**Rowan University** 

College of Science and Mathematics

APA Accredited Ph.D. Program in Clinical Psychology FAQs



# CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY PHD PROGRAM FAQs

General Questions	4
Is the program APA Accredited?	4
Who is the Director of Clinical Training (DCT)?	4
Is Rowan University's Ph.D. Program in Clinical Psychology a good match for me?	4
Where can I find a copy of the Clinical Psychology Student Handbook?	4
Is Rowan University's Clinical Psychology Graduate Program a PhD or Master's program?	5
What if I only want a Master's degree?	5
Can I schedule an individual meeting with a faculty member before I submit my application or while I am waiting to be offered an interview?	5
Is there an orientation for incoming students in the Clinical Psychology Doctoral Program?	5
Courses & training focus	5
Are classes offered during the day, at night, or both? How many times per week do students generally attend each class?	5
Are courses in Statistics and Research Methods required?	6
Is the program focused on research?	6
I am interested in specializing in Neuropsychology. Is this possible in the Ph.D. Program?	6
Can the program be completed in less than 5 years, provided that some of my credits transfer take summer courses?	and I 6
Research Training	6
Is there a first year research project to help students prepare and complete their master's the during year two?	sis 6
How many faculty members are necessary on a Master's or Dissertation Committee?	7
Where do you expect your graduates to be employed after obtaining their Ph.D.?	7
Do my thesis and dissertation documents need to be in a specific format?	7
How long do my thesis and dissertation documents need to be?	7
Do my thesis and dissertation projects need to be published?	7
Are there opportunities to develop collaborative research projects?	7
Clinical Training	7
Where do students do practicum work? How does the process work?	7
Who is eligible to be my supervisor?	8
How many supervised hours do I need?	8
Will I need to get a background check and carry my own liability insurance?	8
Expense FAQs	9
If I am a McNair Scholar, can I receive a waiver for the cost of the application?	9
What is the cost of tuition for a graduate student in the Clinical Psychology PhD Program?	9
Is there a cost for the student ID card?	9
What is the cost of fees for a graduate student at Rowan University? What do these fees cove	r <b>? 9</b>

	Is there a stipend, TA or GA for doctoral students?	9
	Is any assistance available to help with tuition costs in lieu of or in addition to the GA position?	9
	What are the typical costs of books?	9
	Can I talk to staff on campus in the evening about my tuition bill, registration, etc.?	10
	Can I pay my tuition, fees, and health insurance with a credit or debit card?	10
	Does Rowan offer scholarships for graduate students?	10
	Is any assistance available to help with tuition costs in lieu of or in addition to the GA position?	10
	Is there a fee for document processing and archiving services for thesis/dissertation submission processes at Rowan University?	10
	Who do I contact if I have questions about tuition, fees, or health insurance?	10
	Can I work full-time or part-time while in the program?	10
Adı	missions	10
	Can I receive a waiver for the cost of the application?	10
	As a graduate student, will I be required to purchase liability insurance?	11
	Is there a stipend, TA, or GA for doctoral students?	11
	What work must be completed for the stipend, TA or GA?	11
Ар	plication and Admission FAQs	11
	How are admissions decisions made?	11
	How competitive is your program?	12
	What is the timeline for making admissions decisions?	12
	When are the interviews for Clinical Psychology Doctoral Program applicants?	12
	How many students are admitted each year into the program?	12
	Do I need to have previous research experience?	12
	Do I have to take the GRE? What about the Psychology GRE?	12
	How important are GRE scores, and what are the typical GRE scores that successful applicants	
	have?	12
	How important is my undergraduate GPA, and how high does it have to be for me to get in?	12
	Do I need to have an undergraduate degree in Psychology?	13
	Can I be admitted in the spring semester?	13
	Can I ask a faculty member or the Director of Clinical Training to do a cursory review of my application materials?	13
	If I was a student in one of the Masters Programs at Rowan University and I apply to the doctora program, would I automatically be considered for an interview and final position?	al 13
	I received my undergraduate degree in psychology from Rowan University. Will I make it throug the admissions process easier and be guaranteed an interview?	h 13
	Am I accepted into the program with an identified research mentor?	13
	Do I need a Master's degree before I can gain admittance into the Doctoral Program in Clinical	
	Psychology?	14
	Will you accept coursework completed as part of my Master's degree program?	14
	Will my time in the program be shorter if I have a Master's degree?	14

How can I tell from the program's website or advertisements which faculty member is taking a student for the fall to be in their research lab?	14
If accepted into the Clinical Psychology Ph.D. Program at Rowan University, when am I officially	
the doctoral program?	14
Student Life	14
Can I obtain health insurance as a graduate student? Is there a Student Health Center?	14
Are there printing costs for students?	15
If I need access to various software packages such as SPSS or Endnote, will Rowan provide th	
me?	15
Are there other perks or amenities for graduate students that I might benefit from?	15
Can I (i.e., graduate student) park on campus? Does the permit cost money?	15

# **General Questions**

### Is the program APA Accredited?

The Rowan University Clinical Psychology Doctoral Program is currently APA Accredited. *Questions related to the program's accredited status can also be directed to the Commission on Accreditation. Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation American Psychological Association* 750 1st Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002 Phone: (202) 336-5979 / E-mail: apaaccred@apa.org Web: http://www.apa.org/ed/accreditation

# Who is the Director of Clinical Training (DCT)?

Jim A. Haugh, Ph.D. is the DCT for the Clinical Psychology Ph.D. Program at Rowan University. He is also one of the core clinical faculty in the program and directs the ROAD Research Lab on campus. Dr. Haugh is also a licensed clinical psychologist in PA. Dr. Haugh may be reached at <u>haugh@rowan.edu</u> or 856-256-4500, x53871.

# Is Rowan University's Ph.D. Program in Clinical Psychology a good match for me?

Prospective applicants should carefully review the information found on our training website. When doing so, consider whether our program's mission statement and training goals matches your training goals. Additionally, it is important to find at least one core faculty member who's research program matches your research interests. Our program is a mentorship-based model which means that you are accepted into a faculty member's research lab and generally spend the remainder of your training under that individual's mentorship. Given the research focus of our program and the mentorship model, students who do not have a strong interest in developing research skills or conducting research are likely not to find our program a good "fit."

For applicants interested in obtaining a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology with an emphasis in integrated healthcare and health psychology, the program at Rowan University may be a great fit. The university houses two medical schools where both research and clinical collaborations occur. One produces the medical degree affiliated with Cooper Hospital and the other one is the School of Osteopathic Medicine located at Rowan-Stratford. Rowan also has an affiliation with M.D. Anderson Cancer Center which is part of Cooper Hospital. Psychiatry and the Institute of Successful Aging are also part of Rowan University. Numerous faculty members assess the bio- psycho-social aspects of persons with physical and mental health concerns. From this review, there is an abundance of research, didactics and clinical training in clinical psychology with an emphasis in health.

# Where can I find a copy of the Clinical Psychology Student Handbook?

The handbook is available to applicants prior to the interview day if they are selected for an interview. Additionally, each student is issued a program handbook upon entry into the program.

#### Is Rowan University's Clinical Psychology Graduate Program a PhD or Master's program?

Rowan University's Clinical Psychology program is a Ph.D. program and not a terminal Master's program. Students are admitted as doctoral students and receive a MA Degree in Clinical Psychology on the way to their Ph.D. After completing their MA degree requirements and passing their qualifying exam, students are advanced to doctoral candidacy. Students are admitted with the expectation that their career goal is the attainment of the Ph.D. degree.

# What if I only want a Master's degree?

You should not apply to the Ph.D. Program in Clinical Psychology at Rowan University if you want a terminal Master's degree. There are other master's programs at Rowan University and other universities that may be a better fit for you.

# Can I schedule an individual meeting with a faculty member before I submit my application or while I am waiting to be offered an interview?

