



Department of Psychology  
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**Questions regarding the Master's in Psychology degree program which prospective students often ask:**

- We offer a very competitive financial package which includes tuition and relevant paid work. We typically pay for 70-100% of students' tuition. Students also work 20 hours per week in one of our applied settings or as a teaching assistant and are paid an hourly wage for this work.
- Competitive applicants typically have: (a) a BA/BS degree in psychology or a related field and coursework that includes at minimum Research Methods, Statistics, and Introduction to Psychology and (b) relevant research experience (e.g., with a faculty member) and/or applied experience (e.g., work at an autism treatment agency, mental health clinic, etc.). Although not a requirement, competitive applicants will have taken at least one course in behavioral principles or applied behavior analysis, although exceptions to this are made on a case-by-case basis.
- The program at Pacific is a full-time "in-residence" graduate program. (This means there is a 45-65 hour per week commitment in the department that includes classes, research, and TA or clinical responsibilities, and students are expected to live near campus.)
- The Association for Behavior Analysis International (ABAI) has verified that our course sequence meets the coursework requirements for eligibility to take the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB)<sup>®</sup> exam. We also provide supervised clinical experience which meets the BACB<sup>®</sup> Concentrated Fieldwork requirements.
- We focus both on preparing students to enter doctoral programs and to take the BACB<sup>®</sup> exam. Students in the behavior analysis program also accrue the necessary coursework and have the opportunity to accrue enough applied experience to sit for the BACB<sup>®</sup> exam when they complete the program.
- Our BACB<sup>®</sup> Examination Pass Rate for the years 2013 - 2017 is 100% (scroll down to p. 4): [https://www.bacb.com/wp-content/uploads/BCBA-pass-rates-alpha\\_180814.pdf](https://www.bacb.com/wp-content/uploads/BCBA-pass-rates-alpha_180814.pdf)
- We have a 100% acceptance rate into Ph.D. programs.
- We have a competitive admissions process and typically take 8 students per year.
- Although our minimum required GPA is 3.0, successful applicants typically have a 3.5 or better.
- We require the GRE General Test, but **not** the GRE Psychology Subject Test.
- Students applying for the BACB "track" should have already taken at least one course in behavior analysis and have some research or applied experience in the area of behavior analysis. However, we have made some exceptions to this on a case-by-case basis.
- We do **not** offer a BACB certification-**only** or course sequence-**only** program.
- We do **not** offer online courses or distance learning courses.
- We do **not** transfer in courses taken in other graduate programs or at other institutions.
- We do **not** offer an MFT, LCSW, or counseling program. You **cannot** practice as a therapist when you are done with our program.
- Our application deadline is February 15th of each year.

last revised 11/12/19