

# SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY, ED.S.

## Program Description

The Ed.S. program in School Psychology is designed to prepare students to meet the Department of Education requirements for certification in West Virginia and other states. It is approved by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP).

Prior to pursuing the 39 hours of required coursework and field experiences that lead to the Ed.S. in School Psychology, a student must first complete the M.A. degree in Psychology with an area of emphasis in School Psychology, described in the Psychology section of this catalog. After successfully completing the first semester of the master's degree program, students may apply to the Ed.S. program.

Students already possessing graduate degrees in psychology, counseling or education do not need to obtain the M.A. degree in Psychology with an area of emphasis in School Psychology. When these students apply to the Ed.S. in School Psychology program, they will be considered for advanced standing based upon a review of coursework, grades, and test scores by the School Psychology faculty.

## Admission Requirements

Admission is competitive because of the limited number of available internships. Applicants should follow the admissions process described in this catalog or at the Graduate Admissions website at [www.marshall.edu/graduate/admissions/how-to-apply-for-admission](http://www.marshall.edu/graduate/admissions/how-to-apply-for-admission) (<https://www.marshall.edu/graduate/admissions/how-to-apply-for-admission/>).

In addition, applicants must:

- submit a sample of their professional writing (a scholarly paper on any subject) and a statement of their professional goals (1000 words or fewer). Submit all materials to Graduate Admissions.

Creating a diverse student body is a priority and minority applicants are encouraged to apply. A limited number of graduate assistantships are available. Students can be accepted into the school psychology program throughout the school year; however, school psychology competency classes begin in the fall semester of each academic year.

## Program Requirements

During the second semester in the master's degree in psychology with an emphasis in School Psychology, students will apply for admission to the Ed.S. in School Psychology program. Students are admitted to the Ed.S. program with the expectation that they will complete the program within three to five years, depending on the number of classes in which they enroll each semester. Students are expected to enroll in all three semesters. Failure to make the expected amount of progress may result in reassignment to another internship year.

The internship requires a commitment to a school system for a full academic year and is 1200 hours (12 credit hours). A maximum of 18 students will be admitted to this final-year experience. This paid internship must occur within a school setting and meet stringent criteria specified by the program and the National Association of School Psychologists. Students must pass the Praxis II Specialty Area

Test in School Psychology prior to internship. In addition, students must complete a thesis or program evaluation before graduation.

*Two-C Rule for this program:* In the event a graduate candidate receives a second grade of C or below (including No Credit) in the specialist-level school psychology program, he or she will be placed on a remediation plan and be required to retake one course selected by his or her advisor. In the event a candidate receives a third grade of C or lower in the specialist program, the candidate will then be dismissed from the program. Dismissal will occur even if the second and third grades of C or below (including No Credit) are earned

1. simultaneously during the same semester or
2. in the same course (for example, a student received a C in SPSY 618 Dir Svc I Instruct & Bmod the first semester and again receives a C during the retake attempt).

*Note:* Due to the significance of content in SPSY 618 Dir Svc I Instruct & Bmod, SPSY 622 Data-Based Decision II, and SPSY 624 Data-Based Decision III to the field of school psychology, all grades of C or below must be retaken regardless of the candidate's other course grades.

Additionally, candidates with graduate GPAs that fall below a 3.0 will be dismissed.

## Plan of Study

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Requirements</b>		
SPSY 603	Prof Comp II School Psych	3
SPSY 620	Ind Svc II Prevention	3
SPSY 622	Data-Based Decision II	3
SPSY 624	Data-Based Decision III	3
SPSY 720	Counseling With Youth Ad	3
SPSY 738	Practicum I	3
SPSY 739	Practicum II	3
Take Praxis II Specialty Examination in School Psychology		
SPSY 745	Internship in Sch Psych	12
SPSY 750	Ed S Thesis Research	3
	or SPSY 751 Program Evaluation	
CIRG 636	Developmental Reading	3
Defend Thesis		
Total Credit Hours		39