



Texas A&M University
Ph.D. in School Psychology
Degree Requirements

The School Psychology Program is a traditional, full time program. Most students complete a minimum of three (3) full-time academic years of graduate study plus internship prior to receiving the doctorate. Part-time enrollment is discouraged as all coursework and field experiences are sequenced. The program is designed for completion of all program requirements, including internship and dissertation, within five (5) years, but about 40% take an additional year. Continuous enrollment is required.

Residency Requirement

A student entering the program with a baccalaureate degree must spend at least one academic year, plus one semester in resident study here; a student who enters with a master's degree must spend at least one academic year in resident study. Enrollment for each semester must be a minimum of 9 credit hours each to satisfy the residence requirement.

Degree Requirements

Students entering from the baccalaureate are required to obtain the M.Ed. following completion of 36 credit hours, usually conferred in December of the 2nd year. The doctoral degree requires a minimum of 64 credits beyond the masters degree. Most students take 100-110 credits.

All students are required to complete core courses in health service psychology covering discipline specific knowledge, and theory and techniques for clinical skills in assessment, intervention, and consultation, and research. Students entering with prior graduate coursework in school psychology or related field may be able to waive out of some courses. Students also take an additional 12 credits in their area of interest (strand) for depth and specialization.

All students are required to complete two semesters of therapy practicum in the Counseling and Assessment Clinic, one semester of integrated assessment practicum with cases in the local school districts and/or the Counseling and Assessment Clinic, and two full semesters (600 hours) of school-based experience. Exceptions can be made for those entering with their LSSP and prior school experience to allow for one semester to be in an alternate setting. Most students complete additional field experiences in their area of interest. A year-long internship, APA accredited site strongly recommended, is required as the culminating practice component to the doctoral program.



All students are expected to engage in research activities beginning in their first year. Students are expected to obtain experience in all aspects of research and to present and publish as part of the research experience prior to undertaking their dissertation. Students select one additional research course to support their dissertation project and/or to support their career goals. The program requires that students pre-propose in spring prior to applying for internship (unless they have already proposed) with proposal and comprehensive examinations completed no later than October 1 of the year they wish to apply for internship. It is recommended that data collection be completed prior to the start of internship; some students are able to defend their dissertation prior to beginning internship.