



UTRGV MENTAL HEALTH MASTER’S PROGRAMS



Programs	Overview	License Eligible Post-Graduation
Clinical Psychology	The Clinical Psychology MA program prepares students to work with diverse populations and address various mental health disorders through training in assessment, diagnosis, and evidence-based treatments. Both the thesis and non-thesis tracks qualify graduates for the Licensed Psychological Associate (LPA) license, with the thesis track offering additional research training for those pursuing doctoral studies. Graduates go on to practice in the community, conduct research, teach, or apply to PhD programs.	LPA
Counseling Clinical Mental Health Specialization	The CACREP-accredited counseling program trains students to provide therapy across the lifespan, addressing stressors like anxiety, depression, and life challenges. Students can specialize in School Counseling or Clinical Mental Health Counseling. Those in the Clinical Mental Health specialization are eligible to pursue the Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) license. Graduates often work in independent practice, healthcare, or school settings.	LPC
Clinical Rehabilitation	The CACREP-accredited Clinical Rehabilitation program prepares students for careers in rehabilitation counseling, focusing on individual and group counseling, vocational assessment, job placement, disability management, and research. Students can specialize in vocational rehabilitation, addictions therapy, or pursue the Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) license. The program emphasizes empowering individuals with disabilities to adapt to their vocational and personal lives, with graduates working in community and healthcare settings.	ADC, CRC, LCDC, LPC
School Psychology	The School Psychology program prepares students to work with diverse youth and families, focusing on mental health, assessment, and educational interventions. It meets Texas Behavioral Health Executive Council (BHEC) and Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists (TSBEP) requirements, qualifying graduates for LSSP licensure. School psychologists provide academic, emotional, and behavioral support, assess for disabilities, develop IEPs, and deliver interventions, helping students succeed in schools.	LSSP
Social Work	The Master of Science in Social Work (MSSW) program prepares students to address complex social challenges, provide clinical interventions, and advocate for individuals and communities in need. Grounded in cutting-edge research and theoretical frameworks, the program equips graduates with the skills needed for today's workforce. The program prepares graduates to pursue the LMSW license and, eventually, the LCSW license.	LMSW, LCSW

Important Note: Completion of the program does not guarantee licensing or certification. Additional requirements, such as exams, supervised experience, or licensure applications, may be necessary.

What is the difference between an LPA, LPC, CRC, LSSP and LCSW?

	LPA	LPC	CRC	LSSP	LCSW
Focus 	Psychological assessment, diagnosis, and therapy.	Mental health counseling and therapy for individuals and groups.	Rehabilitation and vocational counseling for individuals with disabilities.	Educational and psychological support for students in schools.	Clinical social work, mental health therapy, and resource advocacy.
Role 	Conducts psychological testing, diagnoses mental health disorders, and provides therapy under supervision.	Provides therapy for emotional, psychological, and relational issues, such as anxiety, depression, and trauma.	Assists clients with disabilities achieve independence and employment through counseling, advocacy, and support.	Conducts psychoeducational assessments, develops IEPs, school-based therapy, and supports students' needs.	Provides therapy for mental health issues, case management, and connects clients to community resources.
Setting 	Private practices, mental health clinics, hospitals, research facilities, and educational institutions.	Private practices, counseling centers, schools, community mental health agencies, and hospitals.	Vocational rehab agencies, hospitals, government programs, advocacy organizations, private practice.	Public and private schools, educational service centers, and special education programs.	Community agencies, private practice, hospitals, schools, and government organizations.

Each role is essential to mental health care, offering unique expertise and focusing on different needs, with distinct training and work settings.

What are the requirements to apply to these Master’s programs?

	3.0 GPA 	Resume of CV 	Essay 	Recommendation Letters 	GRE 	Interview <small>Upon application completion</small>
Clinical Psychology	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Counseling	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Clinical Rehabilitation	✓		✓	✓		
School Psychology	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Social Work	✓	✓	✓	✓		

Information sourced from 2024-2025 graduate catalog <https://utrgv.smartcatalogiq.com/en/2024-2025/graduate-catalog/>



Infographic created by Ms. Marlene Orta, co-advisor of the Psychology Club at UTRGV.

