

APPLYING FOR ADMISSION

We hope that you will consider joining us here at the University of Manitoba. We have an energetic, productive, and caring department that will provide the support, education, and research opportunities you need to reach your goals. Once you settle on an area of specialization in which you would like to pursue graduate studies, it is a good idea to contact a professor or two with whom you might like to work both to introduce yourself and to ask for more information about their interests and research. Clinical students can be admitted and advised by faculty members in any area of our department, including individuals with adjunct appointments to the Department of Psychology. Complete applications for admission to M.A. and PhD programs must be submitted to the **Faculty of Graduate Studies by December 1** of the academic year preceding admission. Applications are submitted online.

A complete application should include all of the following:

1. A completed application for Graduate Admission and application fee. Apply online <https://umanitoba.ca/graduate-studies/graduate-student-admissions>
2. It is important that applicants identify between one and three potential advisors by: (1) listing potential advisors directly in the online application portal during the graduate application process, and (2) also clearly listing them in their statement of intent.
3. Two completed Recommendation Forms from individuals familiar with the applicant's academic or professional work. The application portal will use information provided by the applicant to generate an email to the recommender that contains a link to an online form within the application portal.
4. Transcripts are required from ALL recognized, post-secondary institutions attended, no matter whether a degree has been awarded or not. For initial assessment purposes only, **unofficial transcripts (uploaded to your UMGradConnect application) are**

acceptable and preferred. Official transcripts will only be required by the Faculty of Graduate Studies if you are recommended for admission. To be considered official, transcripts must arrive in envelopes that have been sealed and endorsed (stamped across the back flap) by the Main Records Office of the issuing institution. In cases where the transcript does / will not clearly state that a degree has been conferred and when it was awarded, a copy of the final degree certificate is required to accompany the transcript.

Please note that official University of Manitoba transcripts are not required. If you have access to your Aurora Student account, you may upload a web transcript. If not, an Admissions Assistant will add a copy of your transcript to your file for you.

5. Statement of Intent Instructions

The statement of intent is a description of your academic and professional goals and your personal background. Tell us why you want to be an academic or professional psychologist and what you want to work on during your program of study.

Required The statement should include your research interests (if applicable to your program) and how your background (educational and otherwise) has prepared you for this undertaking, as well as a preference ordering of academic staff members with whom you might wish to work (i.e., to have supervise your research), 2-3 pages maximum.

Optional If you wish, you are invited to share as much or as little of your personal background as you feel appropriate within the given page limit. Your application will not be penalized if you choose not to disclose personal information, or for the content. Our program, consistent with the aims of our university and scientific and professional bodies, strives to include students of all backgrounds who reflect the diversity we see in society at large, and whose interest in psychology is informed by a wide range of experiences within and beyond formal academic training. If you choose to include personal information about your culture, race or ethnicity, religion, heritage, nationality, language, sexual orientation, physical and psychological functioning, gender, age, first-generation student and/or socio-economic status, it will be considered as additional

context you have supplied for our understanding of your academic and professional achievements and goals. APPROVED BY DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY COUNCIL June 16, 2022

6. Any additional information such as special awards, abilities, and publications.
7. An English Language Proficiency Test (ELPT) score is required of all applicants unless they have received a high school diploma or university degree from Canada or one of the countries listed on the ELPT Exemption List. (See [International Student - Admission Requirements](#) for exempt countries and minimum score requirements.)

Additional Clinical Admission Information

Last Updated Oct 2025

Students apply to our Clinical Psychology Training Program through the University of Manitoba's Faculty of Graduate Studies (<https://umanitoba.ca/graduate-studies/admissions>).

Prior to beginning this process we recommend that students familiarize themselves with information on our Department of Psychology Graduate Student Resources page (<https://umanitoba.ca/arts/psychology/graduate-student-resources>). This resources page includes important information related to admissions, including: (a) areas of specialization in our department, (b) how to find a graduate advisor, (c) financial aid, (d) FAQs about our graduate program, and (d) a link to our graduate brochure that includes additional information about our department, our clinical program, and how to apply.

MA vs. PhD

Students with an undergraduate honours degree (or the equivalent of) will apply to our MA program. Because our program is not designed to provide a terminal MA degree, we encourage applications from students who intend to earn a PhD. Applicants to our program who have, or are in the process of completing, an MA degree in clinical, counselling, or school psychology will normally apply to our PhD program. Students with MA degrees that are not clinically focused should contact the Director of Clinical Training to determine whether application to the MA or PhD program is most appropriate.

Characteristics of Successful Applicants

Applying to our program is highly competitive as we typically receive a large number of applications for 14-16 spots. In general, successful applicants will have four things. First, we are looking for evidence of academic success via strong reference letters and high GPAs over the last twenty 3-credit courses. Students admitted to our program recently have had an average GPA of 4.2, ranging from 3.9 to 4.5. Second, we are looking for research experience. In addition to an undergraduate honours thesis or equivalent, successful applicants to our program often have additional research experience. Co-authorship on academic presentations or publications is not required, although it is viewed favourably. Third, we are looking for some form of clinical or social service experience through work or volunteerism which shows that students are likely to be interpersonally successful and enjoy clinical work. Fourth, our program is committed to equity, diversity, and inclusion. As such, we are interested in admitting diverse students, and we encourage applicants to use the statement of intent to describe their awareness of the importance of diversity and to describe how diversity factors might apply to them. In particular, we encourage applicants to self-identify as Indigenous and we allocate between 2 and 4 admission spots for such applicants. The University of Manitoba has numerous supports for Indigenous students, many of which can be found here:

<https://umanitoba.ca/indigenous/student-experience>

Finding an Advisor

When applying to the clinical psychology area, it is important to identify a potential research advisor or advisors. Applicants are strongly encouraged to contact, prior to applying, potential advisors to determine whether they will be admitting new students. The match of research interests between advisor and student is a critical aspect of the admission process. It is important that applicants identify between 1 and 3 potential advisors by: (1) listing potential advisors directly in Slate (the online application portal) during the graduate application process, and (2) also clearly listing them in their statement of intent. Note that clinical students can be admitted and advised by faculty members from any area of our department, as well as individuals outside of our department who have adjunct appointments in Psychology. However, core members of the clinical area have priority over non-clinical members of our department

and adjuncts concerning admissions.

Admissions Timeline

Detailed information about the admissions process can be found in our Graduate Brochure. Briefly, applications are due December 1st. They are then reviewed by the Clinical Admissions Committee, which consists of the Director of Clinical Training and other clinical faculty members. Students who are short-listed to move to the next stage in the admissions process are contacted early in the New Year (typically mid-January) to schedule two interviews: (1) a research-focused interview with an academic faculty member who is interested in supporting their application, and (2) a clinical suitability interview. The Clinical Admissions Committee then meets early in February to decide whether students will receive admission offers, be placed on the waitlist, or no longer be considered for admission. Offers of admission are sent out mid-February and applicants have until the Canadian Psychological Association deadline of April 15th to accept or decline our admissions offer. Any admission offers that are rejected allow us to send offers of admission to students on our waitlist.

Transfers

Nonclinical graduate students in the Department of Psychology who wish to be admitted into our program must go through the same application and admission procedures as external applicants.