

**MASTER OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY (MCP)  
MASTER OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY AND DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (MCP/PhD)**

**APPLICATION PROCEDURE**

Application to the Master of Clinical Psychology (MCP) and Master of Clinical Psychology and Doctor of Philosophy (MCP/PhD) is very competitive. To assist you with your application we have provided detailed information on the application and selection procedure and supporting documentation required. Applicants are to read and understand the application and selection procedure **in full** before starting an online application in Sydney Courses.

**Applications with all supporting documentation must be submitted by the closing date. Incomplete applications will be rejected after the closing date and will not be considered for the selection interview.**

**1. Review course information and admission requirements for MCP and MCP/PhD**

- [Master of Clinical Psychology \(MCP\) admission requirements](#)
- [Doctor of Philosophy \(MCP/PhD\) admission requirements](#)

**2. Prepare supporting documents**

- Collate your supporting documents. Merge related supporting documents into one file.
- Name individual files as below: eg. 'ACADEMIC.pdf', 'IDENTIFICATION.pdf', 'SUPPLEMENTARY.pdf'
- Upload no more than five supporting document files to your online application (as below).
- Do NOT include personal essays, cover letters, CVs, or certificates, they will not be considered. Your personal suitability is assessed at the selection interview.

<b>1. ACADEMIC.pdf</b>	
<b>- Transcript</b>	<b>Complete official academic transcripts (with grading system)</b> Upload transcript with breakdown of individual subjects completed in your degree.
<b>- Grading</b>	<b>Grading system - If not on transcript</b> Upload grading system (on the reverse of your transcript). If not on transcript, include the grading system from your University handbook.
<b>- Testamur</b>	<b>Testamur (degree certificate awarded at graduation ceremony) - If graduated</b> Upload Testamur with date of completion, degree awarded, discipline, final result <b>OR Proof of completion - If not yet graduated</b> a) If you have one semester left to complete your current course of study, you should include transcripts up until your final semester and official documentation from your institution stating that you will finish at the end of the semester and the name of the degree you will be awarded or transcript showing enrolment in your final semester. (b) If you have completed your studies but have not yet had a graduation ceremony nor been awarded a testamur, you should provide official documentation from your institution stating the name of the degree you have completed and the date of completion.
<b>- Honours result</b>	<b>Evidence of Honours Class AND Grade</b> On supplementary form, record result eg. first class honours (H1) <b>83%</b> (3.3/4 GPA) Upload evidence: Transcript. If honours class and grade are not <u>both</u> supplied on your academic transcript, provide evidence from your fourth year coordinator of your honours results, as a percentage or GPA (include GPA scale eg. 3.3/4). If your grade is not available, include your transcript and grading system, outlining individual results achieved for each unit of study in fourth year, along with the fourth year Honours weighting scheme at your University. For example, at the University of Sydney: Empirical Thesis (50%); Theoretical Thesis or Special Fields Coursework (30%); Coursework (30%) - Research Methods (15%) and Ethics and Professional Issues (5%). Include your overall result for fourth year only. Results from the first three years of undergraduate study are not included in the calculation of the overall fourth year honours result. <u>Your fourth year grade (%) is essential for application ranking.</u>



<p><b>- Honours result</b></p>	<p><b>Honours Result Pending (currently completing honours)</b>          If you are currently enrolled in your fourth year and your results are pending, on the supplementary form provide contact details for your fourth year Coordinator (Name, Institution, Email, Phone).          Indicate the date results will be available. We will contact your institution directly for results. You must provide written consent to your fourth year Coordinator to release informal results to the University of Sydