

Admission Requirements

Admission to the Counseling Program is selective and competitive. Admission decisions for all program applicants are rooted in the specific standards of the Marshall University Graduate College and the minimum standards of the Counseling program. Students are admitted to an area of emphasis and must indicate their preferences during the admission application process.

Graduate College

Applicants should follow the admissions process described in this catalog or at the Graduate Admissions website at www.marshall.edu/graduate/admissions/how-to-apply-for-admission.

Counseling Program

Multiple criteria are used in making decisions to admit students to the degree program. Each applicant is evaluated using the following criteria (all material should be submitted directly to Graduate Admissions):

- 1) A bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution. (Transcript required from the degree-granting institution only.)
- 2) Evidence of academic aptitude for graduate-level study that includes at least one of as evidenced by either a) or b) of the following:
 - a) A 2.75 overall Undergraduate GPA or higher on a 4.0 scale for all previously completed undergraduate courses.
 - b) A Graduate GPA of 3.0 on any previously completed advanced degree.
 - c) GRE scores (no more than five years old) of 286 (quantitative & verbal combined) OR MAT score of 295.
- 3) (International Students) Evidence of English language proficiency. Proof of your proficiency in English may be certified by submitting one of the following:
 - a) (TOEFL) Test of English as a Foreign Language (Internet based) minimum score of 80 for graduate study. ETS code for Marshall University is #5396.
 - b) (MELAB) Michigan English Language Assessment Battery minimum score of 82 for graduate study.
 - c) (IELTS) the International English Language Testing System minimum score of 6.5 for graduate study.
 - d) Completion of Level 6 of Marshall's Academic English program, with minimum Bs in all courses.
 - e) Completion of Marshall Pathway course ENG 160 or ENG 101A with minimum C grade.
 - f) Diploma or degree from an English-speaking school - a degree or diploma from an accredited secondary school, college, or university in which the primary language of instruction is English.

Commented [EL1]: Leslie suggested this change because some applicants have read this as only having to meet one of the three so they didn't think they had to submit the other two.

g) You have graduated from a regionally accredited college or university in the United States.

h) NOTE: English test results that were taken more than two (2) years prior to the date of the application submission cannot be accepted.

4) A writing sample expressing career goals and estimation of personal suitability for the profession of counseling. This should follow the Guidelines for the Written Statement found on the program website, or you may contact the program for a copy to be sent to you.

5) ~~Three~~ **Two** written references (~~two~~ from current or former professors, **if possible**). These should be completed by professionals with knowledge of the applicant's suitability for graduate work (e.g., supervisors, undergraduate professors) in helping professions. They should be completed using the program-specific reference form found on the program website, or you may contact the program for a copy to be sent to you.

Conditional Admission

The Counseling program may admit applicants conditionally for one term, on a limited basis, at the discretion of the program.

Provisional Admission

The Counseling program may admit applicants provisionally on a limited basis, at the discretion of the program.

Applicants may submit their application materials at any time, but the program cannot guarantee that applications will be considered for the desired semester when submitted less than 14 days prior to the beginning of that semester. Applications too late to be considered for admission may be rolled to the following semester.

Candidacy Requirements

Applicants who successfully meet the above five criteria are granted admission based on the Conditional, Provisional, or Full status noted above. At the end of the first 12 hours of prescribed coursework (COUN 574, 600, 602 or EDF 621 or advisor approved course substitutions) all students will undergo a Candidacy review. Toward the end of the semester in which a student will complete their 12th hour of coursework, he or she must submit the Candidacy Application to the Program Director or Program Administrative Assistant. Faculty will review Candidacy applications to determine each student's appropriateness for continuance in the Program. Faculty will notify students when they have been granted Candidacy Status upon a successful program review of the application.