

REHABILITATION PSYCHOLOGY, B.S.

HOW TO GET IN

PROGRAM ADMISSION OVERVIEW

Students are admitted to the Rehabilitation Psychology undergraduate program twice a year, for the fall and spring semesters. Students usually apply for admission to the Rehabilitation Psychology program during their sophomore year. Selection to the program is made prior to enrollment for the following semester.

ENTERING THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

NEW AND CURRENT UW–MADISON STUDENTS

New freshmen and transfer students interested in Rehabilitation Psychology are admitted directly to the School of Education with a “pre-professional” classification. This classification indicates that a student is interested in a program offered by the School, but has not applied and been admitted to the professional program. Students interested in Rehabilitation Psychology receive the “pre-professional” classification of PSR.

On-campus students wishing to be admitted to the school while working on eligibility requirements and application can apply for admission to the School of Education by completing a Pre-Professional Application (<http://www.education.wisc.edu/soe/academics/undergraduate-students/academic-program-admission/>). A minimum GPA of 2.5, based on UW–Madison coursework, is required to transfer into the school. This GPA may be modified by the Last 60 Credits rule (detailed below (p. 2)). It is not necessary to be a “pre-professional” student before applying to a professional program. Admission as a “pre-professional” student does not guarantee admission to the professional program.

It is strongly recommended that students interested in a School of Education program meet with an academic advisor in the School of Education Student Services office, 139 Education Building, 1000 Bascom Mall. Students may call 608-262-1651 to schedule an appointment with an advisor.

PROSPECTIVE TRANSFER STUDENTS

Applicants not already enrolled on the UW–Madison campus must be admissible to the University to enroll in a School of Education program. Admission to UW–Madison requires a separate application and admission process. See UW–Madison Office of Admissions and Recruitment (<http://admissions.wisc.edu/>) for application information. Prospective transfer students are strongly advised to meet with an advisor in the School of Education Student Services office in advance of their application; to schedule, call 608-262-1651.

STUDENTS WITH A PREVIOUS DEGREE

Prospective applicants who already hold an undergraduate degree are strongly encouraged to meet with an advisor in the School of Education Student Services office in advance of their application.

Consultations with advisors are available in person and via telephone; to schedule, call 608-262-1651.

Applicants who already hold an undergraduate degree are admitted to the School of Education as either an *Education Special student* or a *second degree student*, depending on their interests and academic background. Admission as an Education Special student indicates that the student has an interest in pursuing certification in a subject area studied during the initial degree; another degree is not awarded for this “certification only” coursework. Second degree students are seeking a second, unrelated degree from the School of Education, which may, or may not, include teacher certification. Candidates for limited enrollment programs must meet all admission eligibility requirements for the program and must compete with the eligible applicants for program admission. More information is available here (<http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/education/#policiesandregulationstext>).

APPLICATION AND ADMISSION

ELIGIBILITY FOR ADMISSION TO THE PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM

Requirements and selection criteria may be modified from one application/admission period to the next. Potential applicants should consult the School of Education's Undergraduate Admissions (<http://www.education.wisc.edu/soe/academics/undergraduate-students/academic-program-admission/>) page for application deadlines and detailed information regarding current eligibility requirements and selection criteria prior to submitting an application.

To be eligible for admission, applicants must:

- complete at least 54 credits of transferable college-level coursework by the end of the semester the application is filed.
- complete RP & SE 300 Individuals with Disabilities by the end of the program-application semester.
- earn a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale) based on all transferable college-level coursework attempted.¹
- submit all program application form(s), transcripts, and other related application materials by the application deadline specified on the School of Education's Undergraduate Admissions (<http://www.education.wisc.edu/soe/academics/undergraduate-students/academic-program-admission/>) page.

¹ A comprehensive cumulative GPA of all college-level, transferrable coursework attempted on both the UW–Madison campus coursework and coursework taken at any other colleges or universities may be calculated for the exclusive purpose of establishing an applicant's eligibility for consideration. Both the comprehensive cumulative GPA and the comprehensive cumulative GPA based on a student's last 60 credits may be calculated. See Last 60 Credits Rule (detailed below). If admitted, students must earn the minimum cumulative GPA for UW–Madison coursework established by their program and the School of Education each semester after admission.

Last 60 Credits Rule

Two grade point averages will be calculated to determine candidates' eligibility to the program. GPAs will be calculated using

- all transferable college level coursework attempted, and
- the last 60 credits attempted.

The higher GPA of these two will be used for purposes of determining eligibility. If fewer than 60 credits have been attempted, all credits will be used to calculate the GPA. Graded graduate coursework will also be used in all GPA calculations. ("Attempted" coursework indicates coursework for which a grade has been earned.) More information on this rule is available here (<http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/education/#policiesandregulationstext>).

APPLICATION REVIEW AND SELECTION

Selection to the program will be made at the end of the fall and spring semesters, after the previous semester grades are reported. The number of applicants admitted each semester will be determined by the faculty according to available resources. While all eligible applicants have been admitted to the professional program in recent years, this may not always be the case; see stipulations below. Admission is not final until all acceptance related materials are received by the School of Education Student Services office and criminal background investigation results are reviewed.

If the applicant pool exceeds the resources available for any admission period, admission will become limited and competitive. Selection will be based upon cumulative grade point average. Remaining students will be placed on a waiting list based on ranked order of cumulative grade point average.

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION

Criminal background investigations will be conducted for all students admitted to this program. Detailed instructions on how to complete the required criminal background check will be included in offers of admission. This is not completed until after an applicant has been offered admission.

Results of criminal background checks may be shared with other agencies when required by state code, or with a cooperating school or other agency in which the student has been assigned to complete field experiences. Students should be aware that criminal background checks may be initiated by other agencies or organizations when they are seeking employment or a professional license. Field site administrators have the right to determine the appropriateness of a student placement.

An individual who is deemed ineligible to participate in field or clinical experiences based on the results of their background check may not be able to complete the requirements for their degree or certification. Students with questions about these processes should contact the academic dean in the School of Education Student Services office.