Recipient Code Number is 3520 and the score recipient's name is Dr. Bob Lichtenstein, Director of the School Psychology Program. Please be aware that the ETS only keeps PRAXIS test scores taken over the last 10 years.

For information on the PRAXIS test or to have your score sent to us, visit www.ets.org/praxis.

Re-Applicants

Please attach a statement regarding your decision to re-apply. Be sure to indicate your re-applicant status on the front page of the application, the program to which you applied and the year.

This statement should contain whether you were or were not accepted, and address the specific factor(s) that contribute to your re-application. In addition, a description of your interim experiences (both personal and professional).

Previous admission files are kept on hand for a period of two years. Reapplicants may utilize any, or all, of the original application. However, we strongly recommend that you take the time to strengthen your original application, update your statements and recommendations whenever possible.

Change of Career

This section applies to those applicants who have made a decision to change careers within several years of application, yet who have earned experience (however limited) in the field of psychology.

Please attach a statement regarding your decision to change careers. Describe the evolution of the career change and discuss the ways in which the experiences you have had and skills required by your previous career might relate to your work as a psychologist.

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