School of Psychology Application Guide – Combined PhD/MPsych

DEADLINE: RELEASE ROUND FOR TERM 1 COMMENCEMENT (SEE HERE)
(1) Before submitting a formal application you must first establish if supervision within the School is available by contacting academics whose research interests coincide with your own. An academic’s willingness and ability to supervise is not a guarantee of admission. You should also familiarise yourself with key scholarship deadlines. As a scholarship is required for this program, your application must be submitted by the release round deadline for Term 1 commencement.

(2) Prepare your application according to Graduate Research School (GRS) guidelines. Listed below are requirements specific to a Psychology application.
   a. A PDF copy of your completed Supplementary Application Form;
   b. Evidence of enrolment in1 – or official completion of – a four-year APAC-accredited sequence in psychology (or international equivalent); and
   c. A copy of your APS assessment letter.2

(3) Receive an acknowledgement email from the GRS. Applications with a complete set of supporting documentation will be sent to the School for further assessment (Step 4). Incomplete applications will be placed on hold by the GRS until 31 October. A complete set of supporting documentation must be submitted by 31 October or the application will be deemed unsuccessful.

(4) Arrange to share your two references with UNSW via the HODSPA Reference Request System, a completely separate process to using Apply Online. The School will only consider applications where two completed references have been shared with UNSW via the HODSPA system.

The School will determine if you meet the minimum eligibility requirements for the program.

   a. Requirements met: Your application will be considered by the relevant Selection Committee/s (Step 5).
   b. Requirements not met: You will automatically be considered for a stand-alone PhD. A formal application outcome will be emailed to you.

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1 e.g., a recent transcript, online record of results, or enrolment letter which clearly indicates your student ID and program details
2 This is only required for applicants with completed international psychology qualifications.
(5) After 31 October, each Selection Committee will commence shortlisting. Applications without a complete set of supporting documentation at this point will not be considered. Due to the volume of applications received, feedback will not be available for applicants that were not shortlisted.

(6) Shortlisted applicants will be invited to participate in an interview (Clinical) or/and an Assessment Centre (Forensic). The Forensic Assessment Centre must be attended in person, under normal circumstances, but virtual interviews are possible for the Clinical program. These activities are typically held in late November/early December.

(7) Interview/Assessment Centre outcome

Successful: The School will call and/or email you to offer you a place, which will be contingent upon you receiving a scholarship. You will be expected to accept or decline the place by a nominated deadline. If you receive a scholarship and accept the place, you will receive a formal Letter of Offer from the Graduate Research School.

Unsuccessful: The School will email you to advise the application outcome. You may be asked to confirm if you would still like to be considered for a stand-alone PhD. Formal correspondence from the Graduate Research School will follow in due course.

The bulk of formal outcomes are typically sent between late November and January of the following year, and Letters of Offer are prioritised. If you do not receive an invitation to attend an interview or Assessment Centre then, unfortunately, your application cannot be successful.

PROGRAM QUOTAS:
A set number of places will be available for each program each year. It may be that an otherwise eligible applicant cannot be offered a place due to this quota restriction.

MASTERS PROGRAM:
Should you wish to be considered for both a stand-alone Master and a Combined program you must submit two separate applications (one for each type – Postgraduate Coursework and Postgraduate Research). To demonstrate: if a coursework application does not exist, an offer for a coursework program cannot be made.

Please submit questions about the application process or requirements here, and indicate that you would like your enquiry to be directed to the School of Psychology.

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3 If you have multiple preferences, you will be assessed for each simultaneously.

4 Should COVID-19 restrictions be in place the Assessment Centre will be run virtually.