**FINANCIAL AID ASSISTANCE**

Financial aid is available to students who demonstrate need. Applications for loans or scholarships are available from:

http://studentaid.unc.edu

Information about departmental scholarships and awards can be found at:

http://www.med.unc.edu/ahs/student-services/financial-assistance

**NEW SCHOLARS GRANT IN PSYCHIATRIC REHABILITATION**

The Division of Rehabilitation Counseling and Psychology at UNC Chapel Hill was awarded a University-Based Long-Term Training grant from the USDOE to enhance its Psychiatric Rehabilitation specialization in rehabilitation counseling. This federal grant award offers scholarship stipends to admitted students who pursue a psychiatric specialization to help cover tuition. The tuition stipends are typically given in the second year for full time students.

Traineeship stipends will be available for students specializing in psychiatric disabilities under a grant funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Rehabilitation Services Administration (ID# H129H090002) for tuition expenses during the 2009-2014 academic years. Upon admission, eligible students are encouraged to apply for the stipends provided they enter into an agreement to continue working in public sector rehabilitation for two years for each year of subsidy given. Individuals from underrepresented minorities are strongly urged to apply for traineeships during the project period.

Information about the grant is available on our website or by contacting (919) 966-8788

**ADMISSION**

Applicants should have a strong desire to work in a counseling profession that serves individuals with chronic illness and disability, particularly in the areas of developmental and psychiatric disabilities. Admission of an applicant is dependent upon a combination of factors, including transcripts, GRE scores, and admission materials. Application materials and more information about admission can be found online at:

http://gradschool.unc.edu

“As an out-of-state student, I thought it was going to be a challenge to pay for tuition. Between the New Scholars Grant and working with the faculty, I was able to make it affordable. I could focus on my education.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

Any questions about the Rehabilitation Counseling & Psychology Program should be addressed to:

**Charles Bernacchio, Ed.D., CRC**
Research Assistant Professor and Director
cbernacc@med.unc.edu
919-843-4730

**Eileen Burker, Ph.D., CRC**
Associate Professor
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**Kelly Kazukauskas, Ph.D., CRC, CVE**
Research Assistant Professor
ekellyk@med.unc.edu

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is committed to equality of educational opportunity. The University does not discriminate in offering access to its educational programs and activities on the basis of race, color, gender, age, national origin, religion, creed, disability, veteran's status, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression. The Dean of Students (919-966-4042) has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the University’s non-discrimination policies.

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Chapel Hill, NC 27599-7205

(919) 966-8788
www.alliedhealth.unc.edu/rcp
OPPORTUNITIES
Practicum and Internship
Rehabilitation Counseling students receive clinical experience through completing the required practicum and internship during the course of their studies. Students are placed at a variety of locations including: youth transition services, residential services, independent living services, programs for individuals with developmental disabilities, psychiatric treatment facilities, VA Hospital units, traumatic brain injury agencies, substance abuse treatment facilities, private and public rehabilitation agencies, and vocational rehabilitation agencies.

Careers
Rehabilitation counselors are employed in a wide variety of settings such as public and private rehabilitation, state and federal agencies, hospitals, correctional facilities, community mental health centers, drug treatment facilities, school transition programs, colleges and universities, and private practices.

CERTIFICATION AND LICENSURE
Students are encouraged to sit for the Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC) exam during their second year. Graduates are eligible to sit for the North Carolina state licensing exams to obtain credentials for Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) as well. Note: licensure is contingent on meeting the requirements outlined by the North Carolina State Licensing Boards and are not under the authority of the Rehabilitation Counseling and Psychology Program.

WHAT IS REHABILITATION COUNSELING?
Rehabilitation counseling is an exciting and challenging profession that assists individuals with psychiatric, developmental, cognitive, emotional, and physical disabilities to achieve their optimal level of independence, integration, and participation in the community and the world of work in accordance with their personal goals and perception of quality of life. As a counseling profession, rehabilitation counseling reflects a holistic approach, considering the biomedical, psychological, spiritual, social, family, and environmental impact of disability.

PROGRAM MISSION
The mission of the Division of Rehabilitation Counseling and Psychology is to effectively educate and prepare rehabilitation counselors with the most current knowledge and clinical training in evidence-based practices to adequately serve our citizens with disabilities. It is our fundamental belief in the dignity and worth of all people and the rights of people with disabilities to live self determined lives in inclusive communities of their choosing. Fundamental to this is a focus on the whole person—including psychological, vocational, spiritual, and physical aspects, as well as family, social, work, and community relationships. Our rehabilitation counseling graduates can apply new knowledge, critical thinking, and innovation in community practice that is culturally responsive to individuals with disabilities and exemplifies a commitment to independent learning and scholarship.

DEGREE OFFERED
The Department of Rehabilitation Counseling is a division of the Allied Health Sciences in the UNC School of Medicine. It is a 60+ hour Master’s Degree program, which is nationally accredited by the Council on Rehabilitation Education (CORE). The program offers the full curriculum in rehabilitation counseling with specializations in either psychiatric disability or developmental disability. The program has been CORE accredited for over thirty five years and combines academic preparation and clinical experience in a wide variety of rehabilitation settings.

SPECIALTY TRACKS
At the beginning of the Spring semester in the first year, students must identify their specialty track. Students may select either the Developmental Disabilities (DD) track or the Psychiatric Disability (PD) track.

Additional track requirements include:
- Introduction to Developmental Disability and Psychiatric Disability
- Advanced Developmental Disabilities or Advanced Psychiatric Disabilities
- Psychiatric Track: Substance Abuse & Evidence Based Practice Courses
- Research paper/project/thesis related to the population
- Internship with the population

"Although the curriculum and program structure is challenging, I feel like I am well prepared and qualified." - RCP student, Class of '10