Unfortunately, given the number of requests and applications we receive, our program is unable to meet with current or future applicants until interview dates. Instead, feel free to email and indicate your interest to individual faculty members. Please be patient when receiving a response; our faculty are very busy. Generally, our faculty tend not arrange pre-application meetings to avoid any impressions about the likelihood of admission without the benefit of the full application process.

You are encouraged to contact Rowan University's admissions department to schedule a campus tour and attend any of the Clinical Psychology Ph.D. Open House sessions when available.

#### Is there an orientation for incoming students in the Clinical Psychology Doctoral Program?

Yes. Program orientation usually takes place sometime in the week before classes begin in the Fall. The duration and date of orientation varies on a year-to-year basis. You will be notified by the DCT over the summer about program orientation. The Graduate School also hosts a yearly orientation for all graduate students the week before classes start in the Fall. You will be notified by the Graduate School over the summer about graduate student orientation.

# **Courses & training focus**

# Are classes offered during the day, at night, or both? How many times per week do students generally attend each class?

Rowan University is a traditional graduate program in Clinical Psychology. Classes are offered during the day and occasionally in the evening. Class schedules depend on the course and instructor, although the typical course meets 3 hours, once per week. Students are expected to have 100% attendance. Students also typically meet at least once a week for individual research meetings and many labs require attendance at weekly lab meetings which may be between 1-3 hours/week.

#### Are courses in Statistics and Research Methods required?

Yes, these courses are required. If you have a Master's degree that is not approved by the doctoral committee or if you do not have a Master's degree you must take and pass both Statistics courses and Research Methods.

#### Is the program focused on research?

Rowan University's Clinical Psychology Ph.D. Program adheres to the scientist-practitioner model of training. Thus, we train students to become scientist-practitioners, with a slightly greater training focus on becoming an active and productive clinical scholar. Students are asked to devote, on average, 15-20 hours/week on their research activities with an increasing focus on research productivity toward the later part of their training (i.e., 3rd & 4th year). We expect all students to present at professional conferences and submit, at minimum, one paper for publication after the first year.

#### I am interested in specializing in Neuropsychology. Is this possible in the Ph.D. Program?

If a student is matched with a faculty member conducting neuropsychology research, their research benchmarks may be tailored to this topic area. However, we cannot guarantee that this student will be able to "market" themselves as a clinical neuropsychology student for practica, internship, post-doc or future employment. If students are interested in a neuropsychology career and focus, our clinical program is likely not a good fit.

# Can the program be completed in less than 5 years, provided that some of my credits transfer and I take summer courses?

The program is designed to be completed in five years, with four years of full-time graduate study on campus and one year spent at a full-time, off-site APA-accredited clinical internship. Some students may take longer to complete the program, whereas students who begin with a MA degree may be able to complete all requirements in less time. Few required clinical courses are offered in the summer and courses are sequenced throughout the training program. Thus, it is not possible to take more than the required courses in order to "speed up" the timeline toward graduation. Only 9 credits can be transferred in to meet program requirements. Although such transfer requirements may reduce course burdens, they typically do not speed up the time to graduation.

# **Research Training**

# Is there a first year research project to help students prepare and complete their master's thesis during year two?

As part of the program, students are required to complete a first year research project which is generally a precursor to their Masters Thesis project. This project is presented to the clinical faculty and other students in the program toward the end of the student's first year in the program.

#### How many faculty members are necessary on a Master's or Dissertation Committee?

A minimum of three faculty members are needed for the thesis committee. In contrast, the dissertation committee consists of a minimum of 4 members, at least one of which must be a representative from outside of the program.

### Where do you expect your graduates to be employed after obtaining their Ph.D.?

We expect graduates from our program to seek employment in a variety of academic and applied settings including Veterans Affairs Hospitals, universities and colleges, research institutes, hospitals, clinics, and government organizations. Our recent graduates have all been successfully employed, with many of them securing competitive post-doctoral fellowships.

#### Do my thesis and dissertation documents need to be in a specific format?

Yes. Your entire document will need to be written in APA format for committee review. Following the acceptance by your committee, or in parallel, the document also needs to be formatted according to the university's current thesis and dissertation formatting guidelines.

