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SAN DIEGO STATE SCHOOL COUNSELING GRADUATE PROGRAM

INFORMATIONAL SESSION

M.S. in School Counseling with a Pupil Personnel Services Credential

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AGENDA

01 INTRODUCTIONS

02 SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAM

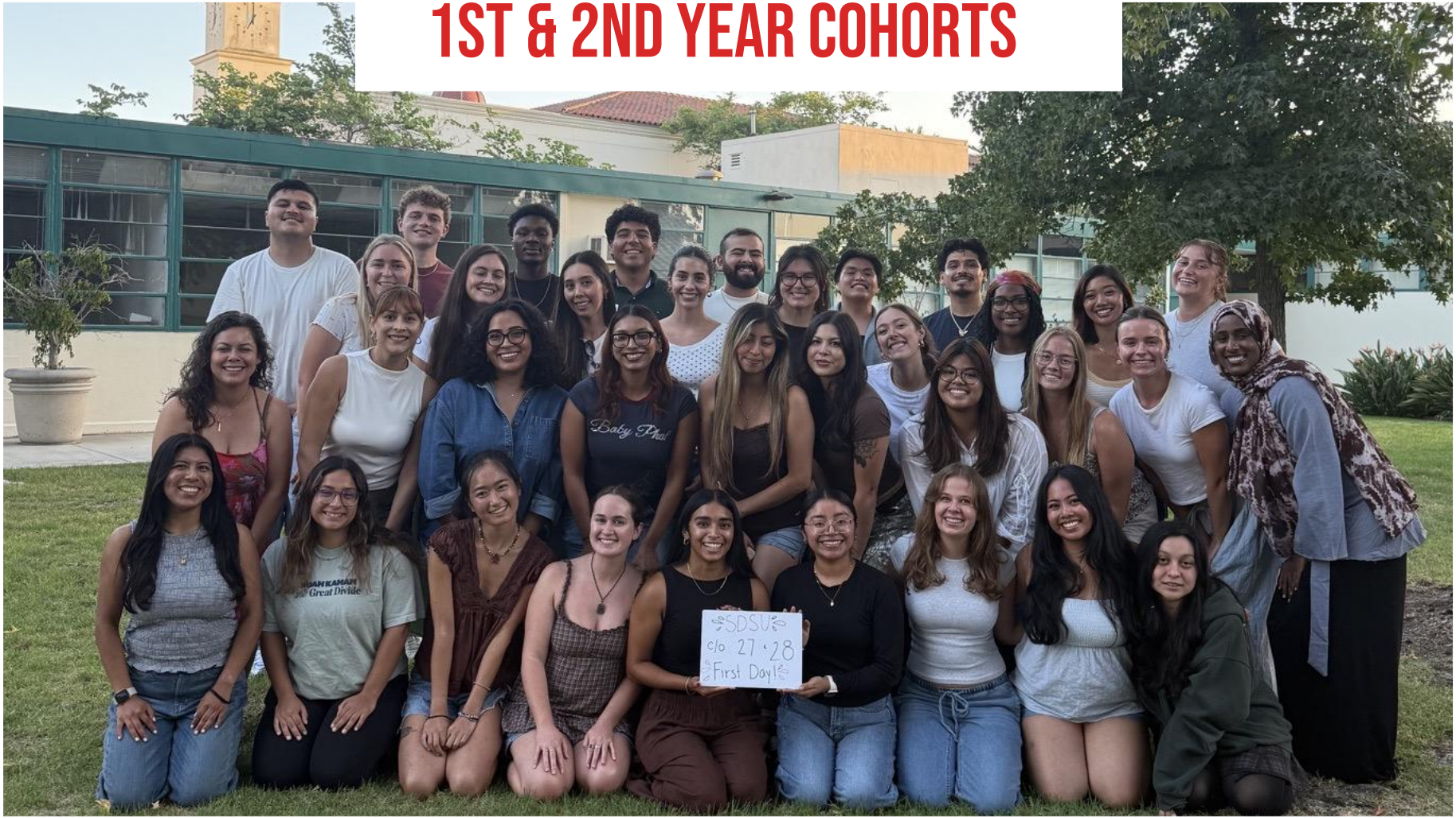
03 APPLICATION PROCESS

04 ADMISSIONS & FINANCIAL AID PROCESS

05 LIFE IN THE PROGRAM

06 Q&A

1ST & 2ND YEAR COHORTS



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01 SCHOOL COUNSELING FACULTY INTRODUCTIONS

JOEY NUÑEZ ESTRADA, JR., PH.D.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

