

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY PROGRAMS

Thank you for your interest in the Oklahoma State University School Psychology programs. The school psychology faculty offer two programs of study in school psychology leading to either the Ph.D. or the Ed.S. degree.

Ph.D. program

The doctoral program in school psychology at Oklahoma State University offers education and training in psychology to prepare students as scientist-practitioners. Students from the program entered the field in various roles and settings. For example graduates of the program have been employed in the schools, at universities, hospitals, in independent practice, and many other venues. The program graduates are eligible for licensure as Health Service Psychologists through the Board of Examiners of Psychologists, National Certification in School Psychology from the National Association of School Psychologists, and certification as school psychologists through State Departments of Education. The program of specialization in School Psychology currently leads to the Ph.D. in Educational Psychology with an option in School Psychology and is indicated on the student's transcript as follows: Degree: Doctor of Philosophy; Major: Educational Psychology; Specialization: School Psychology. The Ph.D. program is accredited by the American Psychological Association and approved by the National Association of School Psychologists.

Students in the program are all typically enrolled full-time for between 9 -14 graduate credit hours per semester and 6 hours during the summer semesters. This ensures that most students complete the degree in approximately 5 years (see SPSY 2007 Disclosure Tables). The majority of students who are successfully admitted have recently received their Bachelor's degree from psychology undergraduate programs. Some students are also admitted at advanced levels to the program with Masters or Specialist degrees. Those students admitted from the Bachelor's level receive the M.S in Educational Psychology - option School Psychometrics en'route to the Ph.D. in Educational Psychology – option in School Psychology. More information about doctoral school psychology can be found at the APA Division 16 webpage: <http://www.apa.org/about/division/div16>. Information about APA accreditation can be found at <http://www.apa.org/ed/accreditation/doctoral> or received from

APA Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation,
750 1st. St. NE, Washington, DC
20002-4242, 202 336-5500).

Ed.S. program

The specialist program in school psychology at Oklahoma State University also offers education and training in psychology to prepare students as professional school psychologists. Students from the program are usually employed as school psychologists in the public schools. The program graduates are eligible for National Certification in

School Psychology from the National Association of School Psychologists, and certification as school psychologists through State Departments of Education. The specialist program of study currently leads to the Ed.S. in Education with the option in School Psychology and is indicated on the student's transcript as follows: Degree: Specialist in Education; Major: Education; Option: School Psychology. The Ed.S. program is also National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) approved which is the highest level of program approval awarded to non-doctoral programs in school psychology. APA only accredits doctoral programs. Information about NASP program approval can be found here: <http://www.nasponline.org/certification/NASPAproved.aspx>

Students in the program are all typically enrolled full-time for between 9 -14 graduate credit hours per semester and 6 hours during the summer semesters. This ensures that most students complete the degree in 4 years, which includes a full time paid internship in the public schools. The majority of students who are successfully admitted have received their Bachelor's degree from psychology undergraduate programs or closely related areas. Most students receive the M.S in Educational Psychology - option School Psychometrics en'route to the Ed.S. degree.

More information about school psychology is found at this link:
<http://www.nasponline.org/>

Those students whose primary interests are in working with children, youth, families, school personnel and other agencies are the best match for our program. The faculty place high value on scholarship, research and the development of scientific skepticism to best expand your repertoire of psychological service delivery skills. Excellent interpersonal skills and a commitment to the highest level of professional conduct are also important qualities for school psychology graduate students to be successful.

Students are selected for the school psychology programs through a competitive admissions process once a year. Applications are reviewed for the Ph.D. program beginning February 1st. and for the Ed.S. program beginning March 1. There are "on campus" interview days for both programs and after those occur the offers for admission to prospective new students are made. Your application must be complete in order for you to receive full consideration for admission.

Applicants must first apply for admission through the OSU Graduate College website: <http://gradcollege.okstate.edu/apply> . For the Ph.D. program please specify your Proposed Major as *Educational Psychology*, the Degree Sought as Ph.D., and the Option or Specialization as *SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY*. For the Ed.S. program please specify your Proposed Major as *Education*, the Degree Sought as Ed.S., and the Option or Specialization as *SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY*.

The following items should be uploaded to the application:

- A vitae or resume'
- 3-5 page statement of your personal and professional goals and interest in school psychology
- A sample of your best academic or professional writing
- Letters of recommendation
 - 3 required for Ed.S. program
 - 4 required for Ph.D. program
- Official score report for the GRE (verbal, quantitative, analytical)*
- Official copies of all transcripts

*For the Ph.D. program an undergraduate GPA of at least 3.0 and/or a graduate GPA of at least 3.5, and at least 1000 on a combined Verbal and Quantitative score from the GRE are preferred. For the Ed.S. program an undergraduate GPA of at least 3.0 and/or a graduate GPA of at least 3.5, and at least 900 on a combined Verbal and Quantitative score from the GRE are preferred. Students with Bachelors or Masters degrees are eligible for admission to the school psychology programs.

Financial Support

Students may apply for and receive financial assistance at Oklahoma State University. The first step is to complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) through the Office of Financial Aid (see the Office of financial Aid and Scholarships web page at this link: <http://www.okstate.edu/finaid/applying/index>)

Assistantships

Various teaching, research, practica, School Psychology Center, and faculty/program administrative support assistantships are available within SAHEP. Assistantships are designed to provide a means of financial income for the full-time student, and to provide the student with special skills that may be useful in future career endeavors. Every attempt is made to match students with their areas of professional interest while serving as a graduate assistant. A faculty member is assigned to supervise each graduate student in his or her assistantship, and graduate assistant performance is evaluated annually.

Graduate assistants who have been awarded at least a .25 fte assistantship have the non-resident portion of their tuition waived fall, spring and summer semesters along with some of the resident tuition expense (see the SPSY 2007 disclosure tables).

Students who have applied to the program and been invited to the “on campus” interview day complete the application for a SAHEP assistantship during the interview day. Be sure to notify the faculty that you are interested while you are visiting the program. Historically since the program’s initial accreditation by the American Psychological Association, 100% of Ph.D. students have been supported with at least .25 fte assistantship awards and many of the Ed.S. students.

Graduate student assistantships may consist, but are not limited to, any of the following activities:

- Teaching or assisting in the teaching of undergraduate coursework (typically related to child and/or adolescent development, learning or special education).
- Working in the Reading and Mathematics Center for School Psychological Services
- Assisting the Director of Training (building web sites, organizing materials for conferences, planning and attending department meetings)
- Serving as a research assistant for a professor
- Consulting and providing services in a local school district