#### How long do my thesis and dissertation documents need to be?

These documents are not like a paper for a regular class. They typically include a comprehensive literature review, description of your methodology, analysis of your results, and a thorough discussion. Your mentor and committee will provide guidance on whether or not your project is proceeding with appropriate depth. However, the simple answer to this question is: "As long as it needs to be".

# Do my thesis and dissertation projects need to be published?

No, but this is a complex question. The purpose of your thesis and dissertation is to provide you with the educational experience of doing research but also to produce a product that has the opportunity to contribute to the professional literature in the field. Many doctoral students in clinical programs have 2-3 publications by the time they graduate. Thus, publishing your master's thesis, dissertation or other research projects will make you more competitive for internships, pos-docs and future jobs.

#### Are there opportunities to develop collaborative research projects?

Rowan University values interdisciplinary training and research. Many faculty do research with collaborators at hospitals and other health settings in the area. In addition, faculty frequently collaborate with other professionals locally and nationally.

# **Clinical Training**

# Where do students do practicum work? How does the process work?

Students in the program do practicum work at various facilities throughout New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware. As part of the Pennsylvania and Delaware Directors of Training Consortium (PENDELDOT), students are placed in sites based on their training focus and interests. The program also maintains placement agreements with various sites in the area that are specifically tailored to students from our training program. All of our students have been successfully matched at a practicum site since our

program's inception. Collectively, our previous students have been successful in securing placements in a variety of locations and treatment settings (in-patient, out-patient, hospitals, day programs, etc.). At this time, the program does not have its own training clinic.

Prior to the start of your practicum, you will have a chance to look over this large pool of previously attended sites and search for a match. Program faculty will also provide a list of practicum sites that have been particularly fruitful for students in the past. However, students are not limited only to sites that have been used before! Students may independently seek out your own practicum site if you have special interests. All such sites will require an in- depth review by faculty in order to ensure a successful learning opportunity.

#### Who is eligible to be my supervisor?

Due to the case-by-case complexity of such a topic and ever-changing state regulations, faculty will review all supervisors in order to determine eligibility. Generally, your supervisor should have a Ph.D. or Psy.D. in clinical or counseling psychology. The on-site supervisor should be licensed by the state in which they practice. The student also has an ongoing obligation to monitor the effectiveness of any eligible supervisor. Though a supervisor may initially be determined to be eligible, circumstances may change. We strongly encourage all of our students to discuss any difficulties with the coordinator of our counseling program. Please refer to the "Practicum in Counseling" handbook provided in this class for further information.

#### How many supervised hours do I need?

Generally, students spend between 10-20 hours/week at their practicum site starting in year 2 of the program. Students may also gain some limited clinical hours toward the end of their first year in the program (primarily assessment focused). The question of exactly what number of hours you need in what area (e.g., psychotherapy, assessment) is a bit harder to address. These issues will be discussed with students as they progress through the program to ensure that students will be competitive when they apply for future practicum sites and their clinical internship. With regard to clinical supervision, students receive at least one-hour of individual supervision a week. Students are also continually enrolled in a practicum course where they collaborate with other students in the program and a faculty instructor. Finally, students are required to be directly observed in their clinical work at least once/semester at their practicum site.

# Will I need to get a background check and carry my own liability insurance?

Some sites do require a criminal background check and/or medical clearances (e.g., a flu shot). Whether or not these are required will be dependent upon where you apply for a practicum or internship site. Typically this information is available to you before applying to sites where these are required. If you have concerns about these checks, it is advisable to talk to the DCT or your practicum instructors prior to your application to various sites. There may also be a fee related to the background check, which you may be required to cover. Some institutions may also require additional drug testing.

Each student is covered by the university's liability insurance during their practicum experience. However, you are also required to carry your own individual insurance, proof of which must be supplied before beginning any practicum experience and renewed each year in the program. It is recommended that students obtain their liability insurance through the <u>American Psychological Association's Trust</u> <u>Insurance</u>.

