

# SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY - PH.D.

College of Education Health and Human Services  
 School of Lifespan Development and Educational Sciences  
[www.kent.edu/ehhs/ldes](http://www.kent.edu/ehhs/ldes)

## About This Program

The School Psychology Ph.D. program prepares you for a professional career in school psychology with a focus on improving children's academic performance, social-emotional development, mental health and overall well-being. With a combination of comprehensive coursework, research experience and supervised on-site training experiences, you'll gain the knowledge and skills needed to make a difference in the lives of children and adolescents in a variety of applied settings. Read more...

## Contact Information

- Program Coordinator: **Richard Cowan** | [rcowan1@kent.edu](mailto:rcowan1@kent.edu) | 330-672-4450
- Chat with an Admissions Counselor

## Program Description

- **Delivery:**
  - In person
- **Location:**
  - Kent Campus

## Examples of Possible Careers and Salaries\*

### Psychologists, all other

- 2.3% slower than the average
- 19,800 number of jobs
- \$105,780 potential earnings

### Clinical, counseling, and school psychologists

- 3.1% about as fast as the average
- 171,500 number of jobs
- \$79,820 potential earnings

## Accreditation

American Psychological Association (APA), Recognized by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP)

\* Source of occupation titles and labor data comes from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Occupational Outlook Handbook. Data comprises projected percent change in employment over the next 10 years; nation-wide employment numbers; and the yearly median wage at which half of the workers in the occupation earned more than that amount and half earned less.

For more information about graduate admissions, visit the graduate admission website. For more information on international admissions, visit the international admission website.

## Admission Requirements

- Master's degree from an accredited college or university
- Minimum 3.000 graduate GPA on a 4.000 point scale (minimum 3.500 GPA is recommended)
- Official transcript(s)
- Résumé or vita
- Goal statement
- Sample of written work
- School Psychology Supplemental Data Form (online document)
- Questions in Anticipation of Licensure form
- Two letters of recommendation
- Interview
- English language proficiency - all international students must provide proof of English language proficiency (unless they meet specific exceptions) by earning one of the following:
  - Minimum 550 TOEFL PBT score (paper-based version)
  - Minimum 79 TOEFL IBT score (Internet-based version)
  - Minimum 77 MELAB score
  - Minimum 6.5 IELTS score
  - Minimum 58 PTE score
  - Minimum 110 Duolingo English Test score

## Application Deadlines

- **Fall Semester**
  - Priority deadlines: January 15 and May 1
  - *Applications submitted by January 15 will be considered for interviews taking place during the spring semester. If admitted, students may begin coursework during either the summer or fall semester.*
  - *Applications submitted by May 1 will be considered for interviews taking place during the summer. If admitted, students may begin coursework during the fall semester.*
- **Spring Semester**
  - Priority deadline: October 1
  - *Applications submitted by October 1 will be considered for interviews taking place during the fall semester. If admitted, students may begin coursework during the spring semester.*
- **Summer Term**
  - Priority deadline: January 15
  - *Applications submitted by January 15 will be considered for interviews taking place during the spring semester. If admitted, students may begin coursework during either the summer or fall semester.*

## Program Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Major Requirements</b>		
PSYC 70413	COGNITIVE NEUROPSYCHOLOGY	3
or PSYC 70453	INTRODUCTION TO COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY	
or PSYC 70604	COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT	
PSYC 70615	SOCIAL AND PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT	3
or PSYC 71260	THEORIES OF PERSONALITY	
PSYC 70950	HISTORY AND CONTEMPORARY SYSTEMS	3
PSYC 71054	LEARNING AND CONDITIONING	3
or PSYC 71350	PHYSIOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY	

PSYC 71580	SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY	3
PSYC 71651	QUANTITATIVE STATISTICAL ANALYSIS I	3
or RMS 85515	QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH DESIGN AND ANALYSIS	
PSYC 71654	QUANTITATIVE STATISTICAL ANALYSIS II	3
or RMS 85517	ADVANCED QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH IN EDUCATIONAL SERVICES	
or RMS 85518	ADVANCED QUALITATIVE RESEARCH IN EDUCATIONAL SERVICES	
RMS 85516	QUALITATIVE RESEARCH DESIGN	3
SPSY 77892	ADVANCED PRACTICUM IN SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY	6
SPSY 77998	INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH IN SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY	4
SPSY 80090	DOCTORAL RESIDENCY SEMINAR	3
SPSY 87987	PROFESSIONAL SEMINAR IN SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY	3
SPSY 87987	PROFESSIONAL SEMINAR IN SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY	3
or SPSY 87998	RESEARCH SEMINAR IN SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY	
SPSY 87992	DOCTORAL INTERNSHIP IN SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY	12
SPSY 87998	RESEARCH SEMINAR IN SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY	3
Psychology (PSYC) Elective		3
<i>Culminating Requirement</i>		
SPSY 80199	DISSERTATION I <sup>1</sup>	30
<b>Minimum Total Credit Hours:</b>		<b>91</b>

## Graduation Requirements

- The total number of required credit hours in each student's Plan of Study/Residency Plan will vary based on previous graduate coursework, point of entry into the program, program area advisor input and the school psychology program requirements. The minimum requirement for a doctoral degree is 60 credit hours beyond the master's degree. Given the requirements of the accreditation bodies governing Kent State's school psychology degree program, the typical number of required credit hours for the doctoral degree will exceed that of the minimum college requirements.
- Students who enter the program without recent and comprehensive training in school psychology (from a NASP-approved program) and without a school psychology license must complete relevant coursework. The total number of required hours will vary based on point of entry into the program, previous coursework and program advisor input.
- State/Federal background checks are required for all field-based experiences.

## Candidacy

Once the student has successfully completed and orally defended their comprehensive exams, they are recommended for doctoral candidacy in line with all other program and college requirements.

## Licensure Information

Candidates seeking School Psychologist licensure are required to pass the ETS Praxis II School Psychologist test or the domain specific School Psychology Ohio Assessment for Educators test.

## Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

1. Demonstrate adequate knowledge and skills associated with both the National Association of School Psychologists' Domains of School Psychology Training and Practice and those domains related to advanced psychological foundations knowledge and research skills as identified by the American Psychological Association (APA).
2. Demonstrate an appropriate level of professional deportment.

## Full Description

The Ph.D. degree in School Psychology is committed to a scientist-practitioner model of training, which conceptualizes school psychologists as data-oriented problems solvers and transmitters of psychological knowledge and skill. As such, students draw upon the scientific literature as a primary basis for professional practice and focus their research agendas so as to have meaningful implications for practice. In addition, functioning as a scientist-practitioner means that professional practice is conducted in ways that are consistent with the scientific method.

Emphasis in training is placed on the provision of services through research-based practice and data-based decision making. Doctoral students gain competencies, not only in the provision of school psychological services to individual children and youth, but also in the promotion and implementation of systemic, preventative educational and mental health systems. Since the program's emphasis is on the application of psychology in applied educational and mental health settings, students are required to demonstrate competence in the substantive content areas of psychological and educational theory; the scientific, methodological and theoretical foundations of practice in school psychology; data-based decision making; intervention design and evaluation; and cultural and individual diversity.

The school psychology doctorate prepares students to work as leaders in applied practice in educational and mental health settings.

## Professional Licensure Disclosure

This program is designed to prepare students to sit for applicable licensure or certification in Ohio. If you plan to pursue licensure or certification in a state other than Ohio, please review state educational requirements for licensure or certification and contact information for state licensing boards at Kent State's website for professional licensure disclosure.