

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

UNIVERSITY *of* WASHINGTON

PSYCHOLOGY PH.D. GRADUATE ADMISSIONS NEWSLETTER



2021 ADMISSIONS OPEN: NOW-TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2020

Admissions for entry in 2021 is open from now to Tuesday, December 1, 2020. Applications received at this time are considered for Autumn Quarter 2021 start, which is September 29, 2021. The Department of Psychology Graduate Program Office and the UW Graduate School have one integrated online application. Applicants are required to upload everything into an online application. Please use this newsletter as a guide to the different components of the application. Everything is required, unless otherwise specified, see page 4 for optional materials.

Links for Admissions materials and information:

- Online UW Graduate School Application is located here:
<https://grad.uw.edu/admissions/apply-now/>
- Psychology Department forms are available for download here:
<https://psych.uw.edu/graduate/prospective-students>

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2020 FOR ALL APPLICANTS

- Your online UW Graduate School Application must be submitted with payment no later than 11:59pm (PST) on Tuesday, December 1, 2020. This is a hard deadline.
- U.S. and International applicants have the SAME deadline of Tuesday, December 1, 2020.
- The Department of Psychology no longer accepts any mailed paper items for admissions. However if you find you may need to mail something, please see page 4 for mailing addresses.

APPLICATION FEE WAIVER INFORMATION: APPS DUE 7 DAYS EARLIER

Only U.S. applicants are eligible to be considered for an application fee waiver if they qualify for financial need. The fee waiver request is located on the payment step of your application. If a fee waiver is requested, your entire completed application is to be submitted 7 calendar days BEFORE than our application deadline. Fee waiver requests submitted late will automatically be denied by the Graduate School.

Please check your email for a decision from the Graduate School. If you receive a fee waiver, you must log back in to apply it to your application as “payment” in order to submit your application to the Department of Psychology. The Graduate School does not submit your application for you if you requested a fee waiver. If your fee waiver request is denied, you will then need to pay the application fee in order to submit your materials.

Please visit for full details: <https://grad.uw.edu/admission/application-fee-waivers/>

McNair Scholars and PPIA Fellows: Please have your faculty advisor send documentation to the Graduate School at uwgrad@uw.edu and not the Department of Psychology prior to requesting the application fee waiver in order to avoid delays in processing.

ISSUE 12
edited 9-2020

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*Save the Date:
2021 Virtual Recruitment
Day, our interview/
recruitment
event, has been
scheduled for*



February 18, 2021.

Please save this date and we encourage you to attend if you have been invited by our Graduate Program.

SELECT YOUR AREA(S) OF INTEREST

When completing the “Program Information” step of your online application, you will be asked to select your 1st area of interest. Select this area from the drop down menu. If you have a 2nd area of interest, feel free to select it from the 2nd drop down menu.

“Good to Know” tips:

- The clinical areas (general or child) can **ONLY** be listed as a 1st area interest with **NO** 2nd area interest. Please list either general **OR** child in the 1st area interest. Please do not list both clinical areas.
- It is not required to have a 2nd area of interest. If you only have one interest, please list only the one.

MATCH WITH SCHOLARLY INTEREST OF FACULTY

Once you have indicated your area(s) of interest (Animal Behavior, Behavioral Neuroscience, Child Clinical, Cognition & Perception, Developmental, General Clinical, Quantitative, or Social Psychology & Personality), please list which faculty members (up to 3) you wish to work with who are located in the area(s) you selected. Locate faculty profiles by visiting our website, selecting the area(s) you are applying to, and then click on “people/faculty.” Only **core faculty** (indicated with an asterisk and usually on the left column) are eligible to accept and mentor students. Check the individual faculty profiles to know which faculty are accepting new students in your year of application (2021-2022). Please list only faculty names in the text boxes provided.

*Email us your
questions:
PsyGrad@uw.edu*

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Typically, the statement of purpose describes what motivates you to pursue a career in psychology. What theoretical issues, research problems, clinical problems, or application areas are your central interests? Why are these issues especially interesting and important? Include in your statement the following: description of research experience, reason for applying to our graduate program, and the name(s) of faculty members who are pursuing similar research in our department with whom you may wish to work. Please explain why you have chosen the faculty (see Match with Scholarly Interest of Faculty section above) in your statement. This is considered your writing sample. No form or template is provided, but they are typically 2pgs (single-spaced). Upload your statement into your online application. This step is required; please do not confuse this with the Personal Statement, see next section.

PERSONAL STATEMENT

The University of Washington Department of Psychology is committed to supporting the diversity of the graduate student body and promoting access and opportunity in higher education. A diverse student body is an essential component of academic excellence as we train future scientific leaders, educators, and clinicians to operate within and serve a diverse population. The purpose of this essay is to get to know you as an individual and potential graduate student. Please use this statement to describe how you can contribute to the diversification of graduate education, our university community, and the field of Psychology. You may include educational, cultural, social, familial, and economic opportunities and disadvantages that you have experienced, and ways those experiences have affected the development of your career plans, graduate school goals. You may include ways in which you expect to contribute to the diversification of the field of Psychology and the university community, and how you might serve educationally underrepresented and underserved groups in society. This statement can also include ways that you have initiated or participated in outreach and services designed to further educational, cultural and economic equity.