# **Expense FAQs**

#### If I am a McNair Scholar, can I receive a waiver for the cost of the application?

Yes, you can receive a waiver for the cost of the application.

#### What is the cost of tuition for a graduate student in the Clinical Psychology PhD Program?

Students (in good standing) will receive a \$9,000 annual stipend in year 1 and \$10,230 in year 2 before being awarded a Master's/qualifying exams from Rowan University. Students (in good standing) will receive a \$12,000 annual stipend (years 3 and 4) after being awarded a Master's/qualifying exams from Rowan University.

For additional information on tuition, fees, and health insurance for students admitted to the Graduate School, please see the following link to Rowan University Tuition and Fees. https://csm.rowan.edu/departments/psychology/clinical/funding-information.html

#### Is there a cost for the student ID card?

Yes, a one-time fee of \$10.00 for your student ID card comes from your tuition. If you lose your student ID card, you will have to pay a replacement fee. Please refer to the following link for additional information. <a href="https://sites.rowan.edu/rowancard/">https://sites.rowan.edu/rowancard/</a>

#### What is the cost of fees for a graduate student at Rowan University? What do these fees cover?

Yes, there are fees above a student's tuition. Please see the following link for the most up-to-date fees. Graduate and Doctoral Tuition and Fees - Fall 2023 and Spring 2024

#### Is there a stipend, TA or GA for doctoral students?

Yes.

# Is any assistance available to help with tuition costs in lieu of or in addition to the GA position?

A student may apply for financial aid, mostly in the form of loans

http://rowanu.com/graduate/tuition or http://www.rowan.edu/home/financial-aid.

A student may also inquire about graduate assistantships outside the department. See the following link for advertised assistantships.

# What are the typical costs of books?

This is hard to determine as some classes have 1 to 3 books. We have asked professors to provide a list of books required for their courses at least 1 month prior to the start of the course. You are also advised to contact your professors prior to the semester to obtain a current book list to start pricing your books.

#### Can I talk to staff on campus in the evening about my tuition bill, registration, etc.?

Most offices are open daily 9 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Evening hours are available on Wednesday for all offices located in Savitz Hall. The University is closed on Fridays in the summer months (during most of May through August). If you have any Program-specific questions, you may reach your DCT via email at haugh@rowan.edu or 856-256-4500, x53871.

#### Can I pay my tuition, fees, and health insurance with a credit or debit card?

Yes, you can pay your tuition through a credit or debit card. Effective July 2015, students paying their tuition and associated fees with a credit or debit card will be assessed a credit card convenience fee, currently 2.75% of the transaction. Please see the following link for additional information: <a href="http://www.rowan.edu/adminfinance/bursar/conveniencefag.html">http://www.rowan.edu/adminfinance/bursar/conveniencefag.html</a>

#### Does Rowan offer scholarships for graduate students?

Yes, they do. Please review the following link for more information. <u>http://www.rowan.edu/home/financial-aid/graduate-aid/scholarships</u>

#### Is any assistance available to help with tuition costs in lieu of or in addition to the GA position?

A student may apply for financial aid, mostly in the form of loans. You can find out more information about financing your education <u>here</u>.

# Is there a fee for document processing and archiving services for thesis/dissertation submission processes at Rowan University?

Yes, there is a required fee. There is a \$75 Thesis and Dissertation Fee. This payment must be made online through Rowan Online Marketplace. <u>https://shop.rowan.edu/store/events/items/4755</u>

#### Who do I contact if I have questions about tuition, fees, or health insurance?

Please contact the Bursar's office. Their information can be located at the following link: <a href="http://www.rowan.edu/adminfinance/bursar/index.html">http://www.rowan.edu/adminfinance/bursar/index.html</a>

#### Can I work full-time or part-time while in the program?

We do not advise students to work, as we consider their assistantships and training responsibilities to be more than a full-time commitment. With classes, research, and eventually clinical work, a student's work commitment often adds up to 40+ hours per week. With special permission, students may work outside of the program. However, such permissions are not frequently granted.

