

THE COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY
Graduate Programs in Counselor Education

Why The College of New Jersey (TCNJ) for advanced study in counseling?

"The coursework required to obtain a Masters of Counseling at TCNJ gave me the tools and credentials to help others transform themselves. What I didn't know going in was how deeply I would be transformed in the process!"

-Chris Floor, MA Counseling, May 2005, School Counselor, Princeton High School

"Not only are the counseling faculty knowledgeable about the counseling field, they are extremely involved with students and are passionate about helping each student achieve success in the program. Students learn to think critically, participate in meaningful research activities, and engage in valuable direct clinical experience. I learned skills in the program that have helped me tremendously as I continue to develop my clinical abilities as a doctoral student."

-Mandy Morrill-Richards, MA Counseling, May 2005,
National Certified Counselor, Doctoral Student
Counseling, Educational Psychology, and Research
University of Memphis

"The faculty of the Counselor Education program provided me with a humanistic approach to people, a solid foundation of knowledge, and the supportive guidance that taught me to make the best of what I have inside. These core lessons served me well in the years that followed. They have guided me to new growth and professional successes I would not have considered possible at the time. Much of my work on a day-to-day basis – and what I have published – continues to draw directly from the foundation provided by The College of New Jersey's Counselor Education Program."

-Dr. Richard Hazler, Ph.D.
MA Counseling, May 1974

Associate Professor, Coordinator of Elementary School Counseling Program
Department of Counselor Education, Counseling Psychology, and Rehabilitation Services
Penn State University

"I came to TCNJ expecting an education and I gained a family. Surrounded by supportive faculty and peers... I grew as a person and a counselor. Not a day goes by that I don't remember my days at TCNJ and the many blessings and gifts that I was fortunate enough to receive – they will truly last a lifetime."

-Linda Riccobono, MA Counseling, May 2006, School Counselor, Ridge High School

All programs in the School of Education at The College of New Jersey are guided by a conceptual framework for Creating Exemplary Professionals in Education. The themes that define this conceptual framework include:

- Knowledge and Inquiry
- Excellence in Practice

- ❑ Multiculturalism, Diversity, and Inclusion
- ❑ Multiple Contexts and Communities
- ❑ Leadership and Advocacy

In addition, The College of New Jersey offers:

- ❑ The first CACREP-accredited program in New Jersey
- ❑ A nationally recognized reputation for excellence
- ❑ Faculty who are experts in their fields
- ❑ Small, personalized classes
- ❑ Affordable tuition
- ❑ Easily accessible campus in suburban Ewing Township
- ❑ Outstanding clinical facilities

About our nationally accredited programs in counseling

The School and Community Counseling Programs in the Department of Counselor Education were the first graduate counseling programs in New Jersey to achieve national accreditation. Initially accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) in 1991, the School and Community Counseling Programs have been reaccruited by CACREP through 2013.

About our faculty and instruction

The majority of courses in our counseling program are taught by a core group of six full-time faculty. Not only do all members of this team hold doctoral degrees, possess a variety of certifications and licenses, publish research in professional journals and books, and serve as state and national leaders in counseling, they also truly care about their students' progress and success.

Course environments include small classes that permit personalized instruction and clinical courses that feature intense and close supervision. We offer both day and evening classes so as to accommodate the needs of both part-time and full-time students.

Our CACREP-accredited status has allowed us to obtain permission from the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC) to administer the National Counselor Examination (NCE) for our students at TCNJ during their last semester of enrollment. Students who successfully pass this exam are waived of the requirement of needing two years of post-master's experience to obtain the NBCC certification of National Certified Counselor (NCC). Historically, well over ninety percent of our students pass the NCE on their first attempt. A passing score on the NCE is required for licensure as a Professional Counselor (LPC) in New Jersey. Additionally, our programs meet the academic core requirements for licensure as a professional counselor in New Jersey.

Program offerings in counseling

The department offers a forty-eight-credit Master of Arts degree (MA) with options in school counseling and community counseling. Students in both options complete a core curriculum and specialization courses.