- Ph.D. in Social Work - USC (2011)
- M.S. in Counseling with specialization in School Counseling & PPS Credential in School Counseling - CSUN (2006)
- M.S.W - University of California Los Angeles (2001)
- School Counselor Experience - LAUSD
- Children Social Worker - Los Angeles County DCFS
- Research Interests: Street culture; healing-centered relational engagement practices; socio-ecological systems framework to sustain the strengths and cultural wealth of youth and families impacted by the carceral system so they thrive at home, in school, and within their communities.
- Board of Director - Rise Up Industries
- Fun fact: Mayans MC background actor; Music is my therapy.



DR. VANESSA PLACERES

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

- Ph.D. in Counselor Education - Georgia State University- Atlanta, GA. (2020)
- M.Ed. School Counseling - Georgia State University- Atlanta, GA (2018)
- M.A. Counseling, Marriage & Family Therapy- California State University, Fresno - Fresno, CA (2013)
- High School Counselor (2 years) St. Pius High School
- Child & Adolescent Counselor (5 years) CETPA
- Licensed Mental Health Counselor & Registered Play Therapist
- Research interests: Multicultural counseling competence, cultural humility, cultural comfort, and school counselor training.
- Fun fact: CA born and raised and performed in several NBA & NFL halftime and pregame shows



DR. BRITTANY GLOVER

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

- Ph.D. in Counselor Education and Supervision from UNC Charlotte.
- M.S. in School Counseling from North Carolina A&T State University
- Elementary and high school school counselor for six years.
- Nationally-certified counselor (NCC) & National board-certified teacher (NBCT) in the area of school counseling.
- Research interests:
    - Training school counselors to support Black and Brown children
    - Creating educational workbooks for school counselors working with small psychoeducation groups
    - Training school counselors and special educators to work collaboratively to support students with emotional and behavior disabilities.
- Fun Fact: Dr. G. enjoys heavy weightlifting