#### Admissions

#### Can I receive a waiver for the cost of the application?

Yes, you can receive a waiver for the cost of the application. In order to receive this fee waiver, you will need to attend one of our program's in-person or virtual Open Houses.

#### As a graduate student, will I be required to purchase liability insurance?

Yes, every year graduate students are in the program (starting year one), they will be required to purchase APA's Trust professional liability insurance for graduate students in psychology. The plans start at \$35. Please see the following links for additional information. http://www.trustinsurance.com/download.aspx

https://www.trustinsurance.com/Insurance-Programs/Student-Liability

#### Is there a stipend, TA, or GA for doctoral students?

Stipend by year:

- Year 1: \$9,000
- Year 2: \$10,230
- Year 3: \$12,000
- Year 4: \$12,000

In year 1, students serve as learning assistants to a faculty member in the department during the fall and spring semesters. In years 2-4, students are required to teach one online or in-person class during the fall and spring semesters.

#### What work must be completed for the stipend, TA or GA?

For the 3rd and 4th years who have successfully completed their Master's thesis and other appropriate program benchmarks, a certain number of graduate students will be awarded a teaching fellowship. The doctoral committee will select the number of students on a year-by-year basis. S/he will teach one class a semester at the adjunct rate of pay (\$3XXX). Thus, these monies will offset a student's tuition and/or cost of living expenses. Finally, there is no guaranteed stipend. Some faculty may provide GAs through grants.

#### **Application and Admission FAQs**

#### How are admissions decisions made?

Each year, there are more applicants than slots available for Rowan University's Ph.D. Program in Clinical Psychology. Admissions decisions are made by a committee, which consists of faculty members from the Department of Psychology, including the Director of Clinical Training. The committee considers a number of things in making these decisions, including undergraduate/graduate GPA, recommendation letters, applicant interests and goals, research experience, "fit" with the program, and whether the applicant's research interests match with specific faculty members' research interests. Applicants work closely with a research mentor for their tenure in the program. We are a mentor-based program. Thus, the admissions committee and a potential research mentor must agree on admission. Research lab availability varies each year. We strongly advise that you contact the faculty mentor you are interested in working with (should be core clinical faculty) to check for lab availability for the year you are applying.

#### How competitive is your program?

Our program is quite competitive. We receive a large number of applications each year for typically 7 student slots. We are highly selective and look for 6 pillars: exemplary recommendation letters, quality research experiences, competitive GPA, a coherent personal statement, promise as a clinician, and strong interpersonal and communication skills. We are a mentor-based program. Thus, the admissions committee and a potential research mentor must agree on your admission and not every faculty member is able to take a student each year.

#### What is the timeline for making admissions decisions?

The application deadline is December 15th for those seeking admission in the fall of the next year. We begin reviewing applications shortly after the deadline and make decisions about which candidates we wish to interview in late January or early February. Interviews are conducted in February through March, and admissions decisions are made a couple of weeks after all of the interviews are complete.

#### When are the interviews for Clinical Psychology Doctoral Program applicants?

All applicants are required to interview, usually in February-March. If an applicant is not invited for an interview, it likely means they are no longer under consideration for acceptance to the program. We believe interviewing is a vital experience for applicants in deciding whether Rowan University is the right place for them. Interviews are typically in-person unless otherwise noted on the website

#### How many students are admitted each year into the program?

Answered in How competitive is your program?

#### Do I need to have previous research experience?

Most of our incoming students have considerable experience prior to admission thus although it is not required, it is an important part of our admissions decision making process. No, but previous research experience with a clinical psychologist is preferred. Research experience can also be with psychologists in other disciplines of psychology (e.g., biopsychology, cognitive psychology, behavior analysis, developmental psychology, social psychology). Experience can also be with professionals in related disciplines other than psychology (e.g., psychiatry, public health, social work).

# Do I have to take the GRE? What about the Psychology GRE?

The program neither requires or accepts or uses the GRE for admissions.

