

Master of Science in Education in Educational Psychology and Research

Masters of Science in Education (M.S.Ed.) in Educational Psychology and Research

M.S.Ed. in Educational Psychology and Research

The department of Educational Psychology (EPSY) (<http://epsy.ku.edu>) offers the Educational Psychology and Research (EPR) program leading to a **Master of Science in Education** (M.S.Ed.) degree. This program includes instruction within two specialized areas of emphasis referred to as "tracks:" **Development & Learning (D&L)** and **Research, Evaluation, Measurement and Statistics (REMS)**.

The **Development & Learning** track for the M.S.Ed. degree program prepares students for work in schools, nonprofit agencies, and other applied settings, or for future doctoral training. The program includes coursework in the areas of human development, learning and cognition, and educational research methods, as well as completion of a data-driven master's thesis. The M.S.Ed. is typically completed in 2-3 years of full-time study.

The **Research, Evaluation, Measurement, and Statistics (REMS)** track prepares students for careers in educational measurement and quantitative methods. The program includes coursework in research methods, psychometrics, and statistical analysis. Students typically complete the M.S.Ed. in 2-3 years of full-time study.

Program Coordinator: Research, Evaluation, Measurement and Statistics: Bruce Frey (643 J.R. Pearson, bfrey@ku.edu (wps@ku.edu), 785-864-9706)

Program Coordinator: Development & Learning: Meagan Patterson (632 J.R. Pearson, mmpatter@ku.edu, 785-864-9763)

Graduate Admission to the School of Education

Graduate programs in education are open to students with acceptable baccalaureate and graduate degrees whose academic records indicate that they can do successful work at the graduate level. Regular admission requires a grade-point average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale in prior degrees. Individual departments may require additional information and may have more stringent admission requirements.

Some departments may offer special provisional admission categories to students who may not qualify under regular admission criteria. Departments that offer provisional admission require a grade-point average of at least 2.5. Applicants must provide evidence of ability to work successfully at the graduate level, including experience in and commitment to the profession. Exceptions to established policies must be sought individually by petition to the Graduate Division of the School of Education.

See Admission in the Graduate Studies (<http://catalog.ku.edu/graduate-studies>) section of the online catalog for more information.

Each department in the School of Education sets its own application deadlines. Prospective graduate students should contact their departments for more information.

Graduate Admission

Prerequisites for Regular Admission

Prerequisites include the following:

- Undergraduate grade-point average of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale
- Graduate grade-point average of 3.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale
- Graduate Record Examination general test scores
- For Counseling Psychology - Completed bachelor's or master's degree in counseling, psychology, or a related area. An applicant who does not have an undergraduate degree in education or psychology should have a minimum of 15 undergraduate credit hours in the behavioral sciences.

For Educational Psychology and Research - Completed bachelor's or master's degree in psychology, education, or a related area. An applicant who does not have an undergraduate degree in education or psychology should have a minimum of 15 undergraduate credit hours in the behavioral sciences.

For School Psychology - Completed bachelor's or master's degree. School Psychology does not have a requirement for a specific undergraduate background.

At the first enrollment, a doctoral student reviews any previous graduate work with an advisor to identify any course work in which the student is deficient. Students holding master's degrees in other areas should recognize that such course work may require up to a year to complete and, in some instances, must be taken before the actual doctoral course requirements.

See individual programs for specific admission requirements and deadlines.

Submit your graduate application online (<http://www.graduate.ku.edu>).

Admission

In order to be eligible for admission to the M.S.Ed. degree program in EPR, students must first meet the admission requirements for graduate study at the University of Kansas. Admission to the degree program also requires recommendation for acceptance by the Educational Psychology and Research Program Committee.

December 15th is the application deadline for the M.S.Ed. program in Educational Psychology and Research. If accepted as an M.S.Ed. candidate, enrollment begins in the summer or fall semester following the application deadline. The Educational Psychology and Research Program Committee can review only complete applications. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that her or his application is complete. Applicants are encouraged to email the department at epsy@ku.edu if they wish to check on the status of their application.

Required Admission Materials

1. Graduate application (<http://www.graduate.ku.edu>) and application fee. See Admission in the Graduate Studies (<http://catalog.ku.edu/graduate-studies>) section of the online catalog.

2. 1 copy of official transcripts of all previous college work, sent directly to Graduate Studies (<http://www.graduate.ku.edu>). The original transcript is forwarded to the School of Education to complete licensing and/or certification paperwork.

