



HELPING PROFESSIONS

A Guide to Paths and Programs in a

K-12 SETTING

WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN PEOPLE'S LIVES?

Many people have a desire to help others. From one-on-one therapy to coaching to community activism. From private practice to nursing homes to corporations. From individuals to families. From mental health to athletic performance.

The career fields that need professionals dedicated to helping people are varied and rewarding. This K-12 guide can help you find a path—and a degree program—that aligns with your goals for working in a school setting with children and adolescents, from preschool to high school.

Still exploring the ways you want to make a difference in the lives of others? Ask your Enrollment Counselor about our other guides that can help you explore paths and programs in:

- Behavioral Health
- Leadership and Performance
- Education and Research
- Human Services



K-12 SETTING

If your passion is helping children and adolescents, you may want to consider a career path in a K-12 educational setting.

School counselors, psychologists, and social workers assist young people with their social, emotional, behavioral, and academic challenges—making them more resilient as they move into adulthood.



K-12 SETTING



Professions

K-12 behavioral health professionals may work in schools and other settings. Here are some common roles and job titles, and employment settings.

School Counselor



Focus

Help preK-12 students address social/emotional, academic, and career development issues within the school setting through individual and group counseling. Consult with parents, teachers, and school personnel to help students reach their full potential and eliminate barriers to academic and personal success.

Related Job Titles

- Elementary, middle, or high school counselor
- Guidance counselor
- Student life counselor
- Academic advisor
- Career counselor
- College counselor
- Student intervention specialist

Related Workplaces

- Public schools
- Private schools
- Charter schools

K-12 SETTING*Professions**School
Psychologist**Focus*

Positively impact psychological and social functions of students through counseling and other appropriate interventions.

Related Job Titles

- School psychologist
- Diagnostician
- Program evaluator
- Researcher
- Consultant

Related Workplaces

- Public schools
- Private schools
- College/university
- Private practice

K-12 SETTING



Professions

School Social Worker



Focus

Help children improve their psychological and social function, often focusing on issues that go on at home, e.g., food and housing needs, child abuse, etc.

Related Job Titles

- Child, family, or school social worker

Related Workplaces

- School districts
- Government agencies

K-12 SETTING



Professions

Child Development and Behavior Professional



Focus

Work with a broad spectrum of behaviors facilitating children's optimal development.

Related Job Titles

- Applied behavior analysis instructor
- Behavior analyst
- Behavior specialist
- Child development specialist
- Early childhood education specialist

Related Workplaces

- Hospital/clinic
- Residential/out-patient program
- Child and family service agency
- Early childhood education program
- Private/public school
- Social service agency



The Importance of Licensure

If you plan to work with children and teenagers in a K-12 environment, you may need licensure or certification. Students in clinical, behavioral health-focused programs participate in face-to-face residencies and have supervised clinical field training in preparation for state licensure.

Licensure requirements can be complex and time consuming. They also vary depending on your location and chosen field. Capella University's licensure team is up-to-date on the requirements in all 50 states to support all graduates through the license application process.





Degrees for a Career in K-12 SETTING

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN PSYCHOLOGY, *Applied Behavior Analysis Specialization*

Focus

Prepare to work with children and adults who have behavioral concerns.

What You'll Learn

Ethical and professional conduct; behavior analysis concepts, principles, and research methods; and applied behavior analysis techniques.

How to identify behavioral problems through assessment; design, implement, and manage culturally appropriate interventions and treatments; perform effective behavior supervision; and bring about positive change for diverse individuals in a variety of settings.

*Related Job Titles to Explore**

- Behavior analyst
- Senior therapist
- Educational consultant
- ABA therapist

Related Employment Settings to Explore

- Mental health treatment center
- Autism center
- K-12 public and private school
- Private practice

NOTE: The requirements for this program are not intended to prepare graduates for licensure as professional counselors, psychologists, or social workers.



Degrees for a Career in K-12 SETTING

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN PSYCHOLOGY, *Child and Adolescent Development Specialization*

Focus

Prepare to become a subject matter expert and leader in organizations serving adolescents.

What You'll Learn

Knowledge, theory, and best practices needed to promote and support the growth and development of children and adolescents.

Knowledge and skills about prenatal, child, and adolescent development; physical and mental health; and social and educational issues related to child and adolescent development.

