

School Psychology (EdS)

This program is offered by the School of Education and is only available at the St. Louis home campus.

Vision

The vision of the Webster University school psychology program is to prepare school psychologists who collaborate with teachers, parents and school personnel to promote educationally and psychologically healthy school environments for all children and youth. This vision is enhanced by Webster University's international perspective that fosters dialogue, respect and understanding across boundaries and between peoples.

Mission

The mission of the education specialist (Ed.S.) in school psychology is to provide a specialist degree program that completes the academic preparation and professional training required for individuals to become school psychologists. The Ed.S. offers the culminating experiences and coursework that give future school psychologists the knowledge and skills they need to promote well-being and resilience in children and youth, to research and analyze educational problems, and to find solutions that create learning environments that are supportive and engaging for all students and that prepare young people to grow up to become competent, caring adults.

Role of School Psychologists

At Webster University school psychologists are prepared to provide culturally-informed comprehensive services in schools; these services include that of crisis interventionist, prevention and problem-solving specialist, consultant on social-emotional and academic learning, psychoeducational assessment expert, advocate for children's rights and social justice, community outreach coordinator, applied researcher, and children's mental health expert. All courses in the school psychology program help students to apply the knowledge they acquire to professional practice.

Conceptual Framework

Webster University is an international university; thus, our program focuses on international school psychology. At Webster University, globalized curriculum is our distinctive hallmark and each student experiences a global learning component in Webster's programs. The conceptual framework for this program comes from the *Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE)*, the *National Association of School Psychologists (NASP)*, the *NASP Model for Comprehensive and Integrated School Psychological Services*, the *2021 International School Psychology Association (ISPA) Code of Ethics*, the *2020 Goals and Outcomes of ISPA*, and the revised and updated third edition of the *NASP PREP*

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RE curriculum for school crisis prevention and intervention.

Webster's school psychology program is designed to attract students from diverse cultural, linguistic, ethnic/racial and socioeconomic backgrounds. As suggested by the NASP position statement on the recruitment of culturally and linguistically diverse school psychologists, the program emphasizes diversity, cultural awareness and cultural sensitivity and offers flexible training options.

Program Description

The complete school psychology program is 66 credit hours. Most students pursuing the Ed.S. have first completed the 36 credit hour MA in Applied Educational Psychology with the track in School Psychology. The Ed.S. in School Psychology is 30 credit hours.

Individuals with a master's degree from another institution, or in a closely related field such as: educational psychology, clinical psychology, counseling psychology, school counseling, mental health counseling, or special education may have additional coursework needed to meet the Missouri school psychologist K-12 certification requirements.

Required Coursework

- EPSY 5918 Data-Based Decision-Making in Education and Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (3 hours)
- EPSY 5991 Issues in Assessment: Cultural Diversity and Giftedness in Underserved Populations (3 hours)
- EPSY 6036 Psychoeducational Assessment II (3 hours)
- EPSY 6037 Mental Health in Schools: Assessment and Intervention (3 hours)
or EPSY 5410 In-Service: Mental Health Crisis Interventions in Schools (3 hours)
- EPSY 6103 School Psychology Practicum I (3 hours)
- EPSY 6107 School Psychology Practicum II (3 hours)
- EPSY 6200 Seminar in School Psychology: Professional School Psychology (3 hours)
or EPSY 6201 School Psychology: International and Multicultural Perspectives (3 hours)
- EPSY 6300 School Consultation in a Global Society (3 hours)
- EPSY 6500 School Psychology Internship I (3 hours)
- EPSY 6505 School Psychology Internship II (3 hours)

Total: 30 hours

Additional Coursework Required for Certification

These courses may have been completed as part of the MA in Applied School Psychology.