LECTURERS



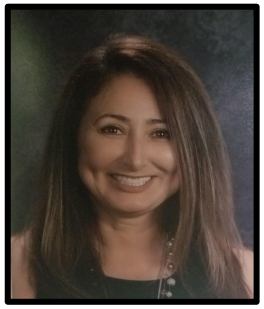
VIVIAN CARRANCO, M.S., PPS
Lecturer



DIEGO ARIAS, M.S., PPS
Lecturer



REGINALD WASHINGTON
Lecturer



DR. ELVIA ESTRELLA, ED.D, MSW
Lecturer



LEZYA WEGLARZ M.S.
Lecturer



DR. LAURA OWEN. PH.D.
Lecturer



DR. TRAVIS HEATH. PH.D.
Department Chair



TAMI JOHNSON, M.S., PPS
Lecturer



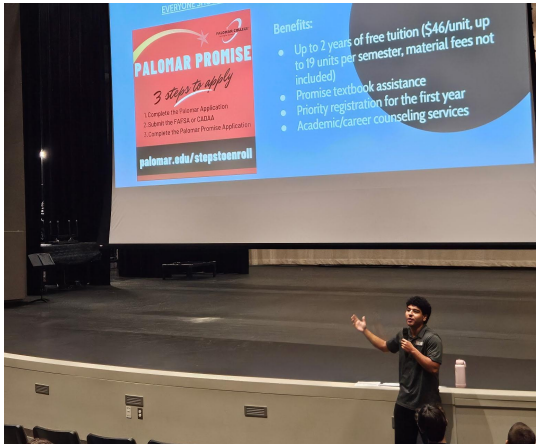
HECTOR MEZA, MS., PPS
Lecturer

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02

SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAM





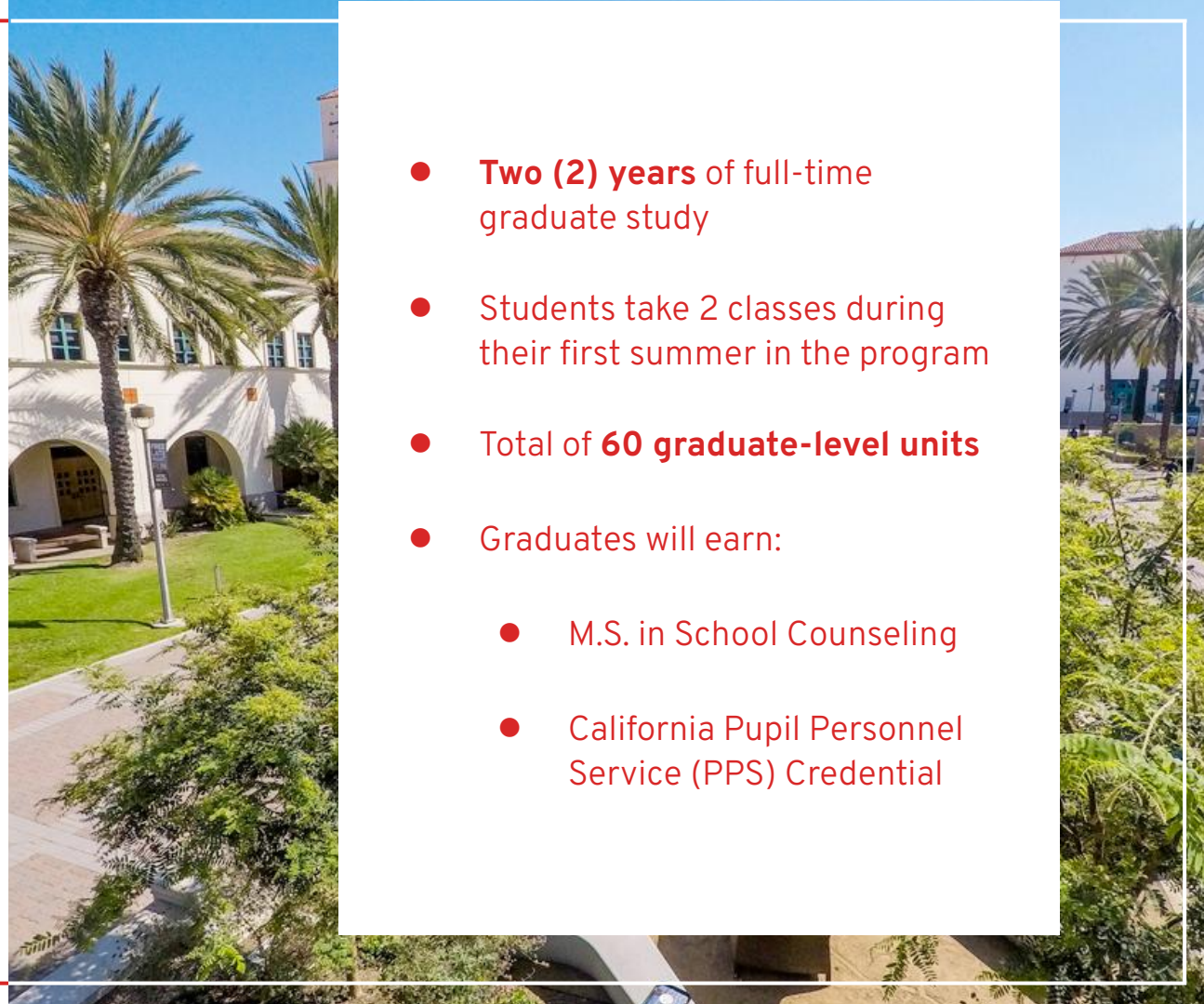


SDSU SCHOOL COUNSELING MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the SDSU School Counseling program is to prepare school counselors to become **leaders, advocates, and systems change agents** in our diverse schools. As an integral part of the total educational program for student success, school counselors learn to **design, develop, implement and evaluate** their comprehensive school counseling program to ensure that **every student** receives developmentally appropriate competencies in academic, career and personal/social development.

School counselors become **professional student advocates** who promote equity and access to a rigorous education for every student and who work to **prevent and remove barriers to learning**. Our graduates develop themselves as **culturally sustaining leaders in educational transformation and social justice** in the schools and communities they serve.

PROGRAM DESIGN



- **Two (2) years** of full-time graduate study
- Students take 2 classes during their first summer in the program
- Total of **60 graduate-level units**
- Graduates will earn:
  - M.S. in School Counseling
  - California Pupil Personnel Service (PPS) Credential



GRADUATE COURSE TOPICS

Sequence of Study is on our website!

