

Where can you get more information?

For further information concerning the graduate program in school psychology, contact or write to:

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Also visit us on the WEB at:

<http://www.usd.edu/cpe/indexsp.htm>

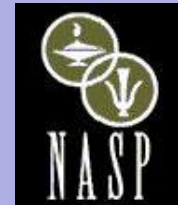
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*The University of
South Dakota*

*School
Psychology
Program*

Division of Counseling &
Psychology in Education



What is School Psychology?

School psychology utilizes psychological principles and techniques to promote the mental health and educational needs of children from preschool through higher education. Examples of psychological services provided in educational settings by school psychologists include:

1. Comprehensive psychological evaluations.
2. Therapeutic interventions for educational, emotional, behavioral, and familial problems.
3. Consultation and collaboration with school personnel, community agencies, and parents.
4. Supervision of school psychological services.
5. Program development and research.

What are the advantages of obtaining a graduate degree in school psychology?

Graduates of the School Psychology program, upon completion of course requirements including a year paid internship, are certified by the State of South Dakota as school psychologists. Given the national and regional shortage of school psychologists, School Psychology graduates readily find employment in school systems.

Other job options are also available. For example, some of the graduates may assume administrative positions, while others may prefer to work in a community mental health setting. With a doctoral degree in school psychology, additional career opportunities are accessible, including university teaching, professional research, and private practice.

What does the USD School Psychology program have to Offer?

The School Psychology program, housed in the Division of Psychology and Counseling in Education, offers a specialist (Ed.S.) and doctoral (Ph.D.) degree in School Psychology. The School Psychology program is accredited by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) and is the only state approved school psychology program, which means any student who successfully completes the program becomes certified as a school psychologist through entitlement.

The primary goal of the program is to train psychologists with skills and competencies to serve in the educational context. Therefore, the program provides the facilities and the range of professional experiences which are commensurate with the curriculum standards of the NASP.

Just as important, the program actively promotes open communication between students and faculty members to meet the personal and educational needs of students. Students' course work and progress are closely supervised with frequent individual feedback from the faculty members.

Listed below are the core faculty in school psychology.

Hee-sook Choi, Ph.D., NCSP
Indiana State University
Program Coordinator
Dale Pietrzak, Ed.D., LPC-MH, CCMHC
University of South Dakota
Bruce Proctor, Ph.D., NCSP
Purdue University
David J. Schieffer, Ph.D.
University of South Dakota

What are the requirements for admission?

The minimum requirements for admission at the specialist level are an earned Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution with a grade point average of 3.0 or above and GRE aptitude scores with a total of 900 across the areas of Verbal and Quantitative. At the doctoral level, a student must have an earned Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution with a grade point average of 3.0 or above as well as 3.0 or above on all graduate work attempted, and GRE aptitude scores with a total of 1,000 across the areas of Verbal and Quantitative. For either degree, letters of recommendation and a personal statement of professional goals are also required.