



Department of Psychology  
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## Answers to Frequently Asked Questions

### When is the application deadline?

- Our application deadline is February 15th of each year

### What kind of financial assistance do you offer?

- 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.

### Is the program full or part time? Is it online or in-person?

- 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.)

### Does the program prepare me to take the BACB® exam? What is your exam pass rate?

- 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)® exam. We also provide supervised clinical experience which meets the BACB® Concentrated Fieldwork requirements.
- We focus both on preparing students to enter doctoral programs and to take the BACB® 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® exam when they complete the program.
- Our BACB® Examination Pass Rate for the years 2013 - 2017 is 100%:  
[https://www.bacb.com/wp-content/uploads/BCBA-Pass-Rates-Alpha\\_190813.pdf](https://www.bacb.com/wp-content/uploads/BCBA-Pass-Rates-Alpha_190813.pdf) (p.10)

### Will this program prepare me for a Ph.D. program?

- We focus on preparing students for doctoral programs in behavior analysis and behavioral clinical/counseling psychology.
- We have a 100% acceptance rate into Ph.D. programs.

### **Can I practice as a licensed therapist after completing your program?**

- We do **not** offer an MFT, LCSW, or counseling program. You **cannot** practice as a therapist when you are done with our program.

### **What prerequisite coursework and research experience are required?**

- Competitive applicants typically have:
  - a BA/BS degree in psychology or a related field and coursework that includes at minimum Research Methods, Statistics, and Introduction to Psychology
  - 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.
- We do not transfer in courses taken in other graduate programs or at other institutions.

### **What is the minimum GPA requirement?**

- Although our minimum required GPA is 3.0, successful applicants typically have a 3.5 or better.

### **Do you require the GRE?**

- We require the GRE General Test, but **not** the GRE Psychology Subject Test.

### **What is your admission rate?**

- We have a competitive admissions process and typically take 5 to 8 students per year.

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