This is another opportunity to demonstrate your writing ability. No form or template is provided, but they are typically 2pgs (single-spaced). Upload your personal statement into your online application. This step is required; please do not confuse this with the Statement of Purpose, see previous section.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT INFORMATION

We normally guarantee entering graduate students 9mos of financial support during each of their first five years in our program. This support comes from one or more sources—Teaching Assistantships, Research Assistantships, fellowships, or traineeships. Most entering students are supported on TAs or RAs. Students generally move back and forth between these two types of support. International students are required to submit additional language testing to qualify for TAs (see next page Requesting GRE/TOEFL Score Reports). Both types of assistantships provide a stipend (\$2,619 per month for 2020-2021), a full tuition waiver, and health insurance. We normally do not take students without a promise of financial support of the types discussed above and there is no additional paperwork to apply for this funding package. Everyone (U.S. and international applicants) is(are) automatically considered upon applying to the Psychology Graduate Program.

Although it is not guaranteed by the Psychology Department, many students also obtain support during summers and after their five-year guarantee period. Departmental financial support, whether during the first five years or later, is dependent on a student remaining in good standing in our program. All students are responsible for paying student fees that total about **\$248** per quarter (for 2020-2021).

If you have applied for any outside funding, please let us know by indicating a “yes” in section 3 under “Optional Applicant Profile Questions” in the online application and provide a brief explanation, such as name of the opportunity.

NOTE: Ronald E. McNair Scholars may be eligible for a special fellowship. If you are or were a participant of this program, please indicate a “yes” in section I under “Optional Applicant Profile Questions.”

ONLINE LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Letters of recommendation are ONLY accepted electronically* as part of your application. Three letters are required. While you complete your online UW Graduate School Application, you will be able to designate who your recommenders will be. Your recommenders will receive an email stating that they have agreed to provide a reference for you, including a link to a brief online form they will complete before uploading a letter written in advance that has already been saved to their personal computer. It is your responsibility to have an accurate email address for each recommender to ensure timely completion. They will receive the request immediately upon clicking “save & continue” and not when you finish/pay for your application.

If your recommender has not received the email request for recommendation, have them add our email, psygrad@uw.edu to their address book. The original request might have been sent to their bulk or junk email folder.

*We have an extensive
FAQ page:*

[https://
psych.uw.edu/
graduate/prospective-
students/faq](https://psych.uw.edu/graduate/prospective-students/faq)

UNOFFICIAL (REQUIRED NOW) AND OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS (MAYBE LATER)

U.S. Applicants: It is required to upload unofficial, online versions of transcripts from collegiate institutions where you earned a Bachelor's degree or higher to your online UW Graduate School Application. We are not accepting paper transcripts during this stage of admissions. We do not need your junior college/community college, transfer, or study abroad transcripts. If your degree is in-progress, upload the transcript that you have available. If you are a current UW student, we still need your transcript uploaded. If you receive an offer from the Department of Psychology that you will accept, then an official set of paper transcripts will be mailed.

International Applicants: Please upload unofficial, online versions of transcripts from ALL colleges and universities attended to your online UW Graduate School Application. If you receive an offer from the Department of Psychology that you will accept, then an official set of paper transcripts will be mailed.

Suggestions for obtaining electronic transcripts: Visit your university's student web portal and copy/paste the information into a document, print to file/pdf, or scan a paper transcript. Be honest in determining whether your scan can truly be read easily. Smudges, dark watermarks and backgrounds make scans very difficult to read. If it cannot be read, we cannot evaluate your materials and your file is marked incomplete.

GRE/TOEFL SCORE REPORTS

The GRE General Test is no longer required for 2021 admissions, nor is the GRE Subject test (which was always optional). Please do not insert your GRE scores within any part of your application.

TOEFL scores within two years are accepted and the most recent exam results will be used. The Duolingo English Test will also be accepted. The IELTS is no longer accepted. Proof of English proficiency is not required of International applicants who have or will have completed a degree in the U.S. and a handful of countries where English is the language of instruction (see memo 8 below). However, to qualify for Teaching Assistantship funding, International applicants must meet a speaking requirement (see memo 15 below).

International applicants, please view these Graduate School links for further details: <https://grad.uw.edu/policies-procedures/graduate-school-memoranda/memo-8-graduate-school-english-language-proficiency-requirements/>

&

<http://grad.uw.edu/policies-procedures/graduate-school-memoranda/memo-15-conditions-of-appointment-for-tas-who-are-not-native-speakers-of-english/> &

<https://grad.uw.edu/admission/covid-19-admissions-faqs/>

POLICY REGARDING LATE SUBMISSION/INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS

The online UW Graduate School Application must be submitted with payment no later than Tuesday, December 1, 2020 by 11:59pm (PST) by BOTH U.S. and International applicants or it will be considered late. If this deadline is not met, your application will be locked from submission.

It is important that the documents be prepared carefully in conjunction with your online UW Graduate School Application as explained in this newsletter. We do not accept requests to revise materials in submitted applications. Please make sure the files you upload are the final versions that you are happy with before you submit your application with payment.

Applicants are urged to request online recommendations early.

International applicants who must provide language proficiency, please see the Graduate School's website on how to meet this requirement: <https://grad.uw.edu/admission/covid-19-admissions-faqs/>

OPTIONAL APPLICATION MATERIALS

The following are application materials which the Department of Psychology have included as optional responses within your online UW Graduate School Application. Because these are optional, please do not upload anything that is not the intended file (i.e.: a statement saying you won't be providing this or uploading an item such as a writing sample/paper is not necessary). It is appreciated that if you choose to submit anything listed below, to use your discretion and not submit an excessive amount of extra application materials which may delay application processing.

1. Curriculum Vitae (C.V.) or Academic Resume.
2. One or two additional Online Recommendations.
3. Responses in the section labeled "Additional Applicant Profile Questions." (some responses are required however)