

Master's Degree Frequently Asked Questions

When is the next application deadline for Fall 2010 admissions?

December 1, 2009

When may I enter the program?

Applications to the Counseling Program are reviewed **ONLY** one time each year and that occurs during the beginning of spring semester. Students who are accepted may enter the program during the **Summer or Fall semesters**.

Is there a special degree that I need in order to be considered for admissions?

No-applicants must hold an undergraduate degree which can be in *any field* from an **accredited** university.

How do I apply to the program?

All applications must be completed **on-line** and to apply to the Graduate School use the following link:
<http://graduateschool.uncc.edu/admissions/apply-now.html>

To apply to the counseling program, please submit an application to the [Graduate School](#). Only completed applications (which must include your application fee, official MAT/GRE test scores, official transcripts, A statement of purpose typically 1-2 pages long, and 3 letters of recommendation) are forwarded to the Counseling Program.

Where can I sign up for the GRE or MAT?

The GRE is offered at many locations at many times by Prometric. The web site is: <http://www.prometric.com>. The MAT is given at UNC-Charlotte Counseling Center weekly during the fall and spring semesters. The contact number is (704) 687-2105 or the information line at (704) 687-4399

How can I check the status of my application?

You may check to see which of your materials have arrived at the Graduate School if you click on "Prospective Graduate Students" on the following link:
<http://graduateschool.uncc.edu/admissions/application-status.html>

Is an interview required?

Please note that not all applicants are invited to campus for group interviews. This process is determined by evaluating the completed file of each applicant that includes 1) the letters of recommendation; 2) Grade Point Average (GPA), 3) MAT/GRE scores, and 4) the brief essay typically a page or two in length describing your experience & objective for pursuing graduate study in counseling. Applicants are awarded a certain amount of points for each of areas mentioned above and are then ranked from highest to lowest based on their total score of their files reviewed independently by three faculty members.

Once the scores have been tabulated, the faculty makes the decision about the number of applicants who will be invited to campus for group interviews. The group interviews occur typically during the last week in February on Friday from 8:30-Noon.

What are the counseling program's admissions requirements?

Our admissions requirements are as follows following:

- 1) possession of a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited university
- 2) overall GPA of 3.0
- 3) acceptable GRE or MAT scores
- 4) brief typed essay- typically 1-3 pages in length that may include your reason(s) for pursuing graduate study in counseling, career goals, personal strengths & areas of growth experience & any other information that you believe would benefit your application.
- 5) 3 professional references
- 6) 2 official transcripts
- 7) an on-campus group interview for **invited** applicants
- 8) your completed application along with the application fee

Also please see the [Admissions Policy and MA Admissions Rating Form](#) in the Student Handbook.

How much is tuition?

Please refer to the Office of Financial Aid at <http://finaid.uncc.edu/Award-Conditions-Fin-Aid.html>

May I take classes prior to admission to the program?

Students often ask if they may take courses prior to admission into the program. The university policy is that students may take 6 credits prior to formal admission. To do this, you must apply to the Graduate School as a [Post Baccalaureate](#) student. Applications for the Post Baccalaureate program can be obtained from the [Graduate School](#).

Which classes may I take before being admitted into the program?

The following counseling courses are open to [Post Baccalaureate](#) students if there is space available. To enroll in these courses, permission of the Instructor is required. Please contact the Instructor of the course one week before the starting date of the class to determine availability in the class.

CSLG 6101 Ethical & Professional Issues in Counseling (Permission from the Dept. of Counseling is required (704) 687-8966.

CSLG 6150 Career & Lifestyle Development (Permission from the Dept. of Counseling is required (704) 687-8966.

CSLG 6160 Theories of Chemical Dependency, CSLG 6161 Assessment & Diagnosis of Chemical Dependency, CSLG 6162 Chemical Dependency: Counseling Individuals, Families, & Groups, & CSLG 6163 Chemical Dependency: Treatment Planning & Relapse Prevention (These are the courses in the Graduate Certificate in Substance Abuse and are offered on a rotational basis. (Permission from the Dept. of Counseling is required (704) 687-8966.

RSCH 6101 Educational Research Methods (Permission from the Dept. of Educational Leadership is required (704) 687-8858.

CHFD 6102 Learning and Development (Permission from the Dept. of Special Education and Child Development is required (704) 687-2531.

Please note that taking classes as a Post-Bac student does not guarantee admission in to the program. The application process remains the same as it is for all prospective students

What are the courses in the counseling program?

We offer specializations in Community Counseling and School Counseling. Click here for the [Program of Study](#).

What should I know as I register for the first time in the program?

As a student beginning the master's program, there are several issues you need to keep in mind as you register.

If you want to complete the program within two academic years, in addition to the associated summer sessions, you should keep in mind that there are 3 clinical experiences in the program: Practicum (CSLG 7430) and 2 Internship classes (CSLG 7435). These courses are **only** offered in the Fall and Spring semesters. Therefore, you must enroll in Practicum (CSLG 7430) during your first spring semester. You must enroll in Internship (CSLG 7435) during your second fall semester. Also you must enroll in Internship (CSLG 7435) during your second spring semester.

Keep in mind that there are pre-requisites for enrolling in Practicum. They are completion of 5 courses (15 credits) which include the following four courses (12 credits):

- Counseling Theories (CSLG 6100) (offered in SU & FA)
- Ethical Issues in Counseling (CSLG 6101) (offered in SU & FA)
- Counseling Techniques (CSLG 6110) (offered in FA & SPR)
- Profession of School Counseling (CSLG 7141) (offered in SU & FA) School Counseling Track
- Community Counseling & Management (CSLG 7170) (offered in SU & FA) Community Track
- Group Counseling CSLG- 6120 (offered in FA & SPR)-please note this class can be taken concurrently with CSLG-7430, but not after.

When and what time are courses offered?

Courses are offered during the day & evening hours Monday through Thursday.

Can I attend Part-time?

Yes-many students in our program attend on a part time basis-just remember you have 6 years to complete your degree from the time you take your initial class that is applied to your degree.

If I have taken graduate courses at another University, how many hours can I transfer?

The Graduate school will only allow you to transfer 6 credit hours and those hours cannot have been applied to another degree. The requested transfer hours must also be reviewed and approved by the Graduate School and the Department of Counseling.

How often should I meet with my advisor?

Upon entering the program you should meet with your advisor and complete your program of study. From that point meetings should occur as often as needed.

Is there any financial assistance available?

The graduate school web pages have complete information about graduate assistantships, which are paid, part-time positions on campus.

Questions?

If you have any questions, contact Dr. Harris at (hharris2@uncc.edu) or at (704) 687-8971.