All MTSU graduate degrees are awarded through the College of Graduate Studies, which provides academic, financial, and other support services to students while upholding academic standards and ensuring that each program provides optimal experiences. In consultation with faculty, the college establishes policies and procedures to ensure judicious and selective admission decisions, rigorous adherence to academic standards, excellence in curricula, and selective faculty appointments.

Graduate applicants must have earned a bachelor’s degree from an accredited institution. Exceptions are those seeking the Ed.S. or doctoral degree, which may require a master’s degree.

The minimum grade point average for unconditional admission as a degree-seeking student is 2.75 at the undergraduate level and 3.00 for all courses taken at the graduate level.

Applications for admission may be obtained from and submitted to the Graduate Office, 114 Cope Administration Building, MTSU, Murfreesboro, TN 37132 (on the Web at www.mtsu.edu/~graduate). Applications may also be requested by telephoning 1-877-MTSU-PHD (1-877-687-8743) or (615) 898-2840. Applications for persons who are not U.S. citizens will be processed by the International Programs and Services Office, Keathley University Center 124.

Financial Aid

Limited numbers of graduate teaching assistantships, research assistantships, scholarships, and doctoral fellowships are available in addition to other forms of aid. Applications may be obtained from the College of Graduate Studies or from the appropriate academic department. Students must meet the requirements for admission to graduate school and have a cumulative GPA of 3.00 or higher.

The Student Financial Aid Office in 218 Cope Administration Building has information on various kinds of financial aid.
According to the National Association of School Psychologists and the Tennessee Association of School Psychologists, a school psychologist is an expert in psychology and education who serves children in the school setting. It is the goal of the school psychologist to promote quality education for all children, to be a child advocate, and to promote mental health in the school setting. School psychologists provide a wide range of services to students, parents, teachers, administrators, and the community. They may participate in any combination of activities in accordance with their professional training, capabilities, and experience.

The Tennessee Association of School Psychologists states that school psychology services include:
- consulting with parents, teachers, administrators, and other professionals in the community to enhance services to students;
- identifying the special needs of students and helping to plan their educational program;
- conducting individual or group interventions;
- educating youth in study skills, test-taking skills, social skills, stress management, and/or conflict resolution;
- conducting psychological/academic assessments;
- conducting teacher in-service sessions;
- leading parent training workshops;
- developing crisis management teams; and
- assisting schools to be in compliance with procedural safeguards.

The school psychology program at MTSU is field based because students work in schools every semester. The program follows a cognitive behavioral based because students work in schools every semester. The program follows a cognitive behavioral.

Admission Requirements

For all of the graduate programs in the Department of Psychology, admission is not automatic by meeting minimal admission requirements. Students are selected from a pool of qualified applicants. Each year, the number of students admitted to a program depends on the availability of adequate faculty supervision. The projected number of admissions to the program is not more than 12 students per academic year.

Applicants with an undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or higher and a score of 800 or higher (Verbal + Quantitative) on the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) will be considered for unconditional admission. Occasionally, persons who fail to meet the minimum GPA or GRE requirements but who possess other strengths may be admitted conditionally. Students admitted conditionally must achieve a 3.25 GPA in the first 12 required graduate classroom hours and meet any other specific conditional requirements.

In addition to departmental admissions materials, school psychology candidates must submit resumes that describe their experiences and accomplishments. They must also write personal statements explaining their interest in school psychology. Candidates should state if they are interested in applying for a paid graduate assistantship.

Application Deadlines

March 1: Fall Admission
October 1: Spring Admission

For Information

Psychology Department
(615) 898-2706 • fax: (615) 898-5027
www.mtsu.edu/~psych

Psychology Department, MTSU Box 87
Murfreesboro, TN 37132

Dr. James O. Rust, jorust@mtsu.edu

Anna Littlepage, alittlep@mtsu.edu

Curriculum

The program consists of a 45-hour M.A. and a 30-hour Ed.S. State Board of Education licensure and national certification are available. The advanced Ed.S. degree is only available to students who have master’s degrees in school psychology. Students from other master’s programs in psychology or counseling may be admitted, but they will be required to complete deficiencies. Students are required to be enrolled in at least one field-based course every semester until the completion of the program (excluding summers). Tennessee teacher licensing in school psychology is obtained through MTSU’s program. In addition to completing the M.A. and Ed.S. coursework, candidates for licensing must have 1,200 hours of internship, acceptable scores on the school psychology PRAXIS test, and verification of readiness for independent practice by their internship supervisor.

Requirements include
- 12 semester hours of counselor psychology
- 6 semester hours of core courses in education
- 3 semester hours of off-campus practica
- 6 semester hours of statistics
- 3 semester hours of thesis
- 6 semester hours of approved electives
- 6 semester hours of internship
- 24 semester hours of school psychology classes

Students must successfully complete and present a thesis and pass comprehensive examinations.

Required core courses

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<tr>
<td>PSY 6080</td>
<td>Interventions with Children and Adolescents</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSY 6100</td>
<td>Intellectual Assessment</td>
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<td>PSY 6140</td>
<td>Practicum: School Psychology</td>
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<td>Psychology and Assessment of Learning Disabilities</td>
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Visit us and apply online at www.mtsu.edu/~graduate.