

Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health Counseling - 2020

The Master of Arts (MA) in Clinical Mental Health counseling is a CACREP accredited program that launched in April 2017. The data provided in this report outlines key graduate metrics to include the number of graduates, completion rates, licensure pass rates, and job placement rates over the past year. The data is collected and updated annually in compliance with CACREP accreditation requirements and the current reporting period reflects data from November 2019 through October 2020.

Number of Graduates

There were 91 MA in Clinical Mental Health Counseling program graduates from November 2019 to October 2020.

Completion Rates

Students in the MA in Clinical Mental Health Counseling program are associated with a cohort when entering the program and tracked from that cohort start date when determining progression and program completion. When taken full-time, the program can be completed in approximately 2.5 years. However, many of our students are part-time and elect to take a single course per term or move between part-time and full-time status while in the program. To address the variance in student status we calculate completion rates at 150% of full-time status, which translates to 18 terms or approximately 3.6 years.

Because our program is relatively young, we did not have a cohort complete the full 18-term completion period in this reporting cycle. We did, however, have students graduate in less time than the 18-term completion period, which is captured in the chart below. For the purposes of this report we only included terms with an eligible graduate.

Column Headers Defined:

- **Cohort Term:** the SNHU graduate term code for each cohort
- **Cohort Start Date:** the date students in the cohort began the program
- **18-Term Completion Date:** the date students in the cohort will hit the 150% completion mark
- **Student Count:** the number of students starting in the cohort on the cohort start date
- **Current Completion Rate:** the percentage of the student count in the cohort that have graduated from the program as of the date of this report
- **Active and Current Completion Rate:** the combined percentage of the student count in the cohort that have graduated or are still in the program and working toward graduation

Cohort Term	Cohort Start Date	18-Term Completion Date	Student Count	Current Completion Rate	Active & Current Completion Rate
17TW4	04/03/2017	02/14/2021	53	34.0%	52.8%
17TW5	06/19/2017	05/02/2021	47	21.3%	48.9%
17TW1	09/04/2017	07/18/2021	95	24.2%	54.7%
17TW2	11/20/2017	10/03/2021	85	14.1%	47.1%
18TW3	02/12/2018	12/19/2021	71	18.3%	70.4%

Licensure Exam Pass Rates

State licensure exam requirements differ by state; however all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, and Puerto Rico require at least one of the two exams offered through the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC). These include the National Counselor Exam (NCE) and the National Clinical Mental Health Counselor Exam (NCMHCE), which, in addition to being used for licensure, are also used for certification as a National Certified Counselor (NCC) or Certified Clinical Mental Health Counselor (CCMHC).

Certification is a voluntary credential representing to members of the public and potential employers that the counselor has met national standards set by the counseling profession. For approved programs like ours, students in their field experience courses (our final three courses) can take certification exams and receive certification prior to graduation.

Licensure, however, is approval from a particular state oversight licensing agency to practice as a counselor or identify oneself as a licensed counselor and occurs post-graduation after fulfillment of additional practice requirements. While certification is not licensure, many states allow students to use their pre-graduation scores on the NBCC certification exams to meet the licensure exam requirements for post-graduate licensure.

For more detailed information on the NBCC exams listed above or the differences between certification and licensure, we encourage you to visit the [National Board for Certified Counselors website](#).

To assess licensure exam pass rates, we capture data through two means: (1) a self-reported graduate survey and (2) pass rates on the NBCC certification exams taken by eligible students in our program.

Graduate Survey

Of the eligible 91 graduates, 21 completed the survey, resulting in a 23% response rate. Of the 21 graduates who responded, 6, or 28.6%, reported they had taken and passed their state licensure exams.

	NCE	NCMHCE
Took Exam	4	2
Passed Exam	4	2
Pass Rate	100%	100%

NBCC Certification Exams

As an approved Participating University for the NBCC certification exams we are able to offer students the ability to sit for the two exams used for board certification as an NCC or CCMHC twice a year.

In the April 2020 testing cycle 11 students took NBCC certification exams and 7 passed resulting in a 63% pass rate. We did not receive outcome data on the October 2020 testing cycle in time to include in this report.

Job Placement Rates

We collect graduate job placement data through our annual graduate survey. Of the eligible 91 graduates, 21 completed the survey resulting in a 23% response rate. Of the 21 respondents, 90.5% were employed (85.7% full-time and 4.8% part-time), and all of the employed graduates reported working in the field of mental health.