

**SPECIALIST CERTIFICATE IN EDUCATION**

# WITH A SPECIALIZATION IN COUNSELING

**Program Description**

The Specialist Certificate with a Concentration in Counseling provides advanced counseling training for those who have already earned a Master’s degree in School or Clinical Mental Health Counseling. The program of study provides specialized training in a particular area of

counseling such as school counseling (e.g., completing requirements for certification), special populations (e.g., children, substance abusers), or clinical mental health counseling (e.g., completing coursework needed for licensure as an LPC). Graduates receive a Specialist Certificate (EdS).

# Admission Requirements

To be eligible for the Specialist program, students must have earned a Master’s degree in Counseling that is comparable to the departmental Master’s program in School or Clinical Mental Health Counseling. In addition, applicants must wait at least one year from the date of earning their Master’s degree to be considered.

Students must submit an application to the Graduate School and meet admission requirements for the Master’s programs in School or Clinical Mental Health Counseling (i.e., a minimum score of a 297 on the GRE and at least a 3.0 undergraduate GPA). The cumulative graduate level GPA must be at least a 3.5.

An admission application can be obtained from the Graduate School, 114 David Boyd Hall, Baton Rouge, LA 70803; phone: 225-578-2311; web address: <https://app.applyyourself.com/?id=gradlsu>.

# Faculty Advisor

Upon admission to the program, students will be assigned a faculty advisor.

# Required Hours and Coursework

The Specialist program requires a minimum of 60 graduate credit hours, which includes

approved master’s level hours. Regardless of the number of master’s degree hours, a minimum of 12 credit hours must be taken at Louisiana State University, as part of a planned program of study. The student and the faculty advisor identify a specialization area and design a program of study that includes both coursework and a 300 hour internship. All coursework must be approved by the faculty advisor.

# Specialist Exam

In the semester that the courses are completed, students must pass the written Specialist Comprehensive Exam, which consists of essay questions on the specialization area.