Year 1

- ❑ Cross-Cultural Counseling Skills
- ❑ Theoretical Foundations of Counseling
- ❑ Determinants of Human Behavior: Development
- ❑ Multicultural Dimensions in Counseling
- ❑ Practicum in Schools
- ❑ Prevention, Crisis Intervention, and Conflict Resolution
- ❑ Learning, Achievement, and Instruction
- ❑ Theory and Process of Group Counseling
- ❑ Children and Adolescent Intervention

Year 2

- ❑ College Planning and Career Development P-16
- ❑ Consultation with Parents and Teachers for School Counselors
- ❑ Policy, Politics, Law & Ethics for School Counselors
- ❑ Professional Seminar: School Counseling
- ❑ Social Justice and Holistic School Systems
- ❑ The Achievement Gap: Leadership, Advocacy and Systemic Change
- ❑ Fieldwork in School Counseling

FIRST YEAR WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUMMER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			HYBRID **9:00 - 11:40** **1:00 - 3:40**			

FALL

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		PM **4:00-6:40** **7:00 -9:40**	**PM** **1:00-3:40** **4:00-9:40**	**PRACTICUM** ***7:30 - 2:30**** **PM** **4:00-6:40**		

CLASS SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

SPRING

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		PRACTICUM ***7:30 - 2:30**** **PM** **4:00-6:40** **7:00 -9:40**	**PM** **4:00-6:40** **7:00-9:40**	**PRACTICUM** ***7:30 - 2:30**** **PM** **7:00-9:40**		

PRACITCUM TIMES AND DAYS MAY VARY BY SCHOOL

SECOND YEAR WEEKLY SCHEDULE

FALL

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		FIELDWORK ***8:30 - 3:30*** **PM** **4:00 - 6:40** **7:00 - 9:40**	**FIELDWORK** ***8:30 - 3:30*** **PM** **4:00 - 6:40**	**PM** **7:00-9:40**		

CLASS SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

SPRING

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		FIELDWORK ***8:30 - 3:30*** **PM** **4:00 - 6:40** **7:00 - 9:40**	**FIELDWORK** ***8:30 - 3:30***	**PM** **4:00 - 6:40** **7:00 - 9:40**		

FIELDWORK TIMES AND DAYS MAY VARY BY SCHOOL



PROGRAM OPPORTUNITIES

Opportunities

- Program Orientation
- Fall Networking Event
- Professional Conferences
- Research Opportunities
- Social Events

PRACTICUM REQUIREMENTS: YEAR 1



300 HOURS

100 hours first semester
200 hours second semester

DIRECTOR SUPPORT

Director will match you with a placement based off of your responses to a survey.

PLACEMENT VARIES

Sites available in San Diego, Chula Vista, Fallbrook, South Bay, etc.

FIELDWORK REQUIREMENTS : YEAR 2

Total of 900+ hours in K-12 schools!!!

600 HOURS

300 hours per semester

STUDENT CHOICE

Students select a fieldwork site

PLACEMENT VARIES

*Student impact



SDSU'S SCHOOL COUNSELING GRADUATES ARE:

WELL-PREPARED (900+ HOURS)

TAUGHT BY LEADERS IN THE FIELD

CONNECTED WITH SCHOOL COUNSELING PROFESSIONALS



PREPARED TO WORK IN DIVERSE SCHOOL SETTINGS

HIRED WITH OVER A 90% EMPLOYMENT RATE

TRAINED IN THE ASCA NATIONAL MODEL



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PROGRAM'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE FIELD

ASCA

CASC

Many esteemed alumni and students actively engage in leadership roles within these distinguished school counseling professional associations. Moreover, students consistently showcase their expertise by delivering presentations at these prestigious conferences each year.

