Improving students’ learning

The Educational Specialist Degree in School Psychology (Ed.S.) at UMSL offers an intense learning experience that prepares you for an exciting and rewarding career.

School psychologists have specialized training in both psychology and education. They use their training and skills to team with educators, parents, and fellow mental health professionals to ensure that every child’s academic and social-emotional and behavior needs are met in a safe, healthy, and supportive environment.

School psychologists understand school systems, effective teaching, and successful learning. They provide educational and psychological services in schools that include various combinations of assessment, academic and behavior consultation, individual and group counseling, and development and evaluation of prevention and early intervention programs.

“My courses were challenging, but my instructors were there to help me every step of the way. It has really paid off in my first year as a professional. I had a level of confidence backed with knowledge to help every student referral.”

—Educational Specialist Candidate
School Psychology
What are my career opportunities as a School Psychologist?

School Psychology consistently has been ranked among the top 15 of all professions for many years. In addition to being an exciting and rewarding career, the field has highly favorable supply and demand ratios, as retirement rates have exceeded graduation rates in recent years. Consequently, the job prospects are excellent for specialist level school psychologist practitioners.

A full-time, nationally approved program

The UMSL Ed.S. in School Psychology program prepares school psychologist practitioners to work in school settings. School psychologist certification in Missouri and most other states requires completion of an Educational Specialist in School Psychology (Ed.S.) degree.

The Ed.S. degree is a 60-hour, three-year, fulltime program that includes a yearlong internship. You will have the confidence of learning from highly qualified faculty in a cutting edge program, the only program in Missouri approved by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP).

The program promotes a unique set of professional values through its emphasis on:

- Data-based decision making
- Educational and psychological treatment outcomes
- Multicultural diversity
- Program development and evaluation
- Facilitation of organization change

Innovative Education… Engaged Educators

Our Ed.S. program prepares future school psychologists as data-based problem solvers. Graduates are immediately eligible for School Psychologist Certification from the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Nationally Certified School Psychologist credential from NASP.

UMSL at a glance

The University of Missouri—St. Louis is a public, research university located in Missouri’s most populous and economically important region. Founded in 1963, UMSL attracts more students than any other university in the St. Louis region.

We offer 54 undergraduate degree choices from our five colleges. And we partner with more than 400 companies and organizations for our internship program. You'll get out of the classroom, gain practical experience, make connections and jump-start your career.

St. Louis:
Something for everyone

UMSL is a vital part of St. Louis, and the city and surrounding areas make up the most culturally vibrant region in Missouri. That means we offer you more than a top-ranked learning environment.

There's a night out with friends on Washington Avenue. An exhibit opening at the Saint Louis Art Museum. A Saturday afternoon at the Saint Louis Zoo. A home-run celebration at Busch Stadium. St. Louis is a place where you can be you.