Counselor Education, Ph.D.

The PhD degree is also offered in Counselor Education.

The Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Programs (CACREP), a specialized accrediting body recognized by the Commission on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA), has conferred accreditation on the following: Clinical Mental Health Counseling (MA), School Counseling (MA) and Counselor Education (PhD). The Council on Rehabilitation Education (CORE), also recognized by CHEA, has conferred accreditation for Rehabilitation Counseling (MA).

See the Admission Criteria section of this catalog for more information.

Admission Requirements

Cohort admission decisions are made annually. Admission to pursue a doctoral degree in Counselor Education is a two-step procedure. Regular admission to the Graduate School is the initial step for those seeking the doctoral degree. Within this step, students are engaged in post-master's study and are subject to scrutiny and review by program faculty for their suitability for doctoral study. Statement of purpose and letters of recommendation consistent with goals of the program, entrance exam scores (300 or above on the GRE or at least the 50 percentile on the MAT), and a GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale are needed for regular admission.

An applicant for doctoral study must:

1. possess a completed master’s degree in Counselor Education
2. when necessary, complete supplemental master’s-equivalency courses to comply with the CACREP-accredited course of study for the master’s degree
3. successfully complete a pre-admission doctoral interview for formal pursuit of the doctoral degree in Counselor Education

Course credit in post-master’s study may be used to fulfill doctoral degree requirements only after supplemental master’s-equivalency study is completed and a successful interview is conducted.

Degree Requirements

Degree requirements are noted on the official Plan of Study for the various degrees/tracks. These documents are available from the chairperson or administrative staff for the department.

All doctoral students must have a completed Plan of Study approved by the Graduate School no later than the semester during which the student will complete 30 semester hours of UA and/or transfer credit for the doctoral degree. Otherwise, a "hold" may be placed on future registrations.

If later there are changes in the Plan of Study, the student submits an amended plan of study to the Graduate School at the time the student applies for admission to candidacy for the degree. Admission to Candidacy forms are on the Graduate School’s website.

A department-approved Admission to Candidacy for the Doctoral Degree is submitted to the Graduate School as soon as possible after passing the comprehensive (preliminary) examination.

Alternative Doctoral Residency in Counselor Education

The required doctoral residency may be met through a combination of traditional campus classes and online classes in Counselor Education. Students will complete a minimum of nine semester hours in each of the two contiguous residency semesters/terms of their doctoral study.

No more than three semester hours of online graduate course work in Counselor Education may be taken during either of the nine-hour residency semesters/terms.