

PhD Program in Clinical Psychology

Consumer Disclosure Information

Educational Requirements for Licensure in Psychology

The Clinical Psychology PhD Program in the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences at the George Washington University (referred to as “our Program”) makes every effort to provide education that is compliant with national standards and to prepare students to practice clinical psychology. As recognition of our compliance with national standards, our Program is accredited by the American Psychological Association¹. The practice of psychology, however, is regulated at the state level. State licensing authorities, commonly referred to as “State Boards,” determine the specific educational and training requirements for licensure in their State. Of note, many States require post-doctoral training as well as examinations beyond educational and training requirements. As such, a PhD degree from our Program in Clinical Psychology is not sufficient, in and of itself, to meet licensure requirements in most states.

If you are planning to pursue professional licensure or certification, it is strongly recommended that you contact the appropriate licensing entity in the state for which you are seeking licensure or certification to obtain information and guidance regarding licensure or certification requirements before beginning an academic program. Given that State requirements for licensure or certification vary and may change over time it is also strongly recommended that you review licensing or certification requirements as you get closer to seeking licensure or certification.

You are encouraged to review the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards’ online tool, PsyBook (<https://www.asppb.net/page/psybook>), which summarizes requirements for most states and territories. You are also encouraged to directly confirm state licensing requirements directly with the state they are interested in seeking licensure or certification.

George Washington University, to the best of its ability, determined that the curriculum offered by our Program meets – or does **not** meet – the educational requirements for licensure or certification to practice psychology in each of the States listed in Table 1. For States in which the Program’s educational offerings do not meet a specific State’s requirements for licensure or certification, students may be required to obtain alternate, different, or more courses, or more experiential or clinical hours required. In this case, students are advised to work closely with GWU’s Director of Clinical Training to choose courses available at GWU to fulfill specific state’s requirements. These findings are accurate, to the best of our ability, as of July 10, 2020.

¹ For further information about APA accreditation or specific information about the accreditation status of our PhD program, please contact Jacqueline Remondet Wall, PhD Director, Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation American Psychological Association 750 First Street, NE Washington, DC 20002-4242 202-336-5979, <http://www.apa.org/ed/accreditation>.

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Table 1

| In the table below, an asterisk (*) indicates that earning a doctoral degree from a program accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA) is deemed to meet the educational requirements for licensure in that State. The Clinical Psychology PhD Program in the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences at the George Washington University is currently – and has been continuously – accredited by APA since 1970 (see: http://www.apa.org/ed/accreditation). Please note that this table does not include an evaluation of state-specific requirements beyond that of educational or curricular requirements. | | | | |
|---|--|----|---------------------|---|
| State | Program Satisfies Curricular Requirements? | | | State Professional Association or License Authority and Notes |
| | Yes | No | Unable to Determine | |
| 1. Alabama | X* | | | http://www.psychology.alabama.gov/default.aspx |
| 2. Alaska | X* | | | https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/cbpl/ProfessionalLicensing/BoardofPsychologists.aspx |
| 3. Arizona | X* | | | https://psychboard.az.gov/ |
| 4. Arkansas | X* | | | https://psychologyboard.arkansas.gov/ |
| 5. California | | X | | https://www.psychology.ca.gov/ Although a doctoral degree in Clinical is required, additional coursework or experience beyond what is routinely offered at the Clinical Psychology PhD Program at GWU may be required in California, including pre-license curriculum or training in: human sexuality (10 contact hours); alcoholism/chemical dependency detection and treatment (one semester or quarter); child abuse assessment (7 hours); spousal/partner abuse, detection and intervention strategies (15 contact hours); aging and long-term care (10 contact hours). |
| 6. Colorado | X* | | | https://dpo.colorado.gov/Psychology |
| 7. Connecticut | X* | | | https://portal.ct.gov/DPH/Public-Health-Hearing-Office/Board-of-Examiners-of-Psychologists/Board-of-Examiners-of-Psychologists |
| 8. Delaware | X* | | | https://dpr.delaware.gov/boards/psychology/ |
| 9. District of Columbia | X* | | | https://dchealth.dc.gov/service/psychology-licensing |
| 10. Florida | X* | | | https://floridaspsychology.gov/ |
| 11. Georgia | X | | | https://sos.ga.gov/index.php/licensing/plb/44 |
| 12. Hawaii | X* | | | http://cca.hawaii.gov/pvl/boards/psychology/ |
| 13. Idaho | X* | | | https://ibol.idaho.gov/IBOL/BoardPage.aspx?Bureau=PSY |
| 14. Illinois | X* | | | https://www.idfpr.com/profs/psych.asp |
| 15. Indiana | X* | | | https://www.in.gov/pla/psych.htm |
| 16. Iowa | X* | | | https://www.idph.iowa.gov/Licensure/Iowa-Board-of-Psychology |
| 17. Kansas | X* | | | https://ksbsrb.ks.gov/ |
| 18. Kentucky | X | | | http://psy.ky.gov/Pages/default.aspx |
| 19. Louisiana | X* | | | http://www.lsbep.org/ |
| 20. Maine | X* | | | https://www.maine.gov/pfr/professionallicensing/professions/psychologists/ |

