

# 2026 PCPP Application

Thanks for your interest in applying to the 2026 Psychiatry Careers Pathway Program at UNC-Chapel Hill! The Psychiatry Careers Pathway Program (PCPP) is a 5-day on-campus summer experience on **June 15-19, 2026** for undergraduate students considering psychiatry as a potential career path. Student participants will hear directly from UNC Psychiatry faculty and resident physicians about the professional opportunities and paths that modern psychiatric medicine provides, observe mock patient interviews and treatment planning, as well as engage in discussions with medical students and educators about the medical school admission process. The program will be held in-person on UNC Chapel Hill's medical school campus, and complimentary lodging, parking, breakfast, and lunch will be provided. This program is a collaboration between the UNC Department of Psychiatry's ACCESS Mental Health, UNC Health's Community Health & Engagement Department, and the UNC Medical Education Development (MED) Program.

## **Eligibility Requirements:**

- Have an interest in attending medical school and open to considering psychiatry as a medical specialty
- Be a student enrolled at one of the following universities: Elizabeth City State University, Fayetteville State University, NC A&T State University, NC Central University, NC State University, UNC Greensboro, UNC Pembroke, Western Carolina University, and Winston-Salem State University
- Be a current first-year or second-year student at the time of application with a cumulative academic GPA of 2.75 or higher
- Be able to attend the entirety of the 5-day program and provide your own transportation to UNC's campus.
- Be a US citizen or Permanent US Resident. Any visa type that is NOT a permanent resident alien is ineligible.

**Application opens:** December 1, 2025

**Application closes:** March 1, 2026

**Decisions emailed:** March 20, 2026

**To learn more about the program**, visit our website: <https://www.med.unc.edu/psych/centers-and-programs/access-mental-health/psychiatry-careers-pathway-program/>

**Please submit your final responses in the online application form:**  
[https://unc.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_eaNYvg7T8ZmeKJo](https://unc.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eaNYvg7T8ZmeKJo)

**Only fully completed applications submitted through the online application form by March 1, 2026 will be considered.**

Good luck with your application! If you need further assistance, feel free to contact ACCESS Mental Health at [ACCESSMH@unc.edu](mailto:ACCESSMH@unc.edu).

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## 2026 Psychiatry Careers Pathway Program (PCPP) Application

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Applicant's Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Preferred Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Applicant's Contact information**

Please provide the contact information that you can access from December 2025 through June 2026.

University Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

What is your U.S. residency status?

- U.S. citizen
- Permanent U.S. resident
- Prefer not to answer
- Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent mailing address:

A *permanent mailing address* for students is the main location where the student resides, or their prime residence. For example, this is your fixed, long-term address used on official documents like the FAFSA and college applications.

Please share additional contact information if needed:

Applicant's Undergraduate Institution

- Elizabeth City State University
- Fayetteville State University
- North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University (NCATSU)
- North Carolina Central University (NCCU)
- North Carolina State University (NCSU)
- University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG)
- University of North Carolina at Pembroke
- Western Carolina University
- Winston-Salem State University
- Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

Are you currently enrolled as a student at this university?

- Yes
- No

Display this question:

If Are you currently enrolled as a student at this university? = No

What is your current enrollment status? \_\_\_\_\_

When do you anticipate graduating from your undergraduate institution?

- May/Summer 2026
- December 2026
- May/Summer 2027
- December 2027
- May/Summer 2028
- December 2028
- May/Summer 2029
- December 2029
- May/Summer 2030
- December 2030

Will you need complimentary lodging during the 5-day program? Please note that you will be required to provide your own transportation to UNC Chapel Hill. Lodging is planned to be within walking distance and free local buses will be available.

- Yes
- No
- I'm not sure yet

Are you a first-generation college student or future first-generation medical school student? Please select all that apply.

- Yes, I am a first-generation college student
- Yes, I am a future first-generation medical school student
- No

Do you currently live or have lived in a rural area?

*Rural areas* are characterized by low population density, open landscapes, and economies primarily based on agriculture and natural resources.

- Yes. Please specify the rural area(s) that you have lived in:

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- No

- I'm not sure

What is your undergraduate major? \_\_\_\_\_

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What is your undergraduate minor? \_\_\_\_\_

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What is your overall undergraduate GPA? \_\_\_\_\_

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What campus organizations are you actively involved with? Please describe any leadership roles you have in these organizations.

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What off-campus organizations are you actively involved with? Please describe any leadership roles you have in these organizations.

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**Essay Questions** These questions are designed to help the 2026 Psychiatry Careers Pathway Program selection committee understand your motivations, experiences, and potential contributions to the program. Please respond to all three essay questions. For each question, limit your response to **250 words or fewer**.

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**Essay question 1:** Please reflect on the overall goals of the program. How do they align with your academic and career goals?

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**Essay question 2:** Which medically underserved population or geographic area do you aspire to serve through your career and why? *Medically underserved areas and populations (MUA/Ps)* are places or communities in which groups of people have unmet health or health care needs.

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**Essay question 3:** Medical school education and psychiatry residency programs are challenging pathways to enter and complete. What specific challenges have you encountered thus far and/or foresee encountering in your academic and career path journey? Include solutions, approaches, or supports that have aided you in overcoming, avoiding, or reducing those challenges.

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**Letter of Recommendation:** Please upload one letter of recommendation from a university faculty member, mentor, career advisor, or supervisor who can speak to your qualifications, character, and potential for success in a medical career such as psychiatry. *Max file size: 100 MB*

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**Resume:** Upload your resume or CV. Max file size: 100 MB

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**Please click "Next" to submit your application.**

End of Application

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**Please submit your final responses in the online application form:**  
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**Applications are due March 1, 2026.**