Core Curriculum (thirty-six credits)

The core curriculum provides a solid foundation in the following areas:

- ❑ orientation to the counseling profession
- ❑ counseling and consultation skills
- ❑ counseling theory
- ❑ statistics and research
- ❑ measurement and evaluation
- ❑ human growth and development
- ❑ multicultural counseling
- ❑ career counseling
- ❑ community counseling
- ❑ group counseling
- ❑ legal and ethical issues in counseling
- ❑ a supervised 700-hour clinical experience

Specialization Courses (twelve credits)

SCHOOL COUNSELING*:

Organization, Administration, and Supervision of School Counseling (three credits)

Learning and Behavior Problems of Children and Youth with Disabilities (three credits)

Electives (six credits)

** The school Counseling Program is designed to prepare students for certification as school counselors in New Jersey and Pennsylvania.*

COMMUNITY COUNSELING – HUMAN SERVICES:

Introduction to Marriage and Family Therapy (three credits)

Electives (nine credits)

COMMUNITY COUNSELING – SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND ADDICTION:

Introduction to Marriage and Family Therapy (three credits)

Substance Abuse and Addiction Counseling (three credits)

Substance Abuse and Addiction: Individual, Family and Society (three credits)

Substance Abuse Education and Prevention (three credits)

EdS Program in Marriage and Family Therapy

The department offers a twenty-four-credit Educational Specialist (EdS) degree in marriage and family therapy. The program is designed for individuals who have completed a CACREP-approved master's degree counseling program, or its equivalent,

and who wish to pursue advanced study in marriage and family therapy. In combination with the prerequisites required for program acceptance, the program meets the educational requirements as well as a number of the clinical experience hours for licensure as a marriage and family therapist in New Jersey.

The curriculum provides professional instruction in the following areas:

- ❑ family studies and development
- ❑ family of origin and the self of the therapist
- ❑ theory and techniques in marriage and family therapy
- ❑ assessment and treatment
- ❑ supervised laboratory training
- ❑ special issues in families
- ❑ ethical, legal, and professional issues
- ❑ supervised field experience

Note: Master's level students are permitted to take the majority of courses in marriage and family therapy during, or in addition to, their degree work.

Additionally, TCNJ offers 21-semester hours of graduate coursework in fulfillment of the content area curriculum requirements for the Substance Awareness Coordinator in the Schools, Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing (SAC CEAS), which can be taken separately, or as part of, and in addition to, the required courses needed for the 48-credit Master of Arts degree in counseling.

About The College

The College of New Jersey is a highly-selective institution which has earned national recognition for its commitment to excellence. Located in suburban Ewing Township, The College is set on 289 tree-lined acres and bordered by two lakes. Approximately 6,800 full- and part-time students are enrolled at The College, 900 of whom are studying at the graduate level.

College facilities include more than twenty computer labs, all with full Internet access. The TCNJ Library houses more than 500,000 volumes, 1,400 periodicals, an online information system, and up-to-the-minute database searching facilities. In addition, The College has an award-winning student center, a 54,000sq.ft. student recreation center, and a Wellness Center with cardio-vascular and free-weight equipment.

Application procedure and admission requirements

Admission requirements include completed application with \$60 non-refundable application fee along with:

- ❑ baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university
- ❑ GRE scores
- ❑ student essay
- ❑ related counseling experience
- ❑ two letters of reference
- ❑ personal interview

Commitment to cultural diversity, tolerance and human rights

Consistent with the American Counseling Association's *Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice*, the Department of Counselor Education at The College of New Jersey requires that its students commit themselves to respecting the dignity and promoting the welfare of as well as affirming individuals evidencing diversity in age, color, culture, ethnicity, disability, gender, language, race, religion, sexual orientation, marital status, and socioeconomic status.

How to get started

A graduate bulletin/admission information can be obtained online at <http://www.tcnj.edu/~graduate/>.

For assistance, please contact:

Office of Graduate Studies
The College of New Jersey
PO Box 7718
Ewing, NJ 08628-0718
609/771-2300
graduate@tcnj.edu
<http://www.tcnj.edu/~graduate/>

Further program information can be obtained by contacting:

Department of Counselor Education
The College of New Jersey
PO Box 7718
Ewing, NJ 08628-0718
609/771-2119
<http://www.tcnj.edu/~educat/counselor/index.html>