

# SCHOOL COUNSELING, MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION (046)

## Program Coordinator

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Program graduates will develop identities as professional school counselors. This 36-hour program leads to the Master of Arts in Education degree and provisional certification (concentration KGCP) for school counselors in all grade levels, primary through grade twelve.

## Concentration(s)

- Standard Guidance, Provisional to P-12, Certification-Only (KGCP)

## Program Admission

Application Deadline is October 15 for spring admission; and March 15 for fall admission. Review of completed applications begins October 16th and March 16th for spring and fall, respectively. Reviews employ a holistic approach to evaluate applicants' potential to be successful as students and, upon graduation, counseling or student affairs professionals. This approach involves the submission of materials that allows department faculty members to develop a more complete picture of applicants in terms of academic aptitude for graduate-level study, potential success in forming effective counseling relationships, respect for cultural differences, and relevance of career goals to their prospective programs of interest. Faculty rate applicants' application materials and rank the applications according to these categories. Highly ranked applicants are invited to interview with faculty and current students in an individual or group setting.

After completion of the interview, admissions decisions are made based on application ratings and interview evaluations collectively. The application process is competitive with a limited number of openings.

### STEP ONE: COMPLETE THE ADMISSIONS APPLICATION PROCESS

Completed applications include various application materials that must be completed by the application deadlines. Application portfolios should reflect thought, attention to detail, and appropriate effort. You are applying to a competitive graduate program; it is important that your portfolio represents you in a positive yet realistic manner. Please allow yourself at least a few weeks to complete the entire process.

All of the following materials should be submitted directly through the Graduate School application:

1. Graduate School Application Form - (<https://www.wku.edu/graduate>) requirements include a non-refundable application fee and official transcripts
2. Statement of Interest (<http://wku.edu/csa>)
3. A background check
4. Resume
5. Applicants not holding a current teaching certificate must submit results of a TB test and a physical.

In addition to the Graduate School application process, students entering the Student Affairs program may be asked to submit a Case Study

Writing Sample. Once the completed application is received, separate instructions will be sent for completing this process.

### STEP TWO: SELECTED APPLICANTS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN INTERVIEW

Based on the review of the application portfolio, highly ranked applicants will receive notification of their eligibility for an individual or group interview. Applicants who completed Step 1 with moderate rankings may be placed on a waiting list depending on the number of students admitted each term. Eligible applicants will be scheduled for interviews on campus with faculty, current students, alumni and/or experienced professionals.

Participation in the interview process does not guarantee admission but is a prerequisite for admission. Interviewees who are unable to travel to campus interviews may arrange an online interview with the Program Coordinator. Based on the interview assessment, faculty will make offers for admission for the most highly rated candidates.

Applicants with moderate or lower rankings from the interviewers may receive letters indicating they will be placed on a waiting list or are not eligible for admission based upon the review. If you are on a waiting list, the average time to be notified of your eligibility may be up to 6 weeks. Program Coordinators will oversee the application process.

Please refer to the admission section (<http://catalog.wku.edu/graduate/admission>) of this catalog for Graduate School admission requirements.

## Program Requirements (36 hours)

The specific requirements for the MAE program in School Counseling are as follows:

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Required Courses</b>		
CNS 548	Principles and Practices	3
CNS 549	Counseling and Consultation	3
CNS 552	Testing and Assessment in Counseling	3
CNS 554	Group Counseling	3
CNS 555	Social and Cultural Diversity in Counseling	3
CNS 556	Developmental Career Counseling	3
CNS 557	Human and Family Development in Counseling	3
CNS 560	Professional Studies in Clinical, Family and School Counseling	3
CNS 559	Techniques of Counseling	3
CNS 568	Counseling Children and Adolescents	3
CNS 590	Practicum	3
CNS 598	Research and Program Evaluation in Counseling	3
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>36</b>

All students must pass a final comprehensive examination. Comprehensive examinations are given in the fall, spring, and summer semesters. Students must meet the criteria established by the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences in order to be eligible to take the comprehensive examination. The comprehensive exam policy and application may be found at [www.wku.edu/cebs/programs/graduate/comp\\_exams/index.php](http://www.wku.edu/cebs/programs/graduate/comp_exams/index.php).