- EPSY 5350 Intercultural Communications (3 hours)
- EPSY 5390 Applied Statistics in Educational Psychology (3 hours)
- EPSY 5600 Practicum in Educational Psychology (3 hours)
- EPSY 5816 Advanced Child Development (3 hours)
or EPSY 5810 Advanced Adolescent Psychology (3 hours)
- EPSY 5060 Psychoeducational Assessment (3 hours)
- EPSY 5370 Counseling (3 hours)
- EPSY 5880 Psychology of Memory, Learning and Problem-Solving (3 hours)
- EPSY 5911 Social and Personality Development: School Psychology (3 hours)
- EPSY 5952 Children, Trauma and Crisis Intervention (3 hours)
- EPSY 6001 Integrated Studies in Applied Educational Psychology (3 hours)
or EPSY 6250 Thesis (3 hours)
- Coursework in Behavior Management (3 hours)
- Coursework in Psychology/Education of the Exceptional Child (2-3 hours)

Field Experiences and Internships

School psychology preparation includes a planned program of field experiences, practicum courses and a year-long internship. Each year of the program provides students with increasingly

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complex professional responsibilities. These experiences provide graduate students who are studying school psychology with opportunities to apply their knowledge of assessment models and methods, data collection and data analysis to specific school-related concerns. Students gain experience with program evaluation, consultation, mental health promotion, cultural awareness, cultural sensitivity, and the full professional work of school psychologists.

The final hours of Ed.S. courses are taken during the year-long internship in school psychology. This supervised internship is equivalent to one (1) academic year, or a minimum of 1,200 hours and is accompanied by the courses School Psychology Internship I and School Psychology Internship II.

Students have a choice of doing the equivalent of one day a week of practicum for two years, with a certified psychologist or doing the equivalent of two days a week for one year with a certified school psychologist. The internship is a year-long, full-time supervised experience. Thus, full-time employment is not possible during the internship year.

School Psychologist Certification

Students who successfully complete the program requirements for the MA in Applied Educational Psychology with the track in School Psychology, the Ed.S. in School Psychology and a passing score on the school psychologist Praxis test are eligible for Missouri School Psychologist K-12 certification. Upon admission into the school psychology track of the MA in Applied Educational Psychology or the Ed.S. in School Psychology, students are required to notify the Webster University Coordinator of Educator Certification of their intent to pursue School Psychologist K-12 certification. The student will then receive an evaluation of the required coursework needed for certification. In addition, students may be eligible to become nationally certified school psychologists. Please also see the current handbook for school psychology.

School Psychology Portfolio

Work from both the master's degree and the Ed.S. degree is included in the School Psychology Portfolio. The portfolio is aligned with DESE's requirements for Missouri educator certification as a school psychologist and the International School Psychology Association's (ISPA) goals, standards and indicators identified in the ISPA Guidelines for the Preparation of School Psychologists. The portfolio will be developed throughout the MA and Ed.S. programs. The portfolios are used for both formative and summative evaluations in school psychology. Students share and discuss their portfolios with their advisors and program faculty. The portfolio can be used for becoming a Nationally Certified School Psychologist (NCSP).

Admission

See the Admission section of this catalog for general admission requirements. Students interested in applying must submit their application online at www.webster.edu/ apply. Transcripts should be sent from your institution electronically to transcripts@webster.edu. If this service is not available, send transcripts to:

Office of Admission
Webster University
470 E. Lockwood Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63119

Additional Requirements

Requirements for admission to the EdS in school psychology program include:

- A master of arts in applied educational psychology or a master's degree in a closely related field such as educational psychology, clinical psychology, counseling psychology, school counseling, mental health counseling or special education.
- Official transcripts of previous undergraduate and graduate coursework*.
- A cumulative graduate GPA of 3.25 or higher.
- Essay
- A current résumé or curriculum vitae (CV)*
- Two letters of recommendation from faculty and/or associates*

*These requirements are waived for students applying to the program having completed the MA in Applied Educational Psychology with the School Psychology Track.

After all materials have been submitted, an entry interview will be scheduled for selected applicants. For more information about admissions, please see the School of Education website.

Admissions decisions are based on each candidate's:

- Prior grades
- Admissions essay
- Résumé
- Research experiences
- Professional experiences
- Interview
- Match to our program philosophy

Advancement to Candidacy

Upon successful completion of 12 credit hours within the Ed.S. in School Psychology, all degree-seeking students are required to apply for advancement to candidacy. For specific details, please see your advisor.