

RIC School Psychology Program

Frequently Asked Questions

When do classes meet?

Classes are scheduled once per week in the evenings (4pm-6:50pm or 7pm-9:50pm) during the Fall and Spring semesters. Summer 1 and Summer 2 session classes are scheduled twice per week (3pm-6:35pm or 7pm-10:35pm).

Do students typically work full-time while enrolled in the program full-time?

Full-time graduate study is a significant investment of both time and money. We expect it to be the primary focus of our students in order to get the most out of the education and training experience. That said, many students are able to continue their work during Year 1 of the program consistent with the flexibility of their work hours and time needed to fully engage in graduate study. Year 2 students are required to spend two full days at their practicum site in a school, in addition to evening courses, so most students are not able to work full-time. In Year 3 students complete a full-time internship in a school (5 days per week), and receive a stipend of \$10,000.

How much does the program cost?

2019-2020 Tuition			
	In-State Cost	Northeast Neighbors	Out-of-State Cost
Fall/Spring Year 1	\$11,088	\$15,096	\$21,552
Summer Year 1	\$5,544	\$7,548	\$10,776
Fall/Spring Year 2	\$9,702	\$13,209	\$18,858
Fall/Spring Year 3	\$5,544	\$7,548	\$10,776
Total Cost	\$31,878	\$43,401	\$61,962

The In-State Tuition cost per credit is \$462, Northeast Neighbor cost per credit is \$629, and the Out-of-State cost per credit is \$898. Visit Northeast Neighbor site [here](#) to see if you are eligible for tuition discount. Students whose permanent address is one of the Connecticut/Massachusetts cities/towns or the New York town listed [here](#) are eligible for a special tuition discount of the in-state tuition rate plus 50%. Note that the table above does *not* include the \$10,000 stipend that students receive during Fall/Spring of Year 3 (internship year).

RIC School Psychology Program

Frequently Asked Questions

Is financial aid available for graduate students?

For information about applying for financial aid, please contact the [Financial Aid Office](#) (401) 456-8033.

Are graduate student assistantships available?

Yes. Applicants are eligible to apply for Graduate and Teaching Assistantships in various RIC programs and departments. To learn more about available assistantships and to apply [see here](#). The application deadline for assistantships is **March 15th**. To be considered for an assistantship, applicants are encouraged to apply prior to acceptance into the program.

How much do graduate assistantships pay?

Full-time graduate assistantships include a waiver of all tuition and registration fees for courses at Rhode Island College for the academic year and for one summer (the summer previous to or following the appointment) and an annual stipend of \$3,500. Half-time graduate assistantships include a waiver of half tuition and fees for courses at Rhode Island College for the academic year and one summer and an annual stipend of \$1,750.

Are online classes available?

Almost all of the required classes are in-person (once per week 3-hour classes). Occasionally a course will be offered as a “hybrid” (half online and half in-person), but this is uncommon. Due to Covid-19, classes are delivered predominantly remotely. However, as soon as RIC deems it safe to resume face-to-face instruction, the program will return to in-person, or “hybrid” format.

Can I complete the program on a part-time basis?

Most students enroll full-time across three years, and we prefer students to enroll full-time. Part-time enrollment is possible during Year 1 of the program, but full-time enrollment is required during Practicum and Internship.

RIC School Psychology Program

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the employment rate upon graduation?

The employment rate is 100% for graduating students. The Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts a 20% rate of growth for School Psychologists between 2014 and 2024.

How can I learn more about the field of School Psychology?

We recommend visiting the [National Association of School Psychologists \(NASP\) website](#) for an overview of the field. Our program courses and training experiences align closely with NASP Standards and the NASP Practice Model.

How can I learn more about the School Psychology program at RIC?

Contact the program's graduate assistant at schoolpsychology@ric.edu or the program director, Shannon Dowd-Eagle, at seagle@ric.edu. You can ask to be connected with a current student (via email or phone) to learn more about the program from a student's perspective. Information sessions will be held during the Fall semester. Check the program website for dates and locations.

Can I enroll in courses before being accepted into the program?

We allow non-matriculating students to enroll in the following courses: CEP532 Theories and Methods of Counseling, and CEP531 Human Development across Cultures. Completing these courses does not ensure acceptance into the program. Once accepted into the program, these course credits would apply to the M.A. in Counseling /C.A.G.S. in School Psychology.

I have already completed CEP532 and CEP531. Can I enroll in a core school psychology class as a non-matriculated student?

No. Non-matriculated students are not eligible to enroll in any of the following core school psychology courses: CEP601, CEP603, CEP551, CEP604, CEP533, CEP651, CEP605, CEP675, CEP602, CEP629. These courses are designed to be taken sequentially over the course of three years of training (this applies to both M.A./C.A.G.S.. and C.A.G.S.-only applicants).

RIC School Psychology Program

Frequently Asked Questions

Is the *Psychology* GRE required for my application?

No, the Psychology GRE is not required. The GRE General test OR the MAT is required for all applicants who have not completed an advanced degree.

