

FACULTY CONTACT

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Visit East Carolina University online at www.ecu.edu
or the counselor education program at www.coe.ecu.edu/coad.



Tomorrow starts here.

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COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

**Counselor Education Program
Master's Degree/Educational Specialist Degree**

COUNSELOR EDUCATION PROGRAM

Do you want a career you can be passionate about and proud of, a career that suits your abilities and gives you the opportunity to make a real difference? Do you want to serve your community as an expert in promoting human development and learning? Would you like to assist children, adolescents, and adults with education, career, social, and personal decisions? Become a student at East Carolina University, and begin preparing for a bright tomorrow as a professional in the field of counselor education.

East Carolina's program in counselor education will teach you how to change lives for the better. We will help you develop and practice your personal approach to professional counseling, ensuring that you will be empowered with the skills and knowledge to reach your professional potential. The program offers graduate studies at the master's and the educational specialist degree levels.

The master's program is developmental in nature and attracts students interested in working in a variety of educational and human-service settings. A majority of students enter the master's program to become school, university, four-year college, or community college counselors. Other career options include student services in higher education (such as admissions and residence life), community agency counseling, and career counseling and development.

The educational specialist program is designed for in-service professional counselors who desire greater depth of study and training in the supervision of counselors.

Both programs of study are approved by the North Carolina State Department of Public Instruction in accordance with competencies required for school counselor licensure and are accredited through the College of Education by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education. The master's program satisfies the requirements for graduates to be eligible to sit for the National Counseling Examination required by the North Carolina Board of Licensed Professional Counselors.

The counselor education program offers an overview of many theories of practice and encourages students to develop personal styles and approaches to professional helping. Faculty members represent diverse theoretical orientations, counseling experiences, and research interests. All full-time faculty members hold doctorates in counselor education or counseling psychology.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Students are admitted to the program only in the fall and summer semesters. The deadline for submitting an application for summer admission is March 1; fall admission deadline is April 1.

Applications and instructions are available on the Graduate School's Web site at www.ecu.edu/gradschool. For assistance, call the Graduate School at 252-328-6012. Admission to the program is based on the following information.

1. Official transcript from schools attended and a 2.5 GPA or higher.
2. MAT or GRE test scores. For information about either test, call the ECU Testing Center at 252-328-6811.
3. Three letters of recommendation, addressed to the chair of the counselor education department, from supervisors, former professors, and others who can attest to the applicant's ability and potential as a future counselor.

Applicants who meet the minimum admission standards are invited for a personal interview with counselor education faculty and will complete a writing sample.

INTERNSHIP

All students are required to complete an internship at an approved location. Students planning to be licensed as school counselors and who have an initial license in teaching or other field must complete an internship of required contact hours. Additional contact hours are required for those who do not have an initial license. Students in higher education and agency counseling will complete an internship in a setting approved by the department chair.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Master of Science Program

The master of science degree requires a minimum of 48 semester hours, to include 33 hours of core courses and 15 hours of electives to be chosen in consultation with an advisor. A majority of courses are offered in the evening hours. Students must pass a counselor education comprehensive examination to complete degree requirements. A thesis is optional.

Core courses focus on counseling fundamentals such as counseling theory and techniques, group procedures, social and cultural issues, analysis and helping, and counseling in schools, agencies, and higher education. Electives are offered in professional foundations, human development, social/cultural foundations, and special populations. Please see a full listing of courses online at www.ecu.edu/cs-educ/coad/CERequire.cfm.

Educational Specialist Program

The educational specialist degree requires 30 semester hours beyond the master's degree, consisting of 15 hours of 7000-level counselor education courses and 15 hours in elective courses that are appropriate to the needs and work setting of the student. Students must pass an EdS comprehensive examination.

Students are admitted to the program based on the following criteria:

- A master's degree in counselor education or allied field of study (such as MS in rehabilitation counseling or MA in counseling psychology) with at least a 3.25 average
- A minimum of at least one year of experience as a practicing counselor or its equivalent
- A satisfactory score on the MAT or GRE
- Three letters of recommendation and an interview with members of the counselor education faculty

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

A limited number of graduate assistant positions are available each semester in the department and across campus for ten or twenty hours per week. Students may apply for an assistantship after admission to the program. Students may also contact the Office of Financial Aid at 252-328-6610 or the Career Center at 252-328-6050.

Graduate fellowship awards are available to graduate students enrolled in counselor education. Selection of the fellowship award is based on scholarship and commitment to the field of counseling.

Tuition waivers for out-of-state students are limited and competitive. Contact the Department of Counselor and Adult Education for information.