**School Counseling Admissions Package**

**McNeese State University**

**Department of Graduate Professions**

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**BECOMING A PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELOR: DISCOVER THE LEAEDER IN YOU**

The Department of Graduate Professions at McNeese State University is pleased to offer a Master’s degree in Education with a concentration in School Counseling. This is a 48 hour degree program consisting of 42 credit hours of coursework and 3 credit hours each for the practicum and internship, respectively.

Upon completion of the program, students are qualified to serve as professional school counselors in grades K-12 in the state of Louisiana. Additionally, some students continue their educational aspirations by pursuing licensure and becoming a licensed professional counselor.

School counselors facilitate students in academic, career and personal/social domains in an effort to aid them in reaching their full potential. Collaboration and consultation are two foundational pillars of the school counseling profession. School counselors work closely with students, parents, teachers, administrators, community members and other school counselors to provide excellence in education. School counselors are educational leaders and agents of change who advocate for all students in a pluralistic society.

McNeese State University is here to help you to realize your professional career aspirations; apply today and start building your future as a professional school counselor!

McNEESE STATE UNIVERSITY: EXCELLENCE WITH A PERSONAL TOUCH!

Dear School Counseling Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in graduate study in school counseling at McNeese State University. We are here to serve our students through excellence with a personal touch. Our program adheres to professional standards of the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP). Admission to the school counseling program is based on objective criteria and successful completion of admission requirements.

The faculty and staff of the McNeese State University school counseling program are dedicated to professional excellence in teaching, research and service to the school community. School counseling candidates enjoy a variety of course delivery systems that include on campus, online, and combination web-hybrid format. Field experiences afford students the opportunity to engage in hands on learning in the school environment as they conduct counseling sessions, lead small-group projects and work with school counselors in practicum and internship settings.

For directions on the application procedure, please see the Application Portfolio Check List on the following page.

Again, thank you for considering McNeese State University for graduate study in school counseling. Please contact Dr. Brett Welch @ ([bwelch@mcneese.edu](mailto:bwelch@mcneese.edu)) or Dr. Christine Anthony @ ([manthony@mcneese.edu](mailto:manthony@mcneese.edu)). We look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Sincerely,

Dr. Christine Anthony

Dr. Christine Anthony, Associate Professor

Department of Graduate Professions

School Counseling Program Coordinator

**School Counseling Program**

**McNeese State University**

**Applicant Contact Information**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Telephone: Home \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Mobile \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Work\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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

Have you previously been enrolled for graduate or undergraduate study at McNeese State University? \_\_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_ no (If yes, what was your area of study? Did you graduate?)

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Additional contact information you wish to provide

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**School Counseling Program**

**McNeese State University**

**Admission Requirements**

To be considered for admission to the William Dore’ School of Graduate Studies, an applicant must:

1. Satisfy all McNeese State University graduate admission requirements. Consult the MSU General Catalog for admission requirements or contact Dr. Brett Welch at [gep@mcneese.edu](mailto:gep@mcneese.edu)
2. Obtain a score of at least 1200 points based on the formula of 150 times the undergraduate grade point average, plus the General Test (Verbal and Quantitative) score of the *Graduate Record Examination* (GRE). (See [www.mcneese.edu/gep](http://www.mcneese.edu/gep))
3. Submit a fully completed application portfolio to the School Counseling Program Admission Committee. This portfolio should include the following materials:
4. A letter of intent requesting consideration for admission into the McNeese School Counseling Program, including the applicant’s reasons for selecting school counseling and the applicant’s reason for considering graduate study at McNeese State University. (See Letter of Intent Explanation)
5. Curriculum Vitae including full name, address, phone numbers, email address, academic experiences, prior related work experiences, degrees held, honors, awards, special interests, and other appropriate information.
6. Contact information for three (3) references that are familiar with the applicant’s academic abilities and potential for success as a professional counselor.
7. Upon screening of application portfolio, qualified applicants will be invited to participate in a mandatory one-day, on-campus, screening interview. (At the discretion of the School Counseling Program Admission Committee, international students or individuals residing in distant states may be afforded a telephone interview in lieu of participation in the one-day on-campus screening interview.)

Dr. Brett Welch

Director of Graduate Education Programs

Box 92300

Lake Charles, La. 70609

337-475-5405 (v)

337-475-5272 (f)

[www.gep@mcneese.edu](http://www.gep@mcneese.edu)

**School Counseling Program**

**McNeese State University**

**Letter of Intent**

A letter of intent requesting consideration for the school counseling program must be included in the application portfolio. The letter of intent must address:

* the candidate’s philosophy of education;
* definition of diversity and culturally relevant experiences in education and/or social science fields;
* the candidate’s career goals and reasons for selecting the school counseling program as a means of fulfilling stated career goals;
* the student’s future professional aspirations, and how this degree will help you achieve your long-term goals;
* the candidate’s definition of professionalism and pertinent professional, educational, and/or personal experiences that have contributed significantly to his or her interest in the counseling profession. This may include volunteer work related to the counseling field.

The letter of intent should be:

* Word processed or typed
* Double-spaced
* 12-point font
* Formatted with standard 1” margins
* Up to 3 pages in length

**School Counseling Graduate Program**

**McNeese State University**

**Application Portfolio**

**Check List**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Completed “Application Contact Information Sheet”

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Complete the Letter of Intent requesting consideration for admission to the School Counseling Program

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Contact information for three references (name, address, phone number and email)

Additional Requirements Prior to Admission:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Applied for admission to the William Dore’ School of Graduate Studies of McNeese State University online through the McNeese home page.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Registered to take the Graduate Record Exam, and/or GRE scores sent to McNeese

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Official transcript of undergraduate and graduate work requested, or sent to McNeese

Completed application portfolios should be mailed to:

Dr. Christine Anthony, School Counseling Program Coordinator

Department of Graduate Professions

Box 91815

McNeese State University

Lake Charles, La. 70609

337- 475-5435 (v)

337-475-5398 (f)

[manthony@mcneese.edu](mailto:manthony@mcneese.edu)

**Admission Notification**

Admission to the school counseling program is selective and requires a favorable evaluation by the Counseling Program Admissions Committee. Upon submission of a completed application portfolio and favorable screening interview, successful application will be notified of acceptance into the counseling program.

Given the selective nature of program admission, a student admitted to the school counseling track may not change program tracks without formal application and approval from the School Counseling Program Admissions Committee. Within two weeks after participation in the program admission interview, applicants will be notified of their acceptance status.