#### How important are GRE scores, and what are the typical GRE scores that successful applicants have?

The program neither requires or accepts or uses the GRE for admissions.

#### How important is my undergraduate GPA, and how high does it have to be for me to get in?

The undergraduate GPA is important. However, we understand that GPAs vary depending upon the particular institution attended, the particular courses taken, etc. Undergraduate GPAs are evaluated on a case-by-case basis, but our successful candidates typically have very high GPAs (over 3.5 on a 4.0 scale). A minimum undergraduate GPA of 3.0 overall and 3.0 in Psychology coursework is required.

#### Do I need to have an undergraduate degree in Psychology?

An undergraduate degree in psychology is highly preferred to provide a basic foundation for graduate level psychology coursework. Also, because the program has a strong research emphasis, which includes a quantitative component, college-level math and statistics courses can also be helpful.

### Can I be admitted in the spring semester?

No. All admissions decisions are made during the spring semester for students beginning in the fall semester. Students are admitted as part of a cohort, which happens once a year in fall.

# Can I ask a faculty member or the Director of Clinical Training to do a cursory review of my application materials?

Due to time constraints and limited availability, the DCT is not able to review application materials prior to the December 15th application deadline. You may contact the DCT if you have a question about the program that is not covered by these FAQs. Otherwise, a pre-interview with the DCT may put you at an unfair advantage; however, you are encouraged to contact professors with research interests similar to yours, as we are a mentor-based program. The admissions committee and a potential research mentor must agree on your admission. Research lab availability varies each year. We strongly advise that you contact the mentor (should be core clinical faculty) you are interested in working with to check for availability for the year you are applying.

# If I was a student in one of the Masters Programs at Rowan University and I apply to the doctoral program, would I automatically be considered for an interview and final position?

Any and all students who apply to the Ph.D. Program are treated fairly and equitably. A student who attended Rowan University and obtained a MA Degree will not be given preferential treatment during the admission process. If this student is accepted in the program, however, certain courses and/or the empirically based thesis may be accepted or waived.

# I received my undergraduate degree in psychology from Rowan University. Will I make it through the admissions process easier and be guaranteed an interview?

Any and all students who apply for the Ph.D. Program are treated fairly and equally. A prior undergraduate student who attended Rowan University will not be given preferential treatment during the admission process.

# Am I accepted into the program with an identified research mentor?

Yes. Our program is a mentor-based program. A student is admitted into the program with an identified mentor and it is expected that they will work with that mentor during their entire time in our program. Occasionally, students may shift mentors following completion of their MA degree. However, if a student decides that they no longer wish to work with their mentor, it is their responsibility to find a new mentor. If no other faculty are able/willing to mentor the student, the student will be dismissed from the program.

# Do I need a Master's degree before I can gain admittance into the Doctoral Program in Clinical Psychology?

No. Students in the Ph.D. Program in Clinical Psychology can obtain a Master's Degree en route to the Ph.D. Candidates can be accepted into our program with a bachelor's degree or a previous, terminal MA degree. The only required degree for admission is the bachelor's degree. Please remember that a Master's degree in any discipline, including psychology, will not preclude you from taking doctoral courses at Rowan University.

#### Will you accept coursework completed as part of my Master's degree program?

Acceptance of a previously earned Master's degree (from a different department at Rowan, different institution, or different discipline) is judged on a case-by-case basis. The maximum number of credits accepted toward degree completion is 9 sh (3 courses). We also may accept empirical (i.e., research-based) Master's thesis completed prior to admissions. These decisions are made after an applicant is accepted into the program.

#### Will my time in the program be shorter if I have a Master's degree?

Typically, no. The maximum number of credits accepted toward degree completion is 9 sh (3 courses). Transfer credits are considered on a case-by-case basis. Upon acceptance to and enrollment in the program, the DCT will decide which credits you may transfer.

# How can I tell from the program's website or advertisements which faculty member is taking a student for the fall to be in their research lab?