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| 21. Maryland | X* | | | https://health.maryland.gov/psych/Pages/Home.aspx |
| 22. Massachusetts | X* | | | https://www.mass.gov/orgs/board-of-registration-of-psychologists |
| 23. Michigan | X | | | https://www.michigan.gov/lara/0,4601,7-154-89334_72600_72603_27529_27552---,00.html NOTE: Pre-licensure training in identifying victims of human trafficking that meets standards of Administrative Rule 338.2525 (as of 4/1/22) |
| 24. Minnesota | X* | | | http://www.psychologyboard.state.mn.us/ |
| 25. Mississippi | X* | | | https://www.psychologyboard.ms.gov/Pages/default.aspx |
| 26. Missouri | X* | | | https://pr.mo.gov/psychologists.asp |
| 27. Montana | X* | | | http://boards.bsd.dli.mt.gov/psy |
| 28. Nebraska | X* | | | http://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Psychology.aspx |
| 29. Nevada | X* | | | http://psyexam.nv.gov/ |
| 30. New Hampshire | X* | | | https://www.oplc.nh.gov/psychologists/ |
| 31. New Jersey | | X | | https://www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/psy/ In addition to a doctoral degree from an APA accredited program like the Clinical Psychology PhD Program at GWU, New Jersey requires the following breakdown of 6 semester credits and topic areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personality Theory and Human Development Theory;¹ • Learning Theory and/or Physiological Psychology; ¹ • Psychopathology; • Psychological therapy/counseling or Industrial/Organizational Psychology; and • Research and Statistical Design Note: GWU's Clinical Psychology PhD Program does not require Personality Theory or Learning theory. |
| 32. New Mexico | X* | | | http://www.rld.state.nm.us/boards/Psychologist_Examiners.aspx |
| 33. New York | | X | | http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/psych/ In addition to a doctoral degree from a program like the Clinical Psychology PhD Program at GWU, New York requires the following breakdown of credits and topic areas; 3 semester credit or 5 quarter credits in each of the following 7 substantive content areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biological bases of behavior • Cognitive-affective bases of behavior • Social bases of behavior • Individual differences • Psychometrics • History and systems of psychology • Research design, methodology, and statistics Note: GWU's Clinical Psychology PhD Program does not require coverage of these seven areas in separate courses. For example, Biological bases of behavior and Cog-affective bases of behavior is combined into one course. History and systems is counted as a zero credit course. |
| 34. North Carolina | X* | | | http://www.ncpsychologyboard.org/ |
| 35. North Dakota | X* | | | http://ndsbpe.org/index.html |

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| 36. Ohio | X* | | | https://psychology.ohio.gov/ |
| 37. Oklahoma | | X | | https://www.ok.gov/psychology/ In addition to a doctoral degree from a program like the Clinical Psychology PhD Program at GWU, Oklahoma requires the following breakdown of credits and topic areas; 3 semester hours in each of the following 7 substantive content areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific and professional ethics and standards; • Research design and methodology • Statistics and psychometrics • Biological bases of behavior • Cognitive-affective bases of behavior • Social bases of behavior • Individual bases of behavior Note: GWU's Clinical Psychology PhD Program does not require coverage of these seven areas in separate courses. For example, Biological bases of behavior and Cog-affective bases of behavior is combined into one course. |
| 38. Oregon | X* | | | https://www.oregon.gov/psychology/pages/index.aspx |
| 39. Pennsylvania | X* | | | https://www.dos.pa.gov/ProfessionalLicensing/BoardsCommissions/Psychology/Pages/default.aspx#.VgG6GN9VhBc |
| 40. Rhode Island | X* | | | https://health.ri.gov/licenses/detail.php?id=241 |
| 41. South Carolina | X* | | | https://llr.sc.gov/psych/ |
| 42. South Dakota | X* | | | https://dss.sd.gov/licensingboards/psych/psych.aspx |
| 43. Tennessee | X* | | | https://www.tn.gov/health/health-program-areas/health-professional-boards/psychology-board/psych-board/about.html |
| 44. Texas | X | | | http://www.tsbep.texas.gov/index.php Provisional psychologist is a pre-requisite to full psychologist in Texas. |
| 45. Utah | X* | | | https://dopl.utah.gov/psych/index.html |
| 46. Vermont | X* | | | https://sos.vermont.gov/ |
| 47. Virginia | X* | | | http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/psychology/ |
| 48. Washington | X* | | | https://www.doh.wa.gov/LicensesPermitsandCertificates/ProfessionsNewReneworUpdate/Psychologist.aspx |
| 49. West Virginia | X | | | https://psychbd.wv.gov/Pages/default.aspx |
| 50. Wisconsin | X | | | https://dsps.wi.gov/pages/Professions/Psychologist/Default.aspx |
| 51. Wyoming | X* | | | https://psychology.wyo.gov/ |
| <u>Have not yet made a determination:</u> Northern Marina Islands Puerto Rico U.S. Virgin Islands | | | | |