APPLICATION PACKET

SCHOOL OF
COMMUNITY HEALTH SCIENCES, COUNSELING AND COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY

Master of Science in Counseling
Options: Mental Health Counseling & School Counseling
Complete the application through the Graduate College. All application materials, including transcripts must be submitted to the application. The materials can only be submitted once, so please check that all materials are complete and accurate. The Graduate College will not be able to upload any supplemental materials to your application. For Letters of Recommendation, recommenders must upload the letters. They will receive instructions how to do so through email, so please make sure all email addresses are accurate. Students, faculty, and the Graduate College cannot upload the letters.

The deadlines for all applications are

- **January 25**th for summer or fall admission
- **August 25**th for spring admission

**Admissions materials include:**

- Application Checklist
- Application Procedures
- Program Goal Statement
- Statement of Professionally-Related Experiences and Goals Guidelines
- Letters of Recommendation Guidelines

Submission of an application to the OSU Graduate College is the first of two steps in the admission process. This step should be followed immediately by the second step of admission to the program in Community or School Counseling. It is critical for applicants to complete the second step as soon as possible since special students can apply no more than 9 graduate hours to a degree program.

Admission to the program in Community or School Counseling involves the collection and submission of materials for the admission folder. Prospective students should give special attention to each packet item since these materials are a large source of information for admission decisions, along with the interview process. Only applicants with a bachelor’s degree from an accredited institution may be considered for full admission into the master’s program. Applications should be submitted prior January 25**th** of each year. Admission review is initiated when applicants are admitted to the Graduate College and their completed admission folders have been sent to the program faculty.

Applicants will be screened by a committee of Counseling Area faculty members, and finalists will be asked to participate in an on-campus interview. These interviews are MANDATORY, although some provisions may be made for out-of-state students. Final admission decisions will be made following these interviews.
In reviewing your application materials, we include consideration of the following:

a) Input from references and regular, adjunct, and affiliate program faculty
b) Personal qualities that are assets for those in the helping profession
c) An aptitude for development of counseling-related skills
d) An aptitude for graduate-level studies, including your technological competence and computer literacy
e) Career goals and objectives and their consistency with our program
f) Openness to self-examination and personal and professional self-development
g) Respect for diversity and the right of individuals to determine the course of their own lives, and an orientation toward beneficence

The following materials are required:

1. An official record of scores on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or the Miller Analogies Test (MAT). A competitive GRE score would be 294. A MAT score of 394-399 is a competitive test score for full admission.

2. In addition, an undergraduate GPA of at least 2.75 and a graduate GPA of at least 3.25 (if applicable) are required for admission to this program.

3. Three letters of reference from people who know you well and who are in a position to render an evaluation of your professional competence and potential as a counselor (appropriate references include: course instructors, university advisors/supervisors). Please see “Letters of Recommendation Guidelines”, included with this admission packet for specific instructions.

4. A Statement of Professionally-Related Experiences and Goals: Approximately three typed pages emphasizing a) pertinent professional, educational and/or personal experiences that have contributed to your interest in the counseling profession, and b) your professional aspirations. Please see “Statement of Professionally-Related Experiences and Goals Guidelines”, included with this admission packet, for further instructions.

5. Your résumé or curriculum vita.
GUIDELINES

Statement of Professionally-Related Experiences and Goals

Please word process/type an essay including, but not limited to, the following:

- Clarify why you would like to become a mental health or school counselor.
- Pertinent professional, educational, and/or personal experiences that have contributed significantly to your interest in the counseling profession. This may include volunteer work, experiences related to the counseling field, internship experiences, research teams, projects, presentations, etc.
- Clarify clearly which option (Mental Health Counseling or School Counseling) you would like to pursue and demonstrate reasons for this decision.
- Clarify clearly which campus (Tulsa or Stillwater) you intend to have as your primary campus within the program. The purpose of this is to help us make sure classes make for all students on both campuses.
- Your future professional aspirations and how this degree will help you achieve your long-term goals.

Your essay should be:

- Word processed or typed
- Double-spaced
- In 12-point font
- Formatted with standard 1” margins
- Up to 3 pages in length
GUIDELINES

Letters of Recommendation

Appropriate persons to write letters of recommendations to applicants include professors, supervisors, and advisors. Please ask those who know you well and who are in a position to render an evaluation of your professional competence and potential as a graduate student in the counseling field. Please provide this information to your references writing you professional letters of recommendation.

Using examples of specific activities you have observed of this individual, please evaluate the applicant in the following areas:

- Work ethic
- Scholarship and academic performance
- Flexibility and adaptability (e.g. comfort with ambiguous situations, ability to adapt to variety of expectations)
- Experience with, value of, and commitment to diversity
- Advocating human development
- Individual growth
- Leadership
- Any other relevant areas that will help evaluate this applicant who seeks to be a counselor