- For information about the GRE please see <https://www.ets.org/gre>.
- For information about the MAT please see http://www.pearsonassessments.com/postsecondaryeducation/graduate_admissions/mat.html

I have an advanced degree (M.A., M.S., Ph.D., Psy.D., etc.). Do I need to take the GRE/MAT, or submit these scores in my application?

No. This requirement is waived for applicants who have completed an advanced degree by the application deadline. Applicants must provide evidence that the degree has been successfully completed via transcripts.

What is the performance-based evaluation requirement?

The performance-based evaluation could be a review from an employer, supervisor, or professor regarding the quality of your work. A performance-based evaluation measures your ability to perform a task or series of tasks in real time. It can be a work evaluation or applied task from a class such as service learning or a research project presentation.

RIC School Psychology Program

Frequently Asked Questions

What does the weekly schedule look like?

Below is a *sample* based on 2020-2021 courses. The schedule is subject to change.

First Year, Fall Semester:

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
4-7	CEP532		CEP534	CEP601	
7-10				CEP603	

First Year, Spring Semester:

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
4-7	TESL539	CEP551	CEP604		
7-10			CEP533		

First Year, Summer I Semester (May – June)

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
3-6:35pm	CEP536		CEP536		
7-10:35pm	CEP538		CEP538		

First Year, Summer II Semester (July – August)

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
3-6:35pm		CEP531		CEP531	
7-10:35pm		CEP537		CEP537	

Second Year, Fall Semester

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RIC School Psychology Program

Frequently Asked Questions

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
4-7			CEP651	CEP605	
7-10			CEP675		

Second Year, Spring Semester

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
4-7	SPED534			CEP602	
7-10		CEP554		CEP605	

No Summer Courses in Year 2

Third Year, Fall Semester (September – December)

Grey = full-time internship in a school setting, during school hours

		Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
7am						
9am						
11am						
1pm						CEP629
3pm						CEP629
4pm						

Third Year, Spring Semester (January – June)

Grey = full-time internship in a school setting, during school hours

		Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
7am						
9am						
11am						
1pm						CEP629
3pm						CEP629
4pm						

Note: The following questions are specific to applicants applying with a M.A. in Counseling degree, who wish to complete the C.A.G.S. in the school psychology program.

Updated May 8, 2018

RIC School Psychology Program

Frequently Asked Questions

I have a M.A. in Counseling and I'm interested in pursuing a C.A.G.S in School Psychology. If I'm accepted into the program, what courses would I need to take?

For applicants with a M.A. in Counseling, the program faculty will review previous transcripts and degree(s). The following courses comprise the M.A. in Counseling with a concentration in Educational Psychology: CEP 531, CEP 532, CEP 534, CEP 536, CEP 537, CEP 538, CEP 554, CEP533, CEP551, and CEP 602. Program faculty will review the applicant's transcript to identify missing courses. CEP533, CEP551, and CEP602 are not typically completed as part of a M.A. in Counseling Degree, so C.A.G.S-only students must take these courses upon acceptance to the program.

I have a M.A. in Counseling and I'm interested in pursuing a C.A.G.S in School Psychology. If I'm accepted into the program, will I need to complete the Comprehensive Exam?

No. This is not required for applicants who have successfully completed a M.A. in Counseling.

I'm interested in transferring graduate level-courses towards the C.A.G.S degree. How many credits am I able to transfer?

Applicants can transfer up to 9 credits, with the approval of program faculty. With the 9 credits that can be transferred towards the C.A.G.S degree, the courses must have been taken within 6 years. The [RIC Graduate Studies Manual](#) (2017, p. 8) states:

A candidate may request credit for work taken at other regionally accredited institutions of higher learning; the transfer credit cannot exceed one-fifth of the total credits in the program for the RIC degree. In considering a request for transfer credit, the student's adviser will review the program of study, carefully evaluate the relevance of the proposed courses to the Plan of Study, and consider the availability of courses to fulfill credit requirements. Transfer credit is granted only when approved by the student's adviser, the Program Director and Academic Dean. In order to qualify for transfer credit, the following conditions must be satisfied:

- a)** The student must have earned a grade of B or better for graduate-level coursework.
- b)** Transfer credit for courses taken more than six years prior to awarding of the Master's degree need to be approved by the Program Director and Academic Dean.
- c)** The work must have clear and unquestioned relevance to the student's Plan of Study.

RIC School Psychology Program

Frequently Asked Questions

- d)** A student enrolled at Rhode Island College may receive transfer credit for work subsequently taken at another institution under the provisions cited above only if approval is obtained in writing from the appropriate Academic Dean before the student enrolls for the course.
- e)** Any credits transferred from another institution of higher learning will be indicated on the student's transcript. However, the grade earned at that institution would not be recorded or used in computing the student's GPA.

For C.A.G.S-only applicants, is it possible to complete the program in fewer than 3 years?

No. C.A.G.S-only students take fewer courses than M.A./C.A.G.S students, but the timeline remains three years to program completion. Courses and training experiences are developmentally sequenced over a three-year period within a cohort model.