

Western Carolina University Counseling Program Outcomes Data Report 2022-2023

Programs

Western Carolina University's Counseling Program includes two separate but related and integrated degree programs:

M.A.Ed. in School Counseling (SCH), and

M.S. in Clinical Mental Health Counseling (CMHC)

Both programs are CACREP accredited and lead graduates toward the post-master's Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor (LCMHC) licensure, and for SCH students additional K-12 School Counseling licensure through the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction.

Enrollment

In 2022-2023, we had an average of 86 (full-time and part-time) students enrolled in our program:

Fall 2022 – 93 (59 CMHC, 34 SCH)

Spring 2023 – 72 (43 CMHC, 28 SCH + 1 SCH licensure-only)

Fall 2022: 93 students (64 @ FT [42 CMHC; 22 SCH] & 29 @ PT [18 CMHC; 11 SCH]) = FTE 64 + 14.5 = 78.5 students divided by 7 faculty (6 core, 1 non-core) = 1 faculty to **11:2** student ratio

Spring 2023: 72 students (@ 53 FT [33 CMHC; 20 SCH] & 19 PT [10 CMHC; 8 SCH + 1 SCH LO]) = FTE 53 + 9.5 = 62.5 students with 6 faculty (5 core, 1 non-core) = 1 faculty to **10.42** student ratio

Summer 2023 (all registered students have full-time status): 55 full-time students enrolled and 6 faculty (5 core, 1 non-core): $55/6 = 1$ faculty to **9.2** student ratio

This represents an average ratio of faculty to students of **1:10.3**. CACREP compliance is 1:12.

Student Scholarship and Related Awards

1 recipient of WCU Carole Hearn Curtis scholarship

1 recipient of WCU Dan Saddler scholarship

21 recipients of WCU Graduate Assistantship positions (Fall and/or Spring)

12 recipients of WCU Graduate Excellence Award

2 recipients of WCU Graduate School in-state tuition awards

5 recipients of WCU Invest in Teacher's Award

1 recipient of WCU Mary Deck/Break by the Lake scholarship

2 recipients of WCU School out-of-state tuition awards

4 recipients of the BHWET scholarship grant awards

Licensure Exams

National Counselor Exam (NCE) – 100% pass rate for 22 students (14 CMHC, 8 SCH) who took the exam

Praxis II Subject Test: School Counselor – 100% pass rate for 12 SCH students who took the exam

Graduation

In 2022-2023, WCU Counseling graduated 31 students:

August 2022 – 1 CMHC

December 2022 – 13 CMHC, 7 SCH

May 2023 – 6 CMHC, 4 SCH

This represents a 97% overall completion rate with one SCH student who did not complete the program: 100% CMHC students, 93% SCH

Job Placement

Among 31 graduates in 2022-2023, and with a 95% response rate, 100% of those seeking job placement in a professional counseling role obtained employment within 3 months of graduation.

Program Modifications Based on Data Findings

From input from the program's stakeholders (i.e., advisory council: faculty, students, site supervisors, alumni, employers) the program will continue using Tevera during field placement, continue addressing topics/trends in counseling courses and during practicum and internship supervision sessions/classes, and faculty will discuss future plans of a course-pathway for professional school counselors to take additional required courses when applying for LCMHC licensure in NC, July 1, 2025-forward. In addition, the Chi Sigma Iota, Chi Beta Chi chapter, was reinstated Spring 2023 to increase student leadership and connection with the program and professional counseling community, at large.