

LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH  
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY  
Admission Policy Guidelines

Admission Policy Guidelines are for internal use by the Department of Psychology's Admissions Committee. The preferred preparation for a doctoral program in psychology is an undergraduate major in psychology or equivalent. This would include recent/current classes in statistics and research methods as well as laboratory courses. A solid background in areas such as mathematics, biological, and social sciences is useful and appropriate. In addition, research experience is particularly desirable for Ph.D. candidates. In the case of clinical psychology, clinical experience also may be of interest. It is strongly recommended that all applicants have recent exposure and experience with SPSS.

**NOTE:** Should an applicant not have an undergraduate major in psychology, admission considerations for any of the psychology graduate programs will be at the discretion of the Department of Psychology Admissions Committee.

***Recommended GPA and GRE Scores:***

For applicants applying to our graduate programs in Psychology (the Ph.D. Clinical Program and the Psy.D. Clinical Psychology Program, the following **minimum criteria, listed below, are preferable** to be considered for a pre-admission interview. **However, any exceptions to the established GPA and GRE minimum criteria are made at faculty discretion and grounded on faculty's overall assessment of the applicant based on criteria used in graduate Departments of Psychology to predict academic success, and the potential for a professional career in psychology, such as a demonstrated record of scholarship and/or specialized research training, strength of the applicant's prior academic training /institution, strength of applicant's letters of recommendation, and previous clinical experience.**

- An undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale or a Master's degree GPA of 3.3 or higher from a regionally accredited graduate program and recommended minimum GRE criteria.
- **Verbal and Quantitative Scores, Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test:** The sum of the GRE Verbal and Quantitative **percentile rankings** must equal or exceed 100. A percentile ranking in either section, cannot be below the 35<sup>th</sup> percentile. Only the most current GRE scores are admissible (exam must have been taken within the last 5 years and the most recent dated exam will be considered).
- **Writing Assessment, GRE General Test:** The GRE Analytical Writing section score must equal 4.0 or higher.
- **Structured Pre-admission Interview by Invitation:** The psychology department requires a structured pre-admissions interview by invitation.
- **Recommendation Letters:** Three letters of recommendation from professionals **unrelated** to the applicant and qualified to assess the applicant's potential for graduate education. **A minimum of two letters are required from current or previous professors**
- **The Psychology Subject Examination *IS NOT* required for either psychology doctoral programs!**