

## Autobiographical Statement\*

Please provide a 3 to 5 page autobiography. This perspective should include both personal background and professional factors that contribute to your interest in the field of psychology. Be sure to include an historical perspective on the evolution of your interest in psychology.

This perspective, which is an important part of your overall application, should not include a detailed description of your entire life; it should briefly cover important experiences, relationships, interests, and abilities as they relate to your seeking professional training at MSPP.

*All writing samples must be typewritten, double-spaced and, when applicable, must adhere to the specified page limit.*

*\*Not applicable for Organizational Psychology (MA) applicants.*

## Statement of Purpose & Goals

Please address each of the following statements.

1. Rank order and discuss your major areas of interest in psychology and your professional goals.
2. Why are you pursuing training in professional psychology rather than in the other mental health disciplines?
3. How do you anticipate the MSPP program meeting your learning goals?
4. What do you have to offer the MSPP community?
5. Why is this an optimal time for you to be entering MSPP? Have you considered how you will meet the required financial obligations and other compromises and challenges you will face in order to attend graduate school?
6. Describe the supports that would facilitate your participation in the program, such as family, mentors, professional contacts, friends, significant others, etc.
7. Considering your total application, what do you consider your major strengths and weaknesses with respect to being admitted into the program?
8. MSPP is committed to educating and training socially responsible mental health professionals. Please describe your previous volunteerism experience and your future commitment to community service.

*Please allow 3 to 5 double-spaced, typewritten pages for this section.*

## Official Transcripts

Please request an official transcript from each undergraduate and graduate institution that you have attended. Supply each institution with a self-addressed envelope, and request that the envelope be signed across its seal. We ask that if possible you request official transcripts to be forwarded to you for inclusion unopened in one packet that you will mail to the MSPP Admissions Office.

## Test Scores

The General Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is required of all Doctor of Psychology in Clinical Psychology (PsyD) applicants. Applicants to other programs are encouraged to submit GRE scores to enhance their application. The psychology subject test is optional. MSPP's School Code/Reporting Number is 3501.

For doctoral applicants GRE results (*verbal and quantitative*) are expected to be at least 1150 combined. Score level for the

Analytical Writing section GRE-A is expected to be 4.0 or higher. Non-native speakers of English may be required to take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). The combined TOEFL results (*listening, structure and writing expression, speaking and reading*) combined scores are expected to be at least 637 (*paper-based*), 270 (*computer-based*) or 110 (*in the new internet-based*).

The general Graduate Record Exam (GRE) is required of all doctoral applicants who are native speakers of English. The psychology subject test is optional. If English is not the primary language contact the Admissions Office if you are unsure about which test to take). GRE test scores are valid for five years, and TOEFL test scores are valid for two years.

**For information regarding the GRE (MSPP Reporting Number 3501), please call Educational Testing Services at (609) 771-7670, or visit [www.gre.org](http://www.gre.org).**

**For information regarding the TOEFL (Reporting Number 3501), call (609) 771-7100, or visit [www.toefl.org](http://www.toefl.org).**

PRAXIS II Test for School Psychologists is optional for School Psychology Program doctoral applicants. MSPP Recipient Code Number is 3520 and the score recipient's name is Dr. Bob Lichtenstien, Director of the School Psychology Program. Please be aware that the ETS only keeps PRAXIS test scores taken over the last 10 years.

**For information on the PRAXIS test or to have your score sent to us, visit [www.ets.org/praxis](http://www.ets.org/praxis).**

## Re-Applicants

Please attach a statement regarding your decision to re-apply. Be sure to indicate your re-applicant status on the front page of the application, the program to which you applied and the year.

This statement should contain whether you were or were not accepted, and address the specific factor(s) that contribute to your re-application. In addition, a description of your interim experiences (both personal and professional).

Previous admission files are kept on hand for a period of two years. Reapplicants may utilize any, or all, of the original application. However, we strongly recommend that you take the time to strengthen your original application, update your statements and recommendations whenever possible.

## Change of Career

This section applies to those applicants who have made a decision to change careers within several years of application, yet who have earned experience (however limited) in the field of psychology.

Please attach a statement regarding your decision to change careers. Describe the evolution of the career change and discuss the ways in which the experiences you have had and skills required by your previous career might relate to your work as a psychologist.

## Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology

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Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology

## Application Guidelines



Doctor of Psychology in Clinical Psychology (PsyD)  
Doctor of Psychology in School Psychology (PsyD)  
School Psychology (MA/CAGS) | Counseling Psychology (MA)  
Forensic & Counseling Psychology (MA)  
Organizational Psychology (MA)

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*Thank you for considering the Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology programs. Applicants are considered on their overall potential for successful performance in graduate level coursework as well as the potential "fit" with our programs and fields of study.*

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## Pre-Requisites

- Possession of a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution.
- Basic coursework necessary to apply. (*Please see the chart on page two*).
- Academic achievement at the undergraduate and/or graduate levels (*Although there is no cut-off GPA requirement, 3.0 (of 4.0) is expected*).