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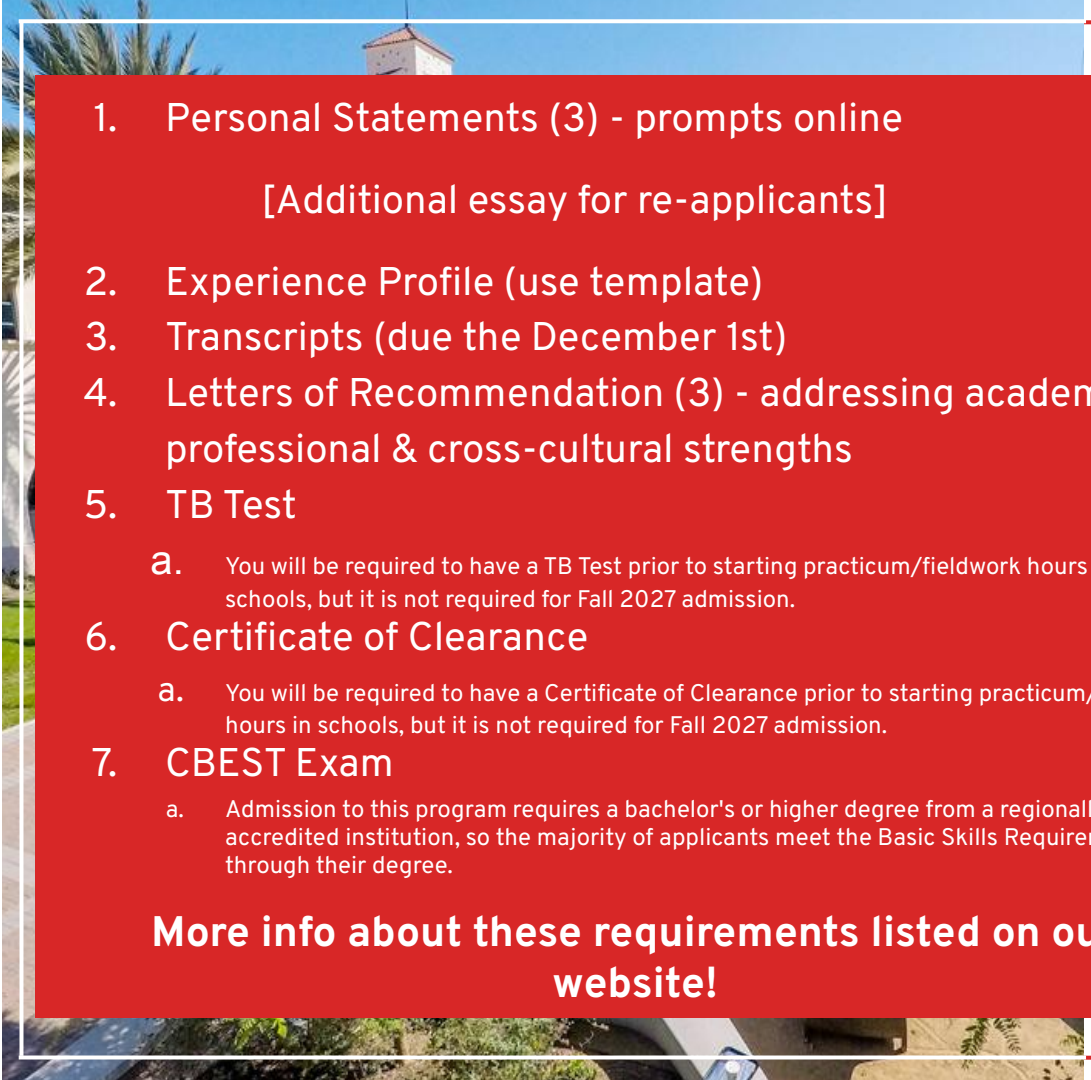
03 APPLICATION PROCESS

APPLICATIO N PROCESS



1. Cal State Apply Application: *https://www.calstate.edu/apply*
   a. Apply for Fall 2026!

2. Submit official transcripts to SDSU Graduate Admissions



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1. Personal Statements (3) - prompts online

   [Additional essay for re-applicants]

2. Experience Profile (use template)
3. Transcripts (due the December 1st)
4. Letters of Recommendation (3) - addressing academic, professional & cross-cultural strengths
5. TB Test
   a. You will be required to have a TB Test prior to starting practicum/fieldwork hours in schools, but it is not required for Fall 2027 admission.
6. Certificate of Clearance
   a. You will be required to have a Certificate of Clearance prior to starting practicum/fieldwork hours in schools, but it is not required for Fall 2027 admission.
7. CBEST Exam
   a. Admission to this program requires a bachelor's or higher degree from a regionally accredited institution, so the majority of applicants meet the Basic Skills Requirement through their degree.

More info about these requirements listed on our website!

