

Lindenwood University –  
Belleville

Catalog Addendum for  
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## COUNSELING, MA: PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING TRACK

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The Lindenwood University Professional Counseling Program is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools ([info@hlcommission.org](mailto:info@hlcommission.org)) and the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE, <http://dese.mo.gov/>).

The program leading to a Master of Arts in Professional Counseling is designed to prepare master's level counseling practitioners. The program provides students with a broad base of psychological knowledge and theory integrated with extensive training and practice in the use of counseling skills. Graduates of the professional counseling program are qualified to work in a variety of mental health settings with individuals, groups, and families.

The professional counseling program is intensive and comprehensive, requiring a minimum of 48 credit hours of coursework and applied experience. Admission to the counseling program is selective, yet flexible. Please see an earlier section of the catalog for general LU-Belleville admissions requirements. Students who do not meet those requirements should contact the Counseling Department in order to discuss options.

The American Counseling Association *Code of Ethics* (2005) requires that institutions providing counselor education screen students for professional, personal, and academic fit within the profession of counseling. Completion and graduation from the MA in Professional Counseling program requires successful completion of all graduate courses with appropriate academic success; development of appropriate interpersonal and counseling skills evidencing competency as a counselor; and being deemed fit for the counseling profession by program faculty as determined by development of counseling knowledge, skills, and counselor formation; interpersonal relations with others in the program, and openness to supervision and feedback.

Acceptance into the graduate program in Professional counseling is required in order for potential counseling candidates to enroll in the preliminary courses, IPC 51000 Foundations of School Counseling (3) or IPC 51100 Foundations of Professional Counseling (3). ~~This~~ These foundations classes ~~serves as a~~ will be considered screening classes. Foundations instructors will evaluate all students, using the *Comprehensive Counselor Candidate Assessment (CCCA)* introduced at the beginning of the Foundations class (see Program Handbooks at [www.lindenwood.edu/counseling](http://www.lindenwood.edu/counseling)). Any student identified by Foundations instructors as lacking clinical or academic potential to develop a career as a professional counselor will be referred to the LU-Belleville Professional Counseling faculty to determine whether or not the candidate will continue in the program or receive remedial actions, e.g., personal counseling or an action plan developed by the candidate and his or her advisor. The faculty will make recommendations to rehabilitate the student. Efforts at rehabilitation will be reviewed again the following semester. If sufficient progress has been made, the student will continue in the program. If the student demonstrates the same or additional deficits, as described above, the student may be removed from the program.

Students admitted to the MA degree program in counseling must attain a 3.0 GPA for the first 12 hours of graduate course work with no grade less than a B or a report from any instructor for deficits according to the CCCA. Failure to maintain such standards will result in the candidate being referred to the Counseling Review Board to determine if the student will continue in the program. It is the objective of the counseling program to, as early as possible, identify students who demonstrate difficulty achieving the standards for competent practice and to initiate appropriate intervention to assist them. Thus, the faculty of the counseling program reserves the right to review students at any stage of their coursework. A student earning any grade less than a B in IPC 51100, IPC 55100 or IPC 55300, IPC 52400, or IPC 62000 (professional internship) will be allowed to repeat the course one time and must earn a grade of B or better to continue in the program. Any instructor may submit a CCCA form to the Counseling Review Board to insure appropriate clinical skills at any time during the program. The Counseling Review Board process, however initiated, may result in the termination of the student's degree program or other required or recommended remedies to address deficiencies judged by the Counseling Review Board as related to the skills that are essential to the development of competent and ethical practices as a professional counselor.

After a candidate has successfully completed the first 12 hours of coursework, completion of the Counseling Program is contingent on the following criteria:

1. Maintaining a minimum GPA of 3.0; and
2. Completing the required number of courses, based on the current curriculum; and
3. Satisfactory resolution of any Disposition documentation provided by candidates' instructors; and
4. Receiving satisfactory evaluations from site supervisors during internship or field placement experiences; and
5. Passing the CPCE (professional).

A brief description of the exit requirements is provided below. Further information regarding exit requirements is provided in the **Professional** Counseling Handbook.

## Background Check

Some states will not provide a professional counseling license to those with a failed background check. If an applicant or student has questions regarding such, check with the state professional counseling licensure board, preferably prior to applying to the MA in **Professional** Counseling program. A conviction, guilty plea, or *nolo contendere* plea involving a crime involving drugs, moral turpitude, or other criminal charges may prohibit licensure or employment as a school or professional counselor.

Some professional internship sites require completion of a background check prior to commitment to the field experience. All background checks are at the expense of the student. See the Assistant Dean (Lindenwood-St. Charles) or Department Chair (Lindenwood-Belleville) for more information. Citizenship/authorized alien/immigrant status is now a prerequisite for a professional license by an agency of a State or local government under Title 8 US Code Section 1621.

All students are periodically reviewed to assess their academic progress. Only those students who meet program standards will be allowed to continue. Students must obtain a minimum of 600 hours of supervised internship experience. Internship placements may be arranged with a variety of mental health agencies that provide counseling services to clients. Internship students receive individual supervision from qualified professionals at their field sites and will also participate in a group supervision course conducted by a faculty member of the Department of Counseling. The **Professional** Counseling Handbook specifies the details for the internship experience.

## Illinois Practitioners

The 48 credit hour program listed below is designed to meet the academic requirements toward licensure as a professional counselor set forth by the State of Illinois. Additional requirements for licensure can be found at [www.idfpr.com](http://www.idfpr.com).

## Requirements

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### Core Curriculum

IPC 51100	Foundations of Professional Counseling
IPC 51200	Ethics and Professional Issues
IPC 52100	Human Growth and Development
IPC 52200	Personality Theories and Psychopathology
IPC 52400	Adult Diagnosis and Treatment Planning
IPC 53100	Family Counseling
IPC 54100	Research Methods and Program Evaluation
IPC 55100	Counseling Theory and Practice
IPC 55200	Counseling Skills Lab
IPC 56100	Group Dynamics, Process and Counseling
IPC 56200	Social and Cultural Foundations of Counseling
IPC 56500	Introduction to Substance Abuse Counseling
IPC 58100	Appraisal of the Individual
IPC 58200	Lifestyle and Career Development
IPC 62000	Counseling Internship
IPC 58100, IPC 58200, IPC 62000: fee required	

Note: Courses are three credit hours unless otherwise indicated.

## Internship Requirement

Students in the professional counseling track are required to complete a minimum of 600 hours of supervised internship experience over two semesters. Prior to Internship, students must have a GPA of 3.0 or higher. Students are expected to earn a grade of A or B in Counseling Internship (IPC 62000) in order to graduate. Students will be required to repeat the course if they earn less than a B. If students take an Incomplete during their first semester of Internship and have less than half the required internship hours, they must enroll in IPC 62001 for 0 credit hours to allow them to attend internship classes while completing the required hours. If students take an incomplete during their second internship, regardless of how many hours are needed, they must enroll in IPC 62001 for 0 credit hours to allow them to attend internship class while completing the required internship hours. For each extension a fee of \$50 will be incurred.

## Exit Requirements

In order to fulfill degree requirements, each student completes one of the following:

- IPC 60600          Scholarly Paper
- IPC 60500          Comprehensive Examination

Note: Courses are three credit hours unless otherwise indicated.

The student must obtain a passing score on the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Examination (CPCE). Further information regarding exit requirements is provided in the [Professional Counseling Handbook](#).

## COUNSELING, MA: SCHOOL COUNSELING TRACK - MISSOURI PRACTITIONERS

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### Program Description

The 48 credit hour program of study at Lindenwood University required for recommendation for certification as a school counselor in the state of Missouri is as follows:

### Requirements

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#### Core Curriculum

- IPC 51000          Foundations of School Counseling
- IPC 51200          Ethics and Professional Issues
- IPC 51300          Principles of School Counseling
- IPC 52100          Human Growth and Development
- IPC 52300          Adjustment and Learning Issues in  
Children and Adolescents
- IPC 54100          Research Methods and Program  
Evaluation
- IPC 55300          Theories of Counseling Children  
and Adolescents
- IPC 56100          Group Dynamics, Process and  
Counseling
- IPC 56200          Social and Cultural Foundations of  
Counseling
- IPC 57500          Family and School Consulting
- IPC 58100          Appraisal of the Individual
- IPC 58200          Lifestyle and Career Development
- IPC 58300          Analysis of the Individual
- IPC 62100          Field Placement 1

One of the following:

- IPC 62200          Field Placement 2 K-8
- IPC 62300          Field Placement 2 7-12
- IPC 62400          Field Placement 2 K-12

## Electives

Students are to choose three hours of elective credit from among the following course offerings to fulfill degree requirements:

IPC 52200	Personality Theories and Psychopathology
IPC 52400	Adult Diagnosis and Treatment Planning
IPC 53100	Family Counseling
IPC 56500	Introduction to Substance Abuse Counseling

*Note: Courses are three credit hours unless otherwise indicated.*

## Education Courses

Students seeking certification under this degree program must hold a valid Missouri teaching certificate as required to teach in public schools in Missouri or complete the following education classes to be eligible for certification:

EDC 52100	Classroom Teaching/Management for Counselors
EDC 53500	Teaching Methods for Counselors
EDC 54100	Education of the Exceptional Child for Counselors

The Counseling Department offers a cluster of these three education courses, to be taken concurrently, which requires access to and familiarity with the internet and Blackboard. If students elect to take these education courses separately (or have taken one or two equivalent education classes previously), they may take the education classes through another program or as tutorials through the Counseling Department. Undergraduate equivalent courses are accepted.

## Field Placement Requirement

Students in the school counseling track are required to complete a minimum of 450 hours (700 in Illinois) of supervised field placement experience. Field Placement 1 requires a minimum of 150 clock hours (350 in Illinois). Field Placement 2 requires a minimum of 300 clock hours (350 in Illinois). All field placements must be in K-12 settings under the supervision of a certified school counselor. Students must have at least a 3.0 GPA to begin Field Placement 1 or Field Placement 2. Students are expected to earn a grade of A or B in Field Placement (IPC 62100 and IPC 62200/IPC 62300/IPC 62400) in order to graduate. Students will be required to repeat the course if they earn less than a B. If students take an Incomplete in IPC 62100 and are unable to complete at least half the required field placement hours, they must enroll in IPC 62101 for 0 credit hours to allow them to attend field placement classes while completing the required hours. If students take an Incomplete in Field Placement 2, regardless of how many hours are needed, they must enroll in IPC 62201, IPC 62301, or IPC 62401 (for the various levels of Field Placement 2) for 0 credit hours to allow them to attend field placement classes while completing the required hours. A fee of \$50 will be incurred for each extension.

## Exit Requirements

In order to fulfill degree requirements, each student completes IPC 60500 Comprehensive Examination by passing the PRAXIS II for School Counselors (Test 0421 or 5421) or DESE's replacement test. In addition, during the program, each student will purchase and compile an electronic portfolio demonstrating competencies as delineated by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education standards, to be completed by the end of Field Placement 2. Further information regarding exit requirements is provided in the [School Counseling Handbook](#).

## Illinois Practitioners

Students who wish to practice as school counselors in Illinois may obtain Illinois certification under certain conditions. Illinois candidates must fulfill all Missouri requirements and obtain Missouri certification. In addition, the Illinois State Board of Education requires students who complete an out of state program to obtain additional field placement hours (700 total, as indicated above) and pass the Illinois Content Area Test. Students seeking certification in other states must check requirements with their state.