*Related Job Titles to Explore**

- Child protective services manager
- Child development specialist
- Early childhood education specialist
- Child care specialist

Related Employment Settings to Explore

- Child and family service agency
- Early childhood education program
- Law enforcement
- Social service agency

NOTE: The requirements for this program are not intended to prepare graduates for licensure as professional counselors, psychologists, or social workers.



Degrees for a Career in K-12 SETTING

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SCHOOL COUNSELING

(CACREP-ACCREDITED)

Focus

Prepare to work with a K-12 population on social/emotional, academic, and career development issues within the school setting.

What You'll Learn

A collaborative, data-driven, and student-focused approach for delivering and managing comprehensive school counseling programs with emphasis on assessment, individual and group counseling, consultation, and collaboration with teachers, parents, and the community, and advocacy of systemic change in the K-12 environment.

Various counseling approaches for working with K-12 children and adolescents.

*Related Job Titles to Explore**

- School counselor
- Academic advisor
- Guidance counselor
- College counselor

Related Employment Settings to Explore

- K-12 public, private, and charter school
- Nonprofit educational organization
- Educational corporation
- Government—state and federal departments of education



Degrees for a Career in K-12 SETTING

MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK

MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK—ADVANCED STANDING

Focus

Prepare to help others in an advanced generalist practice.

What You'll Learn

Theory and practice of social welfare, human behavior, cultural competence and diversity, technology, and leadership and supervision.

Specialized knowledge through electives in the areas of clinical practice, leadership and supervision, or human services, and practical experiences through residency and field education.

*Related Job Titles to Explore**

- Social worker
- Social work administrator/leader
- Researcher
- Instructor

Related Employment Settings to Explore

- K-12 public school
- K-12 private school
- Hospital, primary care setting, and clinic
- Child welfare agency



Degrees for a Career in K-12 SETTING

DOCTOR OF PSYCHOLOGY, *School Psychology Specialization*

Focus

Prepare to lead strategies that positively impact young people.

What You'll Learn

Psychology as a practical discipline, including psychological and neuropsychological assessment, clinical supervision and consultation, psychopathology of children and adolescents, child and adolescent development, and consultation and collaboration in the schools.

Theoretical tools and skills needed to assess students, consult with school personnel, and supervise other school psychologists.

*Related Job Titles to Explore**

- Diagnostician
- Program evaluator/director
- Adjunct, part-time, or full-time faculty
- School psychologist

Related Employment Settings to Explore

- K-12 public or private school
- Consulting firm
- School system district office
- Land-based or online college or university

*These are examples intended to serve as a general guide. Because many factors determine what position an individual may attain, Capella cannot guarantee that a graduate will secure any specific job title. Note: Some positions require licensure and/or other designations. We encourage you to research requirements for your job target and career goals. Check state licensure requirements. The license to practice as a professional psychologist or counselor is regulated independently in each state or province. Learners who intend to seek licensure or certification should check the program requirements in the state or province in which they hope to practice.

WHY CAPELLA?

- Degree programs designed around industry standards.
- Learning experiences that you can apply immediately in the field.
- Up-to-date curriculum and knowledgeable faculty who are industry experts.
- The most direct path to your goals with 24-hour access to online courses for the ultimate flexibility.
- An affordable education with many financial support options.



WHAT SETS CAPELLA APART?

Accredited Degree Programs Aligned to Industry Standards

The following programs have professional accreditation:

- Capella University's PhD in Counselor Education and Supervision, MS in Clinical Mental Health Counseling and MS in School Counseling programs are accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) through August 31, 2020 and are currently in the reaccreditation process.*
- The MS in Marriage and Family Therapy program at Capella University is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE), 112 South Alfred Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314; 703.838.9808, coa@aamft.org.
- Capella University's Master of Social Work programs are accredited by the Council on Social Work Education's Commission on Accreditation. For information about social work accreditation, visit: <https://www.cswe.org/>

Coursework incorporates industry standards in the following programs:

- The specialization courses in Capella's Master of Science in Psychology, Applied Behavior Analysis specialization are approved by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB).
- The Master of Science in Addiction Studies program includes a course in supervision and program management along with 300 hours of internship to complement your academic coursework. This incorporates common International Certification & Reciprocity Consortium requirements that states have set for credentialing examinations.

* Capella University's MS in Marriage and Family Counseling/Therapy (MFCT) is accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) through March 31, 2020. The program will be solely accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE) as of April 1, 2020

Capella University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. The Higher Learning Commission is among the six regional accrediting bodies recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.

WHAT SETS CAPELLA APART?