## Ready to apply?

Log on to [www.mspp.edu/apply](http://www.mspp.edu/apply). Transcripts should be sent in one package (with the exception of any standardized test scores which you arrange to have sent to us) to the Admissions Office. All other materials must be submitted through your online application account. Please begin the process early as we will consider only those completed applications which arrive on or before the deadline.

Program	Doctor of Psychology in School Psychology (PsyD)	Doctor of Psychology in Clinical Psychology (PsyD)	School Psychology (MA/CAGS)	Counseling Psychology (MA)	Forensic & Counseling Psychology (MA)	Organizational Psychology (MA)
<b>Application Deadlines</b>						
<i>For Early Consideration</i>	N/A	Wednesday, December 2, 2009	N/A	Wednesday, December 2, 2009	Wednesday, December 2, 2009	N/A
<i>For General Consideration</i>	Wednesday, November 18, 2009	Wednesday, January 13, 2010	Wednesday, January 13, 2010	Wednesday, January 13, 2010	Wednesday, January 13, 2010	Wednesday, January 13, 2010
	Complete applications received after the general consideration deadline will only be considered on a space available basis.	Complete applications received after the general consideration deadline will only be considered on a space available basis.	Complete applications received after the general consideration deadline will only be considered on a space available basis.	Complete applications received after the general consideration deadline will only be considered on a space available basis.	Complete applications received after the general consideration deadline will only be considered on a space available basis.	Complete applications received after the general consideration deadline will only be considered on a space available basis.
<b>Interviews</b>						
<i>For Early Consideration</i>	N/A	Friday, January 22, 2010 Saturday, January 23, 2010	N/A	Friday, January 22, 2010	Friday, January 22, 2010	N/A
<i>For General Consideration</i>	Saturday, January 23, 2010	Saturday, March 6, 2010 Saturday, March 13, 2010	Saturday, March 13, 2010	Saturday, March 6, 2010	Saturday, March 6, 2010	Friday, April 23, 2010
<b>Pre-requisite Courses must be completed before enrollment</b>	School Psychology MA/CAGS Certification	General Psychology; Abnormal Psychology AND <u>two</u> out of the following six courses: Developmental Psychology; Social Psychology; Personality Theories; Behavioral Statistics; Tests & Measurements; Physiological Psychology.  <i>Those with an MA degree in psychology are exempt from the prerequisites.</i>	Basic coursework or work/volunteer experience in psychology or education.	Basic coursework or work/volunteer experience in psychology or education.	Basic coursework or work/volunteer experience in psychology or education.	Suggested 2 years of business work experience or training and background in business education or mental health.

## International Applicants

An international applicant, that is, neither a citizen nor a permanent resident of the U.S, must meet MSPP's regular admission requirements, as well as those listed below.

If written in a foreign language, all transcripts and other documents must be accompanied by an official English translation and certification of equivalency to the American education system. You can have both, the translation and equivalence certified by the World Education Service (WES). For detailed information visit [www.wes.org](http://www.wes.org).

Upon acceptance to the program, international students will be sent a Foreign Student Certification of Finances (FSCF) form which must be submitted by every student who does not hold a permanent resident (immigrant) visa in the United States. Since international students are not eligible to borrow Federal loans, and alternative loans may be difficult to secure, the FSCF is needed to confirm that all of the necessary financial supports are secured for the duration of study, and to issue the INS I-20 form.

## Application Materials

- \$50 Application Fee (*non-refundable*) \$75 if applying to more than one program
  - Completed application
  - Three (3) letters of recommendation
  - Curriculum Vitae
  - Autobiographical Statement (*not applicable to the Organizational Psychology (MA) program*)
  - Statement of Purpose & Goals
  - Official transcript(s)
  - GRE General test is required for the Doctoral Program. For Master's programs it is optional.
  - Re-Application Statement\*
  - Change of Career Statement\*
- \* *if applicable, see appropriate section on reverse side.*

## The Interview

About a month after the Application deadline you will receive notification via email from the Admissions Office as to whether you have been selected to interview. If you are selected, we will offer you an interview to be held on one of the above dates depending on your program of choice.

Applicants who apply after the general consideration deadline, if selected for further consideration and there is space in the program, will be notified directly by the appropriate department to schedule an interview.

*MSPP does not share information or provide any feedback regarding admissions decisions.*

## Recommendations

Three letters of recommendation are required from people who are able to attest to your personal qualities, such as: professional; academic; intellectual; motivational; interpersonal; and, emotional. References should not be provided by family members, friends, or others who do not know you in either a professional or academic context.

Recommendations must be submitted electronically through your online application account.

## Curriculum Vitae (CV)

Please attach a current CV or résumé which includes the following: educational background; current activity; length and description of employment and/or training experiences; hours per week at each job or training site; names of supervisors at each facility; workshops and seminars attended; and any other professionally-related material (e.g., presentations, publications, etc.). You may also include any extracurricular activities or interests that you deem relevant.