

MS Counseling, School Counseling & Pupil Personnel Services Credential

Option to add:

- Child Welfare & Attendance Authorization
- Certificate in College Counseling

MS Counseling, College Counseling

Option to add:

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

The Master of Science in Counseling department prepares students for careers in educational counseling settings and is designed to provide a broad conceptual knowledge base and the development of specialized counseling skills applicable to a diversity of student populations and counseling needs. Students choose degree specializations in School or College Counseling and are able to concurrently pursue the PPS credential, which is required to work as a School Counselor in the TK-12 public school system. Our program is accredited by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing to offer both the PPS credential and the Child Welfare and Attendance (CWA) authorization. Through a framework of cultural humility, the program stresses the importance of reflective examination and interpersonal and professional growth to prepare counselors who are responsive, transformative, student-centered leaders.

Master of Science in Counseling, School Counseling option with PPS Credential and optional CWA (51-54 units):

- PPS 525 Group Dynamics for Personal Growth (3)
- GED 500 Research Methods in Education (3)
- PPS 501 Leadership in School and College Counseling (3)
- PPS 505 Human Diversity (3)
- PPS 508 Law and Ethics in Educational Counseling (3)
- PPS 512 Consultation and Collaboration in Counseling (3)
- PPS 515 Counseling Theories (3)
- PPS 520 Program Development and Evaluation (3)
- PPS 530 Seminar in Techniques of Individual Counseling (3)
- PPS 535 Seminar in Career and Academic Counseling (3)
- PPS 540 Seminar in Techniques of Group Counseling (3)
- PPS 545 Comprehensive School Counseling (3)
- PPS 554 School Counseling Practicum (3)
- PPS 550 Crisis Intervention in Educational Settings (3)
- PPS 560 Master's Capstone Requirement (3), or GED 600 Thesis (3-6)
- PPS 575 School Counseling Fieldwork (6)

To add the following certifications to the MS in Counseling, School option degree:

CWA Authorization: Completion of 150 hours within PPS 575 School Counseling Fieldwork

Certificate in College Counseling: Completion of College Counseling specialization courses: PPS 536, PPS 537, and PPS 538.

Master of Science in Counseling, College Counseling option (48-51 units):

- PPS 525 Group Dynamics for Personal Growth (3)
- GED 500 Research Methods in Education (3)
- PPS 501 Leadership in School and College Counseling (3)
- PPS 505 Human Diversity (3)
- PPS 508 Law and Ethics in Educational Counseling (3)
- PPS 515 Counseling Theories (3)
- PPS 520 Program Development and Evaluation (3)
- PPS 530 Seminar in Techniques of Individual Counseling (3)
- PPS 535 Seminar in Career and Academic Counseling (3)
- PPS 536 Foundations of College Counseling (3)
- PPS 537 College Counseling Practicum (3)
- PPS 538 Fieldwork in College Counseling (3)
- PPS 540 Seminar in Techniques of Group Counseling (3)
- PPS 550 Crisis Intervention in Educational Settings (3)
- PPS 560 Master's Capstone Requirement (3), or GED 600 Thesis (3-6)
- Elective: PPS 595 Counseling in the Community College (3) or one of: PPS 512, PPS 545, or PPS 554

To add School Counseling certifications to the MS in Counseling, College option degree:

PPS credential: School Counseling specialization courses: PPS 512, PPS 554, PPS 545, and PPS 575.

CWA Authorization: Completion of the PPS credential and CWA fieldwork (150 hours within PPS 575).

Admissions Procedures for the Counseling Program

Priority application deadline: Dec. 1. Applications submitted in full in Cal State Apply by Dec. 1 will receive first consideration for program admission. Decision notifications are expected by mid-March. For current undergraduates, official transcripts should be sent to Admissions *after* Fall term grades are posted, *but before* Feb. 1. All other applicants must submit official transcripts before Feb. 1.

Regular application deadline: Feb. 1. Applications submitted in full in Cal State Apply by Feb. 1 will be considered for remaining spaces in the fall cohort. Decision notifications are expected by late-April. Official transcripts must be sent to the Admissions Office *prior* to Feb. 1.

The Cal State Apply application window opens on October 1 and closes on Feb. 1. Program admission is for the Fall term only. All applications submitted in full by the Feb. 1 deadline with official transcripts received by Admissions, will be reviewed.

Helpful tips to ensure your transcripts are received:

- Submit your Cal State Apply application *prior* to sending official transcripts from your former institutions.
- Use the same name on your Cal State Apply application as on your transcripts (if your name has changed, indicate this in your order).

The following items and procedures are required to complete your application:

1. Apply through Cal State Apply: www.calstate.edu/apply

2. Official Transcripts

- After you have completed the application in Cal State Apply, but before Feb. 1, submit one official electronic set of transcripts for all undergraduate and any post-graduate work to the CSUDH Admissions Office at: admissions@csudh.edu Note: current CSUDH students and alumni do not need to submit CSUDH transcripts, but still must submit them from all other institutions attended.
- Within the Cal State Apply application, you will also upload unofficial transcripts showing undergraduate and any graduate work.
- Your bachelor's degree must be from a regionally accredited university and *posted no later than the Spring term prior to Fall admission*. All undergraduate majors are welcome to apply and no prerequisite courses are required.

3. GPA:

- Applicants are expected to have a *minimum* cumulative grade point average of 3.0 in all prior undergraduate and any graduate coursework. In lieu of a 3.0 GPA, applicants have the option to submit scores from the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test (Verbal and Quantitative sections), where a min. combined score of 300 will be considered supplementary for GPAs under 3.0.

4. Three (3) letters of recommendation:

- You will be asked to include the names and emails of three professionals who can evaluate your potential for graduate study. Appropriate references include professors and supervisors (as opposed to family, friends, colleagues, or clergy). Your referrers will be contacted directly by the University to request letters of recommendation on your behalf. Letters must be written specifically for our Counseling department within one year prior to the application deadline.

5. Statement of Purpose:

- Submit a 4-5 page double spaced statement of purpose to include: Personal experiences that have contributed to your decision to become a counselor; your personal strengths; areas you have identified for growth; the types of activities you would like to provide or engage in with students once you become a counselor, and a critical issue in counseling that you plan to research as a student and eventually integrate in your future counseling work. Your writing must be original and free from plagiarism. Statements indicating AI assistance will not be considered favorably in the review process.

6. Certificate of Clearance:

- All applicants must possess *either* a valid Certificate of Clearance or a CA teaching or substitute credential. Upload a copy of the clearance itself *or if it's in progress*, a receipt of the clearance application. For information on how to obtain a Certificate of Clearance go to: [Certificate of Clearance Directions](#) or [CTC Certificate of Clearance Information](#)

7. Tuberculosis (TB) Clearance:

- All applicants must submit verification of a current TB clearance. TB clearances are valid for 4 years.

8. Personal interview:

- All complete applications will be given careful consideration by the admissions committee. From there, a final round of applicants will be selected to participate in a small group in-person interview. Applicants selected for interviews will be emailed in early Feb. (priority admission) or early March (regular admission) with an interview date. Invited applicants are expected to attend the on-campus interview as it is a required component of the application.

Updated Information on the CA Basic Skills Requirement: All applicants having earned a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited university have automatically met the CA Basic Skills Requirement, which is a CTC requirement for the PPS credential.

For more information, contact the Department of School & College Counseling at (310) 243-3524 or go to www.csudh.edu/counseling/

Follow us on Instagram: [@toro_counselors](#)