APPLICATION MATERIALS- DUE DECEMBER 1, 2026

ADMISSIONS DEADLINE

Item Due	Due Date
Cal State Application: (Application opens October 1st, 2026)	December 1, 2026





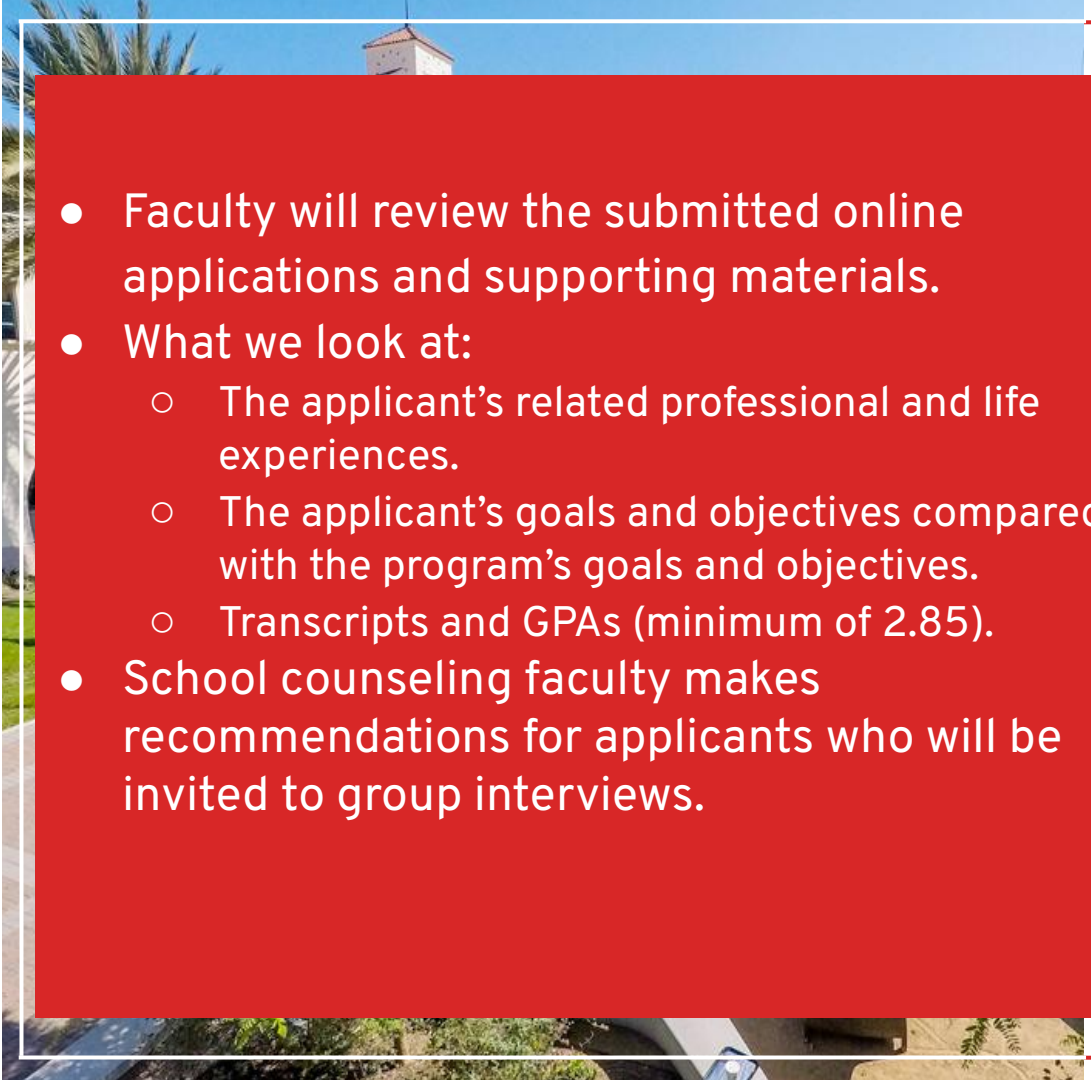
WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR

Each application is considered for the following contexts:

- **ACADEMIC BACKGROUND** and readiness to succeed in a full time rigorous graduate program.
- Knowledge of and experience with **CHILDREN AND SCHOOL SYSTEMS** to predict ease of entry into 1st semester.
- Depth and breadth of knowledge and/or experiences in **CULTURALLY DIVERSE** schools and/or communities.
- **LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE** and demonstrated skills in leadership roles.

