

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs) ABOUT THE DOCTORAL PROGRAM IN CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

What are the minimum requirements to apply to the Program?

ANSWER: Applicant must have, or expect to earn before entering, at least a bachelors degree with a GPA of at 3.0 or higher to apply to the program. Satisfying the minimal requirements does not guarantee entry to the program. Transcripts, letters of recommendation, personal statements, and a resume are among the materials that must be provided.

When may I apply?

ANSWER: The CAU doctoral program is one of the few in the nation that admits students for all three of its trimesters, which begin in January, May, and September.

May I transfer credits from other programs?

ANSWER: Yes. Up to twelve credits may be transferred from other masters or doctoral programs, but the content of the courses must be highly similar to CAU doctoral program offerings and clinical skills courses do not transfer.

How long does it take to earn the degree?

ANSWER: Students moving at the ideal pace can complete the coursework in three years. In addition, they must do a doctoral project or dissertation and do a pre-doctoral internship that generally lasts one year. In total, therefore, it generally takes five years to earn the Psy.D. although four is certainly possible and many students take longer.

Can I hold a job while working toward my doctorate?

ANSWER: Definitely. Most of our students work at least part-time and many have full time jobs while doing their coursework. Naturally, students who have particularly demanding jobs may need to carry a lighter schedule and will take longer to finish the basic classes. For the pre-doctoral internship, almost always done in a year, it is expected that the student will devote full time to the training, but most internships pay at least a small stipend, typically \$15,000 or above.

Is there really work for new psychologists?

ANSWER: Yes. Our tracking of our graduates shows that almost all gain worthwhile employment in the field. For many graduates, however, it will be better to look outside the Miami-Dade because the number of mental health professionals in the immediate area is relatively high.