

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) About the SHSU's CACREP Accredited Doctoral Program in Counselor Education

What must I do to apply for the doctoral program?

Instructions for applying to the doctoral program are provided on pages 12-13 of the *Doctoral Student Handbook* that may be found on the following the program webpage. In addition, application instructions are provided on the application forms that may found on the same webpage.

Does my master's degree have to be in counseling in order to apply for the doctoral program in Counselor Education?

Applicants are required to have a 48 hour (minimum) master's degree in counseling with coursework essentially similar to that of Community Counseling or School Counseling coursework requirements specified by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP). These requirements are very similar to the 48 semester hours required to meet the academic requirements for Licensed Professional Counselor in Texas. For more information, please see the *Doctoral Student Handbook* on the program webpage.

What scores do I have to have on the Graduate Record Exam (GRE)?

Although applicants are required to take the GRE, we do not have specific required scores. We do a holistic assessment of all doctoral applications. The GRE scores (General Exam) are one part of a total assessment.

When is the deadline for application to the Ph.D. program?

All application materials are due on or before February 1, 2010 for the next Doctoral Cohort (beginning June, 2010).

When do classes begin for each new Cohort?

Each new Cohort begins during the Summer (in late May or, more typically, early June).

How many hours does the degree require?

A minimum of 69 semester hours are required for the Counselor Education doctoral program, beyond a 48 hours (minimum) master's degree in counseling

Can I work full-time and still work on my doctorate in Counselor Education?

Yes. The Counselor Education doctoral program was developed with working professionals in mind. Therefore, we offer all our courses in the evening and, occasionally, on Saturdays.

Are any of the courses offered in the Houston area?

At the present time, we offer approximately one-half of the doctoral program in the Houston area (Spring-Aldine).

Is financial aid available?

Yes. Please see pages 14-15 in the *Doctoral Student Handbook* that may be found on the program.

How long does it take to complete the doctorate?

A minimum of three years is required. However, students have up to six years to complete the doctoral degree. Please see the *Doctoral Student Handbook* on the program webpage for the sequencing of coursework for the Ph.D. in Counselor Education.

Are any of the courses on-line?

At this time we do not offer any core doctoral courses on-line. Some of the specialization electives (within program) and some of the cognate electives (external to program) may be taken online.

Where can I get additional information?

The following website has a wealth of information, including the *Doctoral Student Handbook*, and many answers to questions may be found there. The *Doctoral Student Handbook* may be found on the program webpage.

In addition, you are invited to contact the Director of the Doctoral Program in Counselor Education at SHSU should you have additional questions:

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