Program Overview

The recently updated Master of Science Degree in Counseling with an emphasis in School Counseling is designed to prepare effective professional counselors to work in elementary, junior high/middle, and high school settings.

The 52-semester unit program can be completed in two and a half years while attending full-time. The courses include counseling classes, specialty classes, and an 800-hour fieldwork experience. The courses reflect a practitioner emphasis, and some are taught by faculty working within various local school districts. All courses for the degree are conveniently offered weekdays after 5:00 pm on the Bakersfield campus.

Graduates of the School Counseling Program are recommended to the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CCTC) for issuances of the Pupil Personnel Services (PPS) Credential. Extensive field-based experience is woven throughout the curriculum to provide hands-on training in many diverse school settings.

CSUB Advanced Education Faculty & Staff

- Michael Szolowicz, Department Chair
- Dr. Juterh Nmah, Assistant Professor
- Dr. Yvonne Ortiz-Bush, Associate Professor & Director
- Ryan Otawksa, Department Coordinator
- Amani Hernandez, Admissions and Graduation Advisor
M.S. in Counseling Program Requirements

Application And Admission
Applicants for admission to CSUB’s School Counseling/PPS Credential Program MUST:

1. Complete a Bachelor’s degree with a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA from an accredited university (or a minimum 3.0 graduate GPA after 15 or more units completed).

2. Successful completion of an approved undergraduate/graduate course in statistics with a grade of “C” or higher within 7 years of application to program.

3. Submit a Graduate Admission Application to CSUB’s Office of Admissions and Records (submitted online at www2.calstate.edu/apply). When filling out the Graduate Application, apply as a Graduate with your objective: School Counseling/Pupil Personnel Services.


5. Submit a completed Educational Counseling Program application with all of the required documents to the School Counseling Submittal Portal, https://csub.app.box.com/f/83c7e8b1137a43f7f7bb86804676410df0 in Box as one PDF document.

6. Check the status of your university and EDCS program application on myCSUB using your CSUB student ID number (assigned by Admissions and Records).

Year One (22 Units)
Required Courses (Fall)
- EDCS 5120: Introduction to Individual Counseling (3 units)
- EDCS 5140 Introduction to Counseling in Schools (3 units)
- EDCS 5160: Theories in Educational Counseling (3 units)
- EDCS 5210: Practicum I (2 units)

Required Courses (Spring)
- EDCS 5050: Legal and Ethical Issues in Counseling (3 units)
- EDCS 5130: Multicultural Counseling (3 units)
- EDCS 5150: Crisis Counseling (3 units)
- EDCS 5220: Practicum II (2 units)

Year Two (20 Units)
Required Courses (Fall)
- EDCS 6110: Research and Evaluation in Counseling (3 units)
- EDCS 6130: Comprehensive School Counseling (3 units)
- EDCS 6360: Fieldwork I (4 units)

Required Courses (Spring)
- EDCS 6150: Academic and Career Counseling (3 units)
- EDCS 6160: Introduction to Group Counseling (3)
- EDCS 6370: Fieldwork II (4 units)

Year Three (10 Units)
Required Courses (Fall)
- EDCS 6290: Collaboration & Leadership in Counseling (3 units)
- EDCS 6330: Comprehensive Exam (3 units)
- EDCS 6380: Fieldwork III (4 units)

Typical Two-year Course of Study (Full-Time)

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Please note: Program Requirements may change with new legislation and/or CCTC Requirements