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04 ADMISSIONS & FINANCIAL AID PROCESS



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ADMISSIONS PROCESS: PHASE 1

- Faculty will review the submitted online applications and supporting materials.
- What we look at:
  - The applicant's related professional and life experiences.
  - The applicant's goals and objectives compared with the program's goals and objectives.
  - Transcripts and GPAs (minimum of 2.85).
- School counseling faculty makes recommendations for applicants who will be invited to group interviews.

ADMISSIONS PROCESS: PHASE 2: GROUP INTERVIEW



In Person Group Interviews:
February 20th, 2027

- A full day of small group interviews with faculty, current students, alumni, and school counselors.
  - Rotate through a variety of interview activities.
  - Interviewers consider each applicant's "match" with program philosophy and emphases.

After the interviews:

- Recommendations for admissions are made by the school counseling faculty to the university.
- Applicants are notified and invited to the program.



FINANCIAL INFORMATION

TUITION

- 2 years of full-time graduate study plus summer courses.
- Check SDSU website for most updated information.

2026-27 Standard Costs for California Residents

	Living with parents	Living in university housing	Living off campus
CSU Basic tuition	$6,838	$6,838	$6,838
Campus Fees*	$2,942	$2,942	$2,942
Books, supplies	$1,014	$1,014	$1,014
Food, housing	$9,904	Meal plan: $7,848** Housing: $14,008**	Food: $6,706 Housing: $12,806
Transportation	$2,566	$1,216	$2,562
Miscellaneous, personal	$2,952	$2,566	$3,368
Total academic year	**$26,216**	**$36,432**	**$36,236**

ADDITIONAL COSTS & REQUIREMENTS

- Application Fee (**$70**)
  - Unfortunately the Chancellor's Office removed the fee waiver from the Graduate Application which means all graduate applicants, regardless of income, are required to pay the application fee, no exceptions can be made.
- Intent to Enroll (**$400** - typically due April 16, 2027)
- Credential and Graduation fees (**$100**)
- HSPO liability insurance, some may be included in membership (**$50**)
- Professional Conferences & Memberships (ACA, CASC, or ASCA) (**$200-$300 varies)**
- Program/practicum nametag (**$14**)
- SCGSA dues (**$50/year**)
- Parking **$207.00/semester** or **$48.00/month**
- Certificate of Clearance (**$50**) + Livescan fingerprints (**$84**)

FINANCIAL AID

- The 2027-28 FAFSA application will be available October 1st, 2026. (Apply ASAP!)
  - Unsubsidized loans
  - Federal Direct Grad PLUS Loan
  - Grants
  - Scholarships

Visit the SDSU financial aid website for more information:
https://sacd.sdsu.edu/financial-aid

INTRODUCING CURRENT STUDENTS

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05 LIFE IN THE PROGRAM








WELCOME
GRAD STUDENTS













SCGSA stands for School Counseling Graduate Student Association. It is our own recognized student organization on campus, and serves to support the students in the counseling program.

We also...

- Promote the program to prospective students
- Provide professional growth opportunities
- Provide mentorship opportunities
- Host social events
- Host program graduation

SCGSA
2026-2027
EXECUTIVE BOARD

CO-PRESIDENTS + VP



FRANKIE
2ND YEAR



BRENDA
1ST YEAR



SEBASTIAN
2ND YEAR

SCGSA
2026-2027
EXECUTIVE BOARD

CO-FUNDRAISING CHAIRS



RAYMOND
1ST YEAR



EMILY
2ND YEAR

SCGSA
2026-2027
EXECUTIVE BOARD

CO- SOCIAL CHAIRS



SAVANNAH
1ST YEAR



JAZZELL
2ND YEAR

SCGSA
2026-2027
EXECUTIVE BOARD

CO-GRADUATION COORDINATORS



ABBY
1ST YEAR



PORSCHE
2ND YEAR



ELLIE
2ND YEAR

SCGSA
2026-2027
EXECUTIVE BOARD



SECRETARY!

REESE
1ST YEAR

SCGSA
2026-2027
EXECUTIVE BOARD



ELYSE
1ST YEAR

CO-MEDIA COORDINATORS



CHLOE
2ND YEAR

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06

Q&A

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL COUNSELING & PSYCHOLOGY

https://education.sdsu.edu/departments/csp

EMAIL GRADUATE ASSISTANT

schcoun@sdsu.edu

FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM

@sdsu_schoolcounseling



THANK YOU & GOOD LUCK!

