

WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY

Psy.D. Application/Admission FAQs

This list of FAQs is meant to provide answers to the most frequently asked questions we receive during the application process. Because we receive a large number of applications and queries, we cannot always answer every email in person.

Please rely on this list to the best of your ability, prior to writing to us with similar questions. Thank you!

1. How do I apply to the WPU Psy.D. program?

Please follow the instructions shown at:

<https://www.wpunj.edu/cohss/departments/psychology/psyd/admissions.html>.

2. I missed the application deadline. Can I still apply?

No, you must submit your complete application by the January 1, 2022 deadline. This happens to be a Saturday, but this is the deadline.

3. Do I have to pay any fees with the application?

Yes, there are two fees, one for PsyCAS and one for WPU. Both must be paid for your application to be considered complete. For specific questions about PsyCAS fees, please contact PsyCAS at [PSYCAS | Applicant Login Page Section \(liaisoncas.com\)](https://www.psyecas.com). For specific questions about the WPU fee, please contact WP Graduate Admissions at graduate@wpunj.edu.

4. Can I send my application materials directly via email?

No, we cannot accept application materials via email. Please follow the instructions shown at: <https://www.wpunj.edu/cohss/departments/psychology/psyd/admissions.html>

5. Who will review my application?

This is a complex process that begins with a committee review, based on goodness of fit with the program and faculty. At a later point in the process, your application may also be reviewed by one of your stated mentors.

6. I'm missing some prerequisites, can I still apply?

Yes, though you may be asked to take them over summer, or any time before Fall admission.

7. Can I substitute a class for a prerequisite?

This would be determined later if you are invited to interview.

8. Can I apply if I have no experience in psychology?

It is not optimal to apply with no experience whatsoever. All your credentials will be reviewed by the admissions committee, and there should be evidence of your potential as a psychologist.

9. I have several grades of 'D' or 'F' – can I still apply?

No, you may not have any grades of D or F to apply to the Psy.D. program.

10. Do I have to have been a Psychology Major to apply? Or have to have a BA/BS in Psychology to apply?

No, but your application must show that you are prepared to work in the field through your academic training and experience.

11. If I am coming in with a Master's degree and have all As but I have one F or D at the undergraduate level, can I still be admitted into the Doctoral Program?

Possibly. If you apply with a Master's degree, your graduate-level work will be more heavily weighted than your undergraduate-level work.

12. If I have done very well in my Master's degree program but not so well in my undergraduate program how will you evaluate my academic work?

We will evaluate your academic performance at both the undergraduate and graduate levels; however, your graduate-level work will be more heavily weighted.

13. I was once diagnosed with depression. Is this something I should write about in my personal essay? If not, what should I write about?

We prefer that you focus on your academic interests in your personal essay. If your own struggle with a disorder is relevant, then it might be appropriate to mention this *briefly*.

Please see this helpful article for more information:

[Kisses of Death in the Graduate School Application Process](#)

14. Is there a word limit on the personal essay portion of the application?

There is no word or page limit for the personal statement, however we ask that applicants answer the prompts listed [on our website](#). And we prefer that personal essays not exceed 4 pages.

15. Which GRE tests must I take to apply for your program?

All parts of the GRE are waived in this application cycle. There is no need to take or submit any test of the GRE (verbal, quantitative, essay, subject).

16. English is not my first language. What relevant test scores do I need to submit?

Please see: <https://www.wpunj.edu/admissions/international/graduate/index.html>

17. How do I choose a faculty mentor?

On the WPU Psychology website, you will find our names and links to our research labs and clinical interests. Look over each one and pick the two that align best with your interests.

18. Will I get financial support if I am admitted to the Psy.D. program?

See the Psy. D. Admissions webpage for information on financial aid, <https://www.wpunj.edu/cohss/departments/psychology/psyd/admissions.html>

19. I only have two letters of recommendation. Is this okay?

No, we must have three letters of recommendation from individuals who know you well.

20. When is your interview date for 2022?

Our interview day for invited applicants is February 4, 2022. Interview day is conducted virtually, via the Zoom platform.

21. I already submitted part/all of my application. Will I receive application status updates? Can I contact you for updates?

For updates on the status of your application, check with PsyCAS, [PSYCAS | Applicant Login Page Section \(liaisoncas.com\)](https://www.wpunj.edu/cohss/departments/psychology/psyd/admissions.html).

PsyCAS has the most up-to-date info on all applications, and they will not forward everything to us until your application is complete.

22. I didn't finish uploading my application and the January 1 deadline has passed. Will my application still be considered?

No, your application must be completed by the January 1 deadline for consideration.

23. There is a delay in getting my transcripts to you. Will my application still be considered?

If your transcript is delayed, you can submit your unofficial transcript under certain circumstances, however we must have the official transcript before we can move your application to the final stage of review.

Please note that if you are having trouble getting your transcript, there might be a 'hold' on your records placed by your university.

If you are an international student, you must send an international evaluation which can take as long as two months.

Please visit the international admissions page at WPU:
<https://www.wpunj.edu/admissions/international/graduate/index.html>

24. I am trying to reach PsyCAS but they haven't responded.

Please note that the PsyCAS staff are on winter holiday from approximately December 15, 2021 until January 3, 2022.

25. How many graduate student spots are you looking to fill each year?

This varies from year to year, however we typically aim to recruit 10-15 new graduate students to the program in each cycle.

26. About how much does it cost to attend graduate school in clinical psychology?

Here is a link to the APA Graduate Students' Financial Expenditure Evaluation Tool, which is useful for estimating the approximate cost of various types of psychology graduate programs.

www.apa.org/apags/resources/fees-tool

27. When will my application be reviewed?

We review all completed applications during the first few weeks of January; however, we continue this process as needed, sometimes until mid-April.