A child’s learning ability is greatly impacted by positive mental health. That is why school psychology is so important: it has a direct effect on the education and abilities of every child. All of Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine’s School Psychology programs prepare graduates to apply content knowledge and practical skills to understand and enhance the development of children through a dual-knowledge base of education and psychology.

Graduates bring additional skills with them to their careers because of their unique education within an osteopathic medical school, sharing and strengthening a philosophy on the approach to improving health. This holistic approach prepares our graduates to be uniquely capable and committed to providing high-quality, effective, ethical and professional school psychological services in a variety of educational and mental health settings.

Master of Science (MS) and Education Specialist (EdS) in School Psychology*
The MS program provides a strong foundation in school psychology with a specialization in applied behavioral analysis. The EdS program is an applied professional psychology program designed for students with a master’s degree in school psychology or a related field who are seeking certification in the field of school psychology.

Doctor of Psychology (PsyD) in School Psychology
The PsyD program educates, develops and prepares entry-level school psychologists, with a focus on cognitive behavioral therapy, applied behavioral analysis and neuropsychological assessment in schools. In addition to coursework, candidates complete a series of field experiences that provide supervised practice in assessment, consultation and school-based academic and behavioral interventions. Practicum experiences are integrated into the curriculum, and PsyD candidates must satisfy a residency requirement within their first year. The internship component provides intensive work experience to develop, practice and integrate new clinical skills.
Students collaborate outside their disciplines to gain experiential learning.

Many PCOM students are highly engaged in their communities through a wide variety of philanthropic efforts and advocacy.

We teach not just how to treat problems but how to prevent them altogether.

Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine has been at the forefront of medicine for more than a century, and Georgia Campus – PCOM was founded more than a decade ago with the same underlying principles.

Osteopathic medicine emphasizes total wellness — in body, mind and spirit. In every discipline, we learn to treat the whole human by considering physical, environmental and psychological aspects of a problem.

Our unique program structure exposes PCOM students to an integrated, team-oriented approach to learning.

The additional skill sets students gain at PCOM empower them to impact humanity.

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We teach not just how to treat problems but how to prevent them altogether.
Our School Psychology programs prepare graduates to promote both physical and mental health in schools so that children learn to live healthier lifestyles. Students become skilled and prepared to enter a variety of fields within educational and healthcare settings.

HEALTHIER CHILDREN AND HEALTHIER SCHOOLS

Our faculty includes highly credentialed and respected practitioners and scholars in the specialty of school psychology who mentor students and provide a collaborative learning environment.

CURRICULUM

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY (MS)

This 14-month program prepares future school psychologists and behavior analysts to understand and enhance the development of children. The MS program provides a strong foundation in educational and psychological principles, with a specialization in applied behavior analysis. The MS program provides all of the course content required by the Behavioral Analysis Certification Board for the board-certified behavior analyst (BCBA) credential. The BCBA requires completion of 1,500 hours of work experience supervised by a board-certified behavior analyst.

EDUCATIONAL SPECIALIST IN SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY (EdS)*

The three-year EdS degree is designed for students with a master’s degree in school psychology or a related field who are seeking certification in the field of school psychology. It’s an innovative applied professional psychology program, with two years of coursework and a one-year internship. During the second year, students complete a full-year (part-time) practicum experience, usually in a public school setting. It is important to note that while the coursework is accommodating to a working schedule, the internship is a full-time endeavor.

DOCTOR OF PSYCHOLOGY IN SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY (PsyD)

The PsyD in School Psychology is a seamless MS to PsyD program that educates, develops and prepares health-services psychologists and entry-level school psychologists, with a focus on cognitive behavioral therapy, applied behavior analysis and neuropsychological assessment in schools. During this time, students will complete coursework and a series of field experiences, as well as a doctoral internship and dissertation. Within the first year, each student must satisfy the residency requirement. This is designed to allow students the opportunity to develop an affiliation with faculty, colleagues and the profession.

Field experiences that take place in the second, third and fourth years of the program provide students with supervised practice in providing school psychological services at increasing levels of responsibility over the course of the program. Covered in the practicum are areas such as cognitive behavioral therapy, advanced assessment and academic and behavioral interventions.

The internship is the last practical training step before becoming a doctoral-level school psychologist. It can be completed full-time for 40 hours per week for one year or part-time for 20 hours per week for two years. Also required is on-site supervision by a licensed psychologist for a minimum of two hours per week.

Our programs feature standardized patient actors to immerse students in realistic experiences and clinical situations.

Our programs have a multicultural and social-justice focus that prepares students to have a positive impact on pluralistic systems and communities.

Our faculty includes highly credentialed and respected practitioners and scholars in the specialty of school psychology who mentor students and provide a collaborative learning environment.
HELP A CHILD, HELP THE WORLD

Families, educators, healthcare providers and the community at large have all lived healthier lives thanks to school psychologists. School psychologists and behavioral specialists provide a full range of psychological and educational services, from assessments to consultations with teachers and parents on various academic and system issues.

Upon completion of the MS degree, students can go on to complete the EdS degree or complete the required coursework to continue toward Behavior Analysis Certification (BCBA). MS and EdS degrees earned sequentially can lead to Pennsylvania School Psychologist Certification. EdS graduates are eligible for the NCSP credential, and they leave PCOM as behavioral specialists who can apply for jobs within the school system at the specialist level.

PsyD graduates are prepared to serve children, youth and families in a variety of mental-health settings. These environments can range from schools, hospitals and community health clinics to state psychiatric hospitals and private practices. Graduates will be fully prepared to assume the role of an entry-level school psychologist with specialized training in assessment practices and application of cognitive behavior therapy.

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY+
A SMARTER, HEALTHIER LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Highly experiential learning provides students with the real-world knowledge and skills they need to immediately make an impact in a school setting once they graduate.

Our programs prepare graduates to collaborate and form partnerships with families, educators, healthcare providers and the community at large.

Doctoral students complete coursework in specialized areas such as neuropsychology in the schools and cognitive behavioral therapy.
For more than a century, we’ve educated talented physicians, health practitioners and behavioral scientists who focus on the whole person instead of individual symptoms.

Our main campus is located on the beautiful outskirts of Philadelphia, a city that boasts some of the top hospitals and medical schools in the nation. It’s the perfect environment to build a network and launch a career in the world of health care.

Evans Hall is the main building on campus, featuring video-equipped amphitheaters, a cafeteria, research and anatomy labs, a digital library, an osteopathic manipulative medicine lab and more.

At Rowland Hall, students will find the Dr. Michael and Wendy Saltzburg Clinical Learning and Assessment Center, classrooms, study areas, computer labs, the college bookstore, student services, academic offices and other support operations.

Our students are just as committed to the community as they are to their classwork. More than 50 student organizations at PCOM are actively making a difference in people’s lives. And our three PCOM Healthcare Centers serve people who need care in urban areas of Philadelphia and rural Sullivan County. We even have a location on campus to treat community members.
We review our applications the same way our students take on challenges — with a holistic approach. Transcripts and test scores are important, however we evaluate our prospective students as complete individuals.

To find out more about our admissions requirements, please visit pcom.edu/admissions.

* Important information about the educational debt, earnings, and completion rates of students who attended this program: pcom.edu/eds