



What can I do with a Major in... Educational and Counseling Psychology

What is Educational and Counseling Psychology at U of L?

The twin goals of the Department of Educational and Counseling Psychology (ECPY) are to advance the scientific base of the study of education and counseling and to offer opportunities at all university levels for students to increase their skills in educational and counseling psychology.

ECPY faculty and students conduct research in a wide set of scholarly areas, ranging from measurable elementary school improvement in high-poverty contexts to issues affecting the power of colleges to sustain students to graduation and successful careers. Several ECPY faculty conduct ongoing investigations into methods for improving mental health services to historically underserved and otherwise at-risk populations.

Degrees in Educational and Counseling Psychology at U of L:

Master of Education in Counseling and Personnel Services

With:

Concentration in Counseling Psychology

Concentration in Expressive Therapies

Concentration in Mental Health Counseling

Concentration in School Counseling (P-12)

Concentration in College Student Personnel

PhD in Counseling & Personnel Services (Counseling Psychology)

PhD in Counseling & Personnel Services (Counselor Education, Mental Health Counseling)

PhD in Counseling & Personnel Services (Counselor Education, School Counseling)

PhD in Counseling & Personnel Services (College Student Personnel)

Occupational Overview

Whether they go on to careers as licensed counselors, school counselors, college student affairs professionals, art therapists, psychometricians, or educational researchers, ECPY students graduate with competitive degrees that make them highly desirable to employers.

* Counseling Psychology

The M.Ed. program in Counseling Psychology prepares the student for credentialing in Kentucky as a psychological associate. The Ph.D. program prepares the student for credentialing in Kentucky as a licensed counseling psychologist.

* American Art Therapy Association

Approved ProgramThe Expressive Therapies Master's Degree is an approved program of the American Art Therapy Association and adheres to the association's guidelines for education. After receipt of your master's degree and professional employment for one year (equal to 1,000 supervised hours of art therapy experience), you become eligible for registration with the association.

* Mental Health Credentialing and Certification



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The coursework for this program fulfills the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC) educational requirements to sit for the exam for National Counselor Certification, a national exam required in many states (including Kentucky) for counselor licensure. A graduate of this program can apply to the Kentucky Board of Licensed Professional Counselors to have his or her credentials evaluated to become a Licensed Professional Counselor Associate (LPCA). LPCAs practice professional counseling in Kentucky under an approved clinical supervisor. LPCAs with 4000 hours of appropriate supervised experience may apply to the Board to become a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC). An LPCC is licensed to engage in the independent practice of professional counseling in Kentucky. To become a Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC) in Indiana, an individual must complete 1000 hours of supervised clinical experience within the academic program and 3000 hours of post-degree supervised clinical experience. (The coursework requirement for the LMHC is equivalent to the coursework requirement in Kentucky for the LPCC.) An individual who is planning to practice mental health counseling in a state other than Kentucky or Indiana should check with that state about requirements for counseling licensure.

* Careers in College Student Personnel

Graduate internships and assistantships are excellent sources of professional development—many CSP students find employment immediately after graduation at these and other institutions both locally and around the nation. CSP graduates occupy positions in various areas, including vice presidents for student life and deans of students; directors of residence life; coordinators of student activities and retention; counselors in the areas of admissions, financial aid, and career planning and placement; and advising positions with international students, students with disabilities, and academic services for students at risk or athletes.

Related Links in the Educational and Counseling Psychology Discipline:

<http://www.counseling.org>
<http://www.schoolcounselor.org>
<http://www.cacrep.org>
<http://www.nbcc.org>
<http://www.apa.org>
<http://www.kpa.org/>
<http://www.inpsych.com/>

Salary and Employment Outlook

Median annual earnings of wage and salary clinical, counseling, and school psychologists in May 2004 were \$54,950. The middle 50 percent earned between \$41,850 and \$71,880. The lowest 10 percent earned less than \$32,280, and the highest 10 percent earned more than \$92,250. Median annual earnings in the industries employing the largest numbers of clinical, counseling, and school psychologists in May 2004 were:



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Offices of other health practitioners	\$64,460
Elementary and secondary schools	58,360
Outpatient care centers	46,850
Individual and family services	42,640

Median annual earnings of wage and salary industrial-organizational psychologists in May 2004 were \$71,400. The middle 50 percent earned between \$56,880 and \$93,210. The lowest 10 percent earned less than \$45,620, and the highest 10 percent earned more than \$125,560.

Median annual earnings of educational, vocational, and school counselors in May 2004 were \$45,570. The middle 50 percent earned between \$34,530 and \$58,400. The lowest 10 percent earned less than \$26,260, and the highest 10 percent earned more than \$72,390. School counselors can earn additional income working summers in the school system or in other jobs. Median annual earnings in the industries employing the largest numbers of educational, vocational, and school counselors in 2004 were as follows:

Elementary and secondary schools	\$51,160
Junior colleges	45,730
Colleges, universities, and professional schools	39,110
Individual and family services	30,240
Vocational rehabilitation services	27,800

Median annual earnings of substance abuse and behavioral disorder counselors in May 2004 were \$32,130. The middle 50 percent earned between \$25,840 and \$40,130. The lowest 10 percent earned less than \$21,060, and the highest 10 percent earned more than \$49,600.

Median annual earnings of mental health counselors in May 2004 were \$32,960. The middle 50 percent earned between \$25,660 and \$43,370. The lowest 10 percent earned less than \$20,880, and the highest 10 percent earned more than \$55,810.

Overall employment of counselors is expected to grow faster than the average for all occupations through 2014. In addition, numerous job openings will occur as many counselors retire or leave the profession. While job prospects will vary with location and specialization, opportunities generally should be very good because the number of job openings that arise should exceed the number of graduates of counseling programs. Rehabilitation counselors and substance abuse and behavioral disorder counselors, in particular, should experience excellent prospects.

Employment of school counselors is expected to grow with increases in student enrollments at postsecondary schools and colleges and as more States require elementary schools to employ counselors.

Salary/Job Outlook Info



<http://online.onetcenter.org>



<http://www.bls.gov/oco/>