- An undergraduate grade point average of 3.0 or higher is required for regular admission. If applicable, a graduate grade point average of 3.5 or higher is required for regular admission.
- At the discretion of the university, an applicant may be admitted as a provisional graduate student when either the quality or kind of undergraduate preparation is deficient, i.e., the undergraduate grade-point average is below 3.0 or the student has not met the prerequisites for graduate study

3. GRE (general test) scores: Institution code, R6871; Major Field code, 3403. The GRE should have been taken within five years of the application date, and scores should typically equal or exceed the 50th percentile: 150-151 on Verbal and 153 on the Quantitative sections.

4. The letter of intent should include the following:

- Track of interest: *D&L - Development and Learning* or *REMS – Research, Evaluation, Measurement and Statistics*.
- Indicate whom you would like for an advisor and why.
- Describe your career goals.
- Describe how you see your career goals relating to this degree program; that is, describe how you see this program preparing you to meet your career objectives.
- Describe past work or educational experiences related to this degree program.
- Describe what skills/competencies and experiences you hope to gain in this program.
- Describe any past research experiences and accomplishments.
- Describe one research topic/issue that you would like to pursue in this program.
- Please provide additional information concerning your background, experience, goals, or accomplishments/awards you believe are pertinent to your application.

5. Résumé.

6. 3 letters of recommendation from individuals in a position to evaluate the applicant's qualifications for graduate study.

7. Official TOEFL or IELTS scores are required for non-native speakers of English <http://www.graduate.ku.edu/english-proficiency-requirements>.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS WHOSE FIRST LANGUAGE IS NOT ENGLISH

The Applied English Center (AEC) maintains a check-in process for international students and non-native speakers of English. This process serves to confirm each student's level of English proficiency and determine whether English courses will be included as a requirement of the student's academic program. In order to graduate, students who are required to complete AEC courses must meet KU's English proficiency

standards as demonstrated by their performance in AEC coursework and evaluations.

- Students who demonstrate English proficiency at the waiver level or who have earned a degree from one of the specified English-speaking countries listed in the policy (<http://policy.ku.edu/graduate-studies/english-proficiency-international-students>) are not required to check in at the AEC.
- All other international students and non-native speakers of English who gain admission to campus-based programs are required to check in at the AEC upon arrival on campus.

It takes approximately eight to twelve weeks to process requests for visa documents to enter the United States for incoming international students. These requests cannot be processed unless all documentation has been received. Please consult the KU web site for International Support Services <http://www.iss.ku.edu> for important information.

M.S.E. Degree Requirements

Area of Focus

Students in the M.S.Ed. degree program select a track—D&L or REMS—on which to focus their studies.

M.S.Ed. students are required to:

- Take courses to satisfy our “Core Course Requirement” (18 credit hours),
- Take an additional two EPR courses (minimum of six credit hours) to establish an area of emphasis in one of the two tracks,
- Take an additional two courses (minimum of six credit hours) from departments other than EPSY, one of which must be from a department in the School of Education,
- Complete a data-driven thesis.

Core Course Requirement

Students must take at least one course in each of the 5 core areas:

Learning and Instruction

Human Development

Research and Evaluation Methods*

Measurement

Statistics

Examples of courses that satisfy the core course requirements include, but are not limited to:

- **Learning and Instruction**
EPSY 704 Advanced Educational Psychology: Learning Processes in Education
- **Applied Human Development**
EPSY 705 Human Development Through the Life Span
- **Research and Evaluation Methods: EPSY 715**
All students must take “EPSY 715: Understanding Research in Education” to satisfy this core course requirement.
- **Measurement and Assessment**
EPSY 725 Educational Measurement

Statistics

EPSY 710 Introduction to Statistical Analysis and EPSY 711 (http://www2.ku.edu/~distinction/cgi-bin/index.php?id=2006&dt=courses_201112_combined&classesSearchText=PRE+711) (Required lab section for EPSY 710 (http://www2.ku.edu/~distinction/cgi-bin/index.php?id=2006&dt=courses_201112_combined&classesSearchText=PRE+710))

Program Emphasis Courses

Students must take an additional two courses beyond the core requirements. These courses should reflect your area of interest. EPSY offers a variety of elective courses and seminars on special topics that satisfy this requirement.

Outside EPSY Courses

Students must take at least two courses offered by departments outside of EPSY. One of these courses must be from a department in the School of Education and one from another department at the University of Kansas. For example, students have enrolled in courses from the Department of Psychology, Applied Behavioral Science, Mathematics, Communication Studies, the School of Social Welfare, and the School of Business.

Thesis

All Master's students in EPR must complete a data-driven thesis: qualitative or quantitative. Each student must take a minimum of six Master's thesis credit hours. These credit hours allow students to focus on completing their thesis.

The EPR Master's *Plan of Study* is used by students and their adviser to track progress toward their degree and can be downloaded by clicking on highlighted link above.