The Most Direct Path to Your Goals

Our approach to education is designed around the critical skills, knowledge, theories, and abilities – or competencies – required to master the subject matter in your degree program. You gain the relevant competencies you need to advance your career, and in the most efficient way.

FLEXPATH™

FlexPath, Capella's self-paced learning format, lets you work at your own pace and use the knowledge you've gained in your profession to move quickly through familiar subjects—potentially saving you time and money.

FlexPath is currently available for the following Master of Science in Psychology specializations:

- Child and Adolescent Development
- Educational Psychology
- General Psychology
- Industrial/Organizational Psychology
- Sport Psychology



WHAT SETS CAPELLA APART?

Relevant Curriculum

Capella's programs are designed by scholar-practitioner faculty who are experts in their field, and developed around the latest standards in the field to ensure you'll gain the most relevant skills and knowledge you need to succeed in your career.

Expert Faculty

Most faculty members hold a doctoral degree and have expertise gained through relevant experience in their field.

Counseling

All core faculty members in the counseling department have a doctoral degree and many work as licensed practitioners, school psychologists, school counselors, marriage and family therapists, professional counselors, alcohol and drug abuse counselors, registered play therapy supervisors, and psychologists.

Psychology

All psychology faculty members have graduate degrees and many work as clinical, industrial, and organizational professionals

Social Work

All social work faculty members have a doctoral degree and are licensed social workers both in advanced generalist practice and clinical social work.

Human Services

All human services faculty hold doctoral degrees. Our experienced instructors consult with regional, national, and international public service organizations and government agencies.

SUPPORT THROUGH YOUR PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Your program may present challenges—and Capella offers the support you need to successfully meet them. As you work to complete your degree requirements, Capella will provide you with support resources that are well suited to help you reach all of your short- and long-term academic and career goals. Here's just some of the support you'll receive along the way:



Enrollment Counselors

These folks are superstars—we hear it from our students (and grads), and you'll feel it from your first call or chat. They'll help you find your program fit, navigate the admissions process, and get started.



Academic Tutoring

Want to boost your performance? This team provides one-on-one support for academic skills, specific subjects, and more.



Financial Aid Counselors

First they listen. Then they act—for you. Running the numbers, exploring ways to save, and making the financial stuff a lot less complicated.



Doctoral Support

A doctoral degree takes special effort. It's why our doctoral programs are carefully designed for success. And it's why this team offers guidance on a whole other level—from first course to dissertation.



Academic Coaches

This team is all about keeping you on track. They'll help you understand your program requirements, answer your questions—and root for you all the way.



Career Center

For this team, it's way more than resumes and interview tips. It's about thoughtful and strategic career planning—from your first day at Capella. And long after you graduate.

SUPPORT THROUGH YOUR PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS



Student Community

You're not alone at Capella. Find a community of classmates to give support, provide guidance, and share tips.



Military Support

The best way to honor your service? Demystifying your complex benefits and helping you make the most of what you've earned.



Disability Services

Need access, accommodations, or technology? These advocates will make it happen. And if you need a steady hand to guide you across the stage at graduation? They'll be there for that, too.



Library and Writing Support

Need help finding resources or honing your writing skills for a paper or other coursework? The Capella Library and Writing Center are here to help.



Affordability

Capella offers a per-credit cost with a variety of ways to make your degree even more affordable.



Tech Support

Tech happens. So you'll have 24/7 access to live, actual human beings who'll help you get the most out of your learning technology.

AFFORDABILITY

Capella offers a per-credit cost with a variety of ways to make your degree even more affordable.



Scholarships

Capella offers several scholarship opportunities for new students to save on their degree. And the best part: scholarships never need to be paid back.

Employer tuition reimbursement

Many employers offer tuition reimbursement to their employees –even those without a formal program. Check with your HR department or manager to see if you are eligible.

Transfer credits

Reduce the time and cost of finishing your degree by maximizing your transfer credits.

Military discount

Capella offers a discount of 10 to 15 percent to veterans, service members, and their spouses.

Employer and association discounts

Tuition discounts from Capella-affiliated employers, colleges, and professional associations can help make your degree more affordable.



