Master of Science in Counseling

School Counseling option · College Counseling option

Pupil Personnel Services Credential, School Counseling · Child Welfare & Attendance Authorization

The Master of Science in Counseling and the Pupil Personnel Services (PPS) School Counseling Credential program prepares students for careers in a variety of educational counseling settings and with training in specific counseling skills applicable to a diversity of populations and needs. Students choose to specialize in School or College specializations and are able to concurrently pursue the PPS credential, which is required to work as a School Counselor in the public schools. Candidates are trained to promote the academic, social-emotional, and career development of multi-cultural and linguistically diverse students in public elementary, middle, and high schools, as well as two and four year colleges. Our program is accredited by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing to offer both the PPS credential and the Child Welfare and Attendance authorization. We stress the importance of self-awareness, reflective examination, and intrapersonal and professional growth to provide a comprehensive preparation in educational counseling.

Master’s Degree Requirements for both School and College options (48-51 units):

Initial (3 units): (To be successfully completed in first semester of study before progressing in the program)
PPS 525. Group Dynamics for Personal Growth (3)

Foundations (24 units):
SPE 480. Educating Exceptional Children and Youth (3)
GED 500. Research Methods in Education (3)
GED 501. Seminar in Learning and Development (3)
PPS 505. Human Diversity (3)
PPS 508. Law and Ethics in Educational Counseling (3)
PPS 515. Counseling Theories (3)
PPS 520. Principles of Education and Psychological Assessment (3)
PPS 535. Seminar in Career and Academic Counseling (3)

Advanced Counseling (9 units):
PPS 530. Seminar in Techniques of Individual Counseling (3)
PPS 540. Seminar in Techniques of Group Counseling (3)
PPS 550. Crisis Intervention in Educational Settings (3)

Capstone Requirement (3-6 units) (MS Exam to be completed in final semester of study)
PPS 560. MS Capstone Requirement: Comprehensive Exam (3) or GED 599. Thesis (6)

Additionally required MS degree Specialization Coursework for desired option (9 units):

School Counseling
PPS 512 Consultation/Collaboration in MC Settings (3)
PPS 545 Counseling Children, Youth and Families (3)
PPS 554 School Counseling Practicum (3)

College Counseling
PPS 536 Foundations of College Counseling (3)
PPS 537 College Counseling Practicum (3)
PPS 538 Fieldwork in College Counseling (3)

Additional Counseling Certifications:

PPS Credential in School Counseling:
1. Successful completion of the MS Counseling, School Counseling option (or approved MA degree + Credential courses)
2. Passage of the CBEST and admittance into the PPS program.
3. Completion of PPS 575 Fieldwork in School Counseling (6 units)

Child Welfare and Attendance Authorization:
1. Completion of the PPS credential.
2. Completion of CWA coursework (9 units):
   PPS 557 Child Welfare and Attendance (3)
   PPS 558 School Attendance Improvement & Truancy Remediation: Prevention & Intervention (3)
   PPS 555 Child Welfare and Attendance Fieldwork (3)

College Counseling Certificate: (Open to MS School Counseling students and CSUDH counseling program alumni)
1. Admittance to the Certificate program.
Admissions Procedures for the MS Counseling and PPS School Counseling Credential Program

· Applicants to the MS degree must indicate a desired option: School Counseling or College Counseling.

· Applicants to the PPS credential in School Counseling must also earn the MS degree (unless a Master’s degree in Counseling, Psychology, Social Work, or Education has already been obtained). PPS credential applicants must also provide proof of CBEST passage.

There are two parts to the application: one for the University and one for the Counseling Program.

I. Application to the University

1. Apply to the University through www.csumentor.edu

2. Submit one official sealed set of transcripts for all undergraduate and any post-graduate work to: CSUDH Admissions Office, 1000 E. Victoria St., Carson CA 90747

II. Application to the Counseling Program

The following program documents must be submitted by the application deadline to:
CSUDH College of Education Student Services Center, SCC 510, 1000 E. Victoria St., Carson, CA 90747

1. Program application with $50 fee payable to CSUDH (applications are available at http://www4.csudh.edu/coe/apply/index or from the GED office).

2. An official set of transcripts showing Bachelor’s degree (from a regionally accredited college or university) and any graduate work (these transcripts are in addition to those required by Admissions Office). Exception: CSUDH students and alumni do not need to order CSUDH transcripts, but would still need to do so from other colleges/universities.

3. A minimum of 3.0 or better grade point average in the last 60 units of upper division undergraduate coursework (or a minimum combined score of 300 on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) (Revised) Verbal and Quantitative Tests, or a minimum score of 500 on the Miller’s Analogies Test).

4. Three (3) letters of recommendations from individuals who can evaluate your potential for graduate study as a school counselor, such as employers, supervisors, and professors. Letters should not be from personal sources such as family, friends, or clergy. Letters must be on official letterhead of the referee’s place of employment and be written specifically for the Counseling program within one year of application date. Letters can either be sent separately to the Student Services Ctr. address above or may be enclosed within the program application. All letters must be sealed with the referee’s signature across the back of the envelope.

5. Statement of Purpose (3-5 page min.): Your statement should include: a comprehensive profile of yourself as a prospective counselor; a description of relevant educational, occupational, and personal experiences that have contributed to your personal development and your decision to become a counselor; both personal strengths and areas you have identified for growth; your perception of the role of a school or college counselor; and why you believe you would be successful in this position based on your interpersonal qualities and interests.

6. Personal interview: All applications will first be reviewed by the counseling admissions committee to select a final round of applicants for small group interviews. Applicants selected for interviews will be contacted via e-mail within a month following the application deadline and will be notified of the interview date. Applicants are expected to be available during the interview period as it is a required component of the application process.

7. ALL applicants must enclose either a valid Certificate of Clearance or a CA teaching or substitute credential. For information on how to obtain a Certificate of Clearance go to: www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/fee-and-fingerprint.html

8. If you are applying to the PPS credential, you must enclose proof of CBEST passage. If you are only applying to the MS degree, the CBEST is not required.

For more information, please contact the Graduate Education Office at (310) 243-3524 or go to http://www4.csudh.edu/coe/programs/grad-prgs/school-counseling/index