

# DEPARTMENT OF COUNSELING

Location: Education Building 105

Phone: (409) 880-8978

Chair: Dr. Belinda Lopez

## Graduate Counseling Programs and Certificates

The Department of Counseling offers graduate programs leading to a Master of Education (M.Ed.) in Clinical Mental Health Counseling and an M.Ed. in Counseling and Development with concentrations in Professional School Counseling, and Marriage, Couple and Family Counseling.

- Master of Education in Counseling and Development with a concentration in Professional School Counseling
- Master of Education in Counseling and Development with a concentration in Marriage, Couple and Family Counseling
- Master of Education in Clinical Mental Health Counseling
- Certificate - Mental Health Counseling

## Admissions

### Admissions to the Master's Degree Programs

Admission to a master's degree program is required of all students taking courses in the Counseling graduate-level programs. For online applicants, transfer hours from other universities are not accepted.

### Admissions Requirements to Lamar University Graduate College

- Undergraduate GPA of 3.0 (institutional or last 60-hour count) or undergraduate GPA of: 2.75 for the School Counseling Program; GPA of 3.0 for the Marriage Couples and Family program; GPA of 3.0 for the Clinical Mental Health program; and GPA of 3.0 for the Certificate in Mental Health program.
- Departmental Essay
- Professional Reference

### Step-by-Step Procedures for Admissions to the Masters Degree Programs in Counseling

- Complete the Application Form through ApplyTexas and pay a one-time application fee of \$25.
- Complete and submit the Departmental Essay and Informed Consent following the instructions provided via ApplyTexas.org.
- Applicants must provide the name of a professional reference, who will receive a Professional Reference Form from the department. This form must be submitted by the professional reference for the applicant to be admitted.
- Send official transcripts of all college and university coursework following the instructions given in the ApplyTexas.org Application.
- Upon notification of acceptance, return the agreement letter to the address provided.

## Additional Requirements for Application to Professional School Counseling Programs

- Applicants must hold a valid state-issued teaching certificate upon enrolling in the program.
- Applicants must have at least two years of teaching experience in a K-12 setting and be US Citizens or Permanent Residents.
  - Waivers of any experience or certification requirements will be initiated by Lamar University Admissions staff as necessary in instances such as applications from states that do not require certification for professional practice.
- Incomplete department applications will not be reviewed or considered for admission. Applicants who do not complete all application components within a one-semester term must reapply to the program.
- Upon admission to the selected master's-level program, candidates will be required to sign a formal acceptance of the invitation before or within their first course.

\*\* Out-of-state applicants must determine whether the program will meet state credentialing requirements by contacting their respective state Department of Education.

General admissions questions can be directed to Counseling Admissions using the following email: [gradadmissionsedu@lamar.edu](mailto:gradadmissionsedu@lamar.edu)

## Programs

- Certificate in Mental Health Counseling (<https://catalog.lamar.edu/college-education-human-development/counseling/mental-health-counseling-certificate/>)
- Clinical Mental Health Counseling (M.Ed.) (<https://catalog.lamar.edu/college-education-human-development/counseling/clinical-mental-health-counseling-med/>)
- Counseling and Development (M.Ed.) Concentration in Marriage, Couple and Family Counseling (<https://catalog.lamar.edu/college-education-human-development/counseling/development-med-concentration-marriage-couple-family/>)
- Counseling and Development (M.Ed.) Concentration in Professional School Counseling (<https://catalog.lamar.edu/college-education-human-development/counseling/counseling-development-med-concentration-professional-school-counseling/>)

## Faculty

### Program Coordinators

- Clinical Mental Health Counseling - Dr. Mehmet Akkurt
- Counseling and Development: Professional School Counseling - Dr. Kimberly McGough
- Counseling and Development: Marriage, Couple and Family Counseling - Dr. Krystin Holmes
- Certificate in Mental Health Counseling - Dr. Shannon McFarlin

### Graduate Faculty

- Mehmet Akkurt, Assistant Professor
- Timothy Brown, Assistant Professor
- Lauren Cogswell, Clinical Instructor
- Rebecca Frels, Professor
- Wendy Greenidge, Associate Professor
- Patricia Harris, Clinical Instructor

- Mohammad K. Hamza, Professor
- Krystin Holmes, Assistant Professor
- Belinda Lopez, Chair and Associate Professor
- Shannon McFarlin, Assistant Professor
- Kimberly McGough, Assistant Professor
- Anna Nguyen, Clinical Instructor
- Joy Snook, Assistant Professor

### **Graduate Faculty Online Programs**

- Robert Carlisle, Distance Clinical Professor
- Brande Flamez, Distance Clinical Professor
- Robika Myroie, Distance Clinical Professor