

SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY COUNSELING (MEd)

At the intersection of school and community life, an opportunity for you to support students and their families. Are you ready to work as a licensed professional counselor in schools or at community organizations? Our nationally recognized faculty are experts in social justice and ready to work with you to confront racism, achievement gaps, and other discrimination in our education system.

CURRICULUM

Completion of the MEd degree program requires 60 semester hours of graduate study focused in two major areas: counseling core and a specialty area (school and community). This includes 700 clock hours of practicum and internship experience (taken for six semester hours of credit). Students must also take and pass comprehensive examinations during their final semester of study. Students have five years from acceptance to complete the program.

For more information about the following items, please refer to the Counseling Student Handbook 2023-2024 (https://catalog.luc.edu/graduate-professional/education/counseling-psychology/school-community-counseling-med/2023_MASTERSHANDBOOK_CPSY.pdf).

UNDERGRADUATE PREREQUISITES

Students should present transcript evidence of successful completion ("B" or better) of an introductory statistics course or its equivalent. Ideally, students will have completed this course prior to the start of the program.

COURSEWORK

Code	Title	Hours
Counseling Core		
CPSY 420	Counseling Skills	3
CPSY 421	Professional Issues Counseling	3
CPSY 423	Theory Counseling & Psychotherapy	3
CPSY 424	Career Development & Counseling	3
CPSY 425	Assessment in Counseling	3
CPSY 426	Group Counseling: Theory and Practice	3
CPSY 433	Multicultural Counseling	3
CPSY 454	Human Development: Cognitive, Aff & Phys Bases	3
RMTD 400	Introduction to Research Methodology	3
Specialty Area: Community Counseling Practice		
CPSY 427	Clinical Mental Health Counseling	3
CPSY 437	Addiction Counseling	3
CPSY 444	Family Therapy I	3
CPSY 528	Clinical Appraisal and Treatment Planning	3
Specialty Area: School Counseling Practice		
CPSY 428	Foundations of Professional School Counseling	3
CPSY 431	Advanced School Counseling & Consultation	3
CPSY 458	Adolescent Development and Counseling	3
Reading Requirement		
CIEP 423	Advanced Literacy Instruction in the Content Area	3
Clinical Training		
CPSY 440	Practicum	3

CPSY 441	Internship	3
Elective		3
Total Hours		60

¹ Practicum/Internship requires 700 hours of supervised experience in a setting relevant to both community counseling and school counseling practice.

ADDITIONAL EDUCATION COURSES

School Counseling licensure in Illinois requires a teaching certificate or additional course work in education. Students in the M.Ed. program in School and Community Counseling who do not hold teaching certificates must complete the following additional course work to be license-eligible in Illinois. These courses are:

- CIEP 401 The Exceptional Child
- CIEP 414 Instructional Methods-Diverse Population
- ELPS 460 School Administration (or equivalent)

Suggested Sequence of Courses

Course	Title	Hours
Year One		
Fall		
CPSY 420	Counseling Skills	3
CPSY 428	Foundations of Professional School Counseling	3
CPSY 433	Multicultural Counseling	3
CPSY 454	Human Development: Cognitive, Aff & Phys Bases	3
Hours		12
Spring		
CPSY 421	Professional Issues Counseling	3
CPSY 423	Theory Counseling & Psychotherapy	3
CPSY 427	Clinical Mental Health Counseling	3
CPSY 431	Advanced School Counseling & Consultation	3
Hours		12
Summer I		
CPSY 425	Assessment in Counseling	3
CPSY 458	Adolescent Development and Counseling	3
Hours		6
Summer II		
CPSY 444	Family Therapy I	3
CIEP 401	The Exceptional Child ¹	3
Hours		3
Year Two		
Fall		
CPSY 424	Career Development & Counseling	3
CPSY 426	Group Counseling: Theory and Practice	3
CPSY 440	Practicum	3
RMTD 400	Introduction to Research Methodology	3
Hours		12
Spring		
CPSY 441	Internship	3

CPSY 528	Clinical Appraisal and Treatment Planning	3
CIEP 414	Instructional Methods-Diverse Population ²	3
ELPS 460	School Administration ²	3
Hours		6
Summer I		
CPSY 437	Addiction Counseling	3
Elective		3
Hours		6
Summer II		
CIEP 423	Advanced Literacy Instruction in the Content Area	3
Hours		3
Total Hours		60

¹ Students who hold a teaching license take an elective, not CIEP 401 The Exceptional Child.

² This course is only required for students who do not have a teaching license.

Program Length

Full-time students complete the program in two years, including summers. Part-time study is also available.

Comprehensive Assessment

Students will complete exams in school counseling and community counseling. See program handbook for details. Comprehensive examination application deadlines are as follows (see the School of Education Calendar for comprehensive exam dates)

Licensure

The curriculum of the MEd program reflects current requirements for licensure in the State of Illinois. Licensure is handled by individual states, and portability of licensure across state lines differs according to each state. The Department of Professional Regulation in the State of Illinois has adopted the certification exam developed and administered by the National Board of Certified Counselors. Many states use this exam for licensure purposes, so scores from the exam can be transferred. Coursework, including the number of hours required, differ across states. Students interested in completing licensure or certification in another state are strongly advised to consult the professional regulation boards prior to enrolling at Loyola to determine the appropriate coursework required. Students should also stay apprised of licensure requirements throughout the program.

The school counseling licensure exam must be taken in the semester prior to beginning CPSY 441 Internship, in the spring semester.

The ISBE website (<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Professional-Educator-License.aspx>) provides information on dates on which exams are given, fees, and registration procedures. Both exam TAP and school counseling) are administered by ISBE, not Loyola, and you must register with ISBE to take them.

Continuous Enrollments

MEd students in School and Community Counseling are required to maintain the status of continuous enrollment during their program of studies. This means that during each semester of each academic year (excluding Summer Sessions), each student must enroll in at least one course. A formal leave of absence may be granted upon request and

the approval of the School of Education's Assistant Dean of Student Academic Affairs.

Graduate & Professional Standards and Regulations

Students in graduate and professional programs can find their Academic Policies in Graduate and Professional Academic Standards and Regulations (<https://catalog.luc.edu/academic-standards-regulations/graduate-professional/>) under their school. Any additional University Policies supercede school policies.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

In addition to mastering counseling techniques for patients with a wide variety of life experiences, you'll also gain real-world experiences through your practicum and internship. With Chicago as your classroom, you'll have firsthand experiential learning opportunities at the Chicago Public Schools and level-one trauma centers, researching action-oriented projects that have an immediate impact on the community.