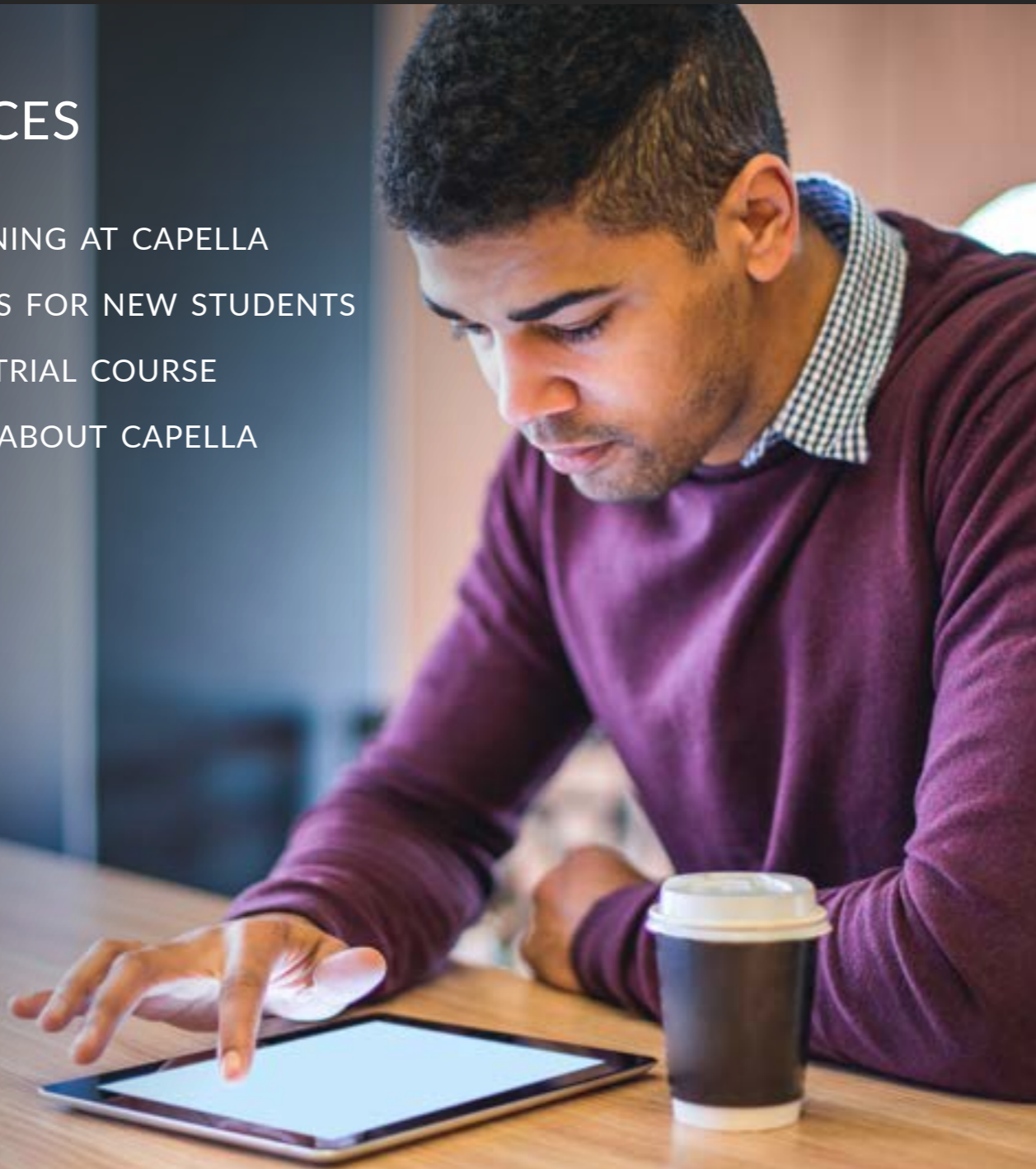
RESOURCES

ONLINE LEARNING AT CAPELLA

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR NEW STUDENTS

TAKE A FREE TRIAL COURSE

LEARN MORE ABOUT CAPELLA



**TALK TO A CAPELLA
ENROLLMENT COUNSELOR:
1.866.933.5819**

[CAPELLA.EDU](https://www.capella.edu)
[REQUEST INFORMATION](#)

Important information about the educational debt, earnings, and completion rates of students who attended these programs.

ACCREDITATION: Capella University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.
HIGHER LEARNING COMMISSION: <https://www.hlcommission.org>, 800.621.7440
CAPELLA UNIVERSITY: Capella Tower, 225 South Sixth Street, Ninth Floor,
Minneapolis MN 55402, 1.888.CAPELLA (227-3552)

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