From year to year certain faculty will be accepting students and others will not. This information will be placed on the website and advertising materials as it changes from year to year. If you do not see the information on the website when you check, please come back later to check for updates. We try to have that information posted some time in August or September. Applicants may also contact the faculty members whose lab they are interested in to see if these faculty members are taking students.

# If accepted into the Clinical Psychology Ph.D. Program at Rowan University, when am I officially in the doctoral program?

All incoming graduate students are considered to be potential Ph.D. candidates. Before students complete the M.A. requirements, the faculty members evaluate their performance through coursework, practica, evaluations and other benchmarks. These pieces of data advise students whether they are in good standing (and still being considered for the Ph.D. program). All students must pass a Ph.D. candidacy examination, complete a doctoral dissertation, and pass an oral examination. Clinical students must fulfill the doctoral candidacy requirement with a candidacy paper. There is no foreign language requirement in the psychology Ph.D. program.

# **Student Life**

# Can I obtain health insurance as a graduate student? Is there a Student Health Center?

Yes, in fact, it is now mandatory to have health insurance (<u>Office of the Bursar » Health Insurance » Costs</u> and <u>Benefits</u>). All full-time matriculated students and certification students enrolled in 12 or more credits

for undergraduate, or 9 or more credits for graduate students, are automatically charged for Rowan University insurance coverage for the entire academic year. If you already have health coverage and wish to waive this policy and its cost, act now and remove this charge from your bill (\*\*You will be required to enter your insurance company name and policy number). For more information see <u>http://www.rowan.edu/adminfinance/bursar/Health\_Ins/costs.html</u> and <u>http://www.rowan.edu/adminfinance/bursar/Health\_Ins/waiver\_instr.html</u>.

All students who are currently enrolled at Rowan and attending classes are provided services at the Wellness Center. The Wellness Center focuses on preventive care and the treatment of acute illnesses and injuries. This health service does not take the place of a primary physician. While the center can handle most needs, students with more serious disorders requiring hospitalization, laboratory services, diagnostics or specialist care will be referred accordingly. The Health Center does not cover the cost of prescription drugs, laboratory procedures, x-rays, or other referrals (see: <u>Rowan University » The</u> <u>Wellness Center » Student Health Services</u> ).

Wellness Center: Winans Hall

#### Are there printing costs for students?

While the first \$10 of printing is free through your student ID card each academic year, any printing after that price point will cost additional money. Please refer to the link below for more information.

#### If I need access to various software packages such as SPSS or Endnote, will Rowan provide that for me?

Rowan University offers over 75 specialized software applications (with one being SPSS) on RowanCloud. With your username and password, you can access these software packages at no cost. Please see the following link for more information. <u>https://confluence.rowan.edu/display/IRT/W</u> hat+applications+are+available+with+RowanCloud

#### Are there other perks or amenities for graduate students that I might benefit from?

Yes, there are other perks such as Dining \$ or Boro \$. Please refer to the following link for more information.

http://www.rowan.edu/studentaffairs/parentsfamily/documents/RowanChoiceOrientation.pdf

#### Can I (i.e., graduate student) park on campus? Does the permit cost money?

Yes, students can park on campus. No, it does not cost to obtain a permit to park on campus for graduate students. Please refer to the following link for additional questions.

#### https://sites.rowan.edu/publicsafety/parking/permits.html

#### Can I obtain health insurance as a graduate student? Is there a Student Health Center?

Yes, in fact, it is now mandatory to have health insurance as a full-time student at Rowan University. All full-time matriculated students are automatically charged for Rowan University insurance coverage for the entire academic year. If you already have health coverage and wish to waive this policy and its cost, you will need to prove such coverage each fall in the program.

All students currently enrolled at Rowan and attending classes are provided services at the Wellness Center. The Wellness Center focuses on preventive care and treating acute illnesses and injuries. This health service does not take the place of a primary care physician. While the center can handle most needs, students with more serious disorders requiring hospitalization, laboratory services, diagnostics or specialist care will be referred accordingly. More information about student health services at Rowan University can be found at the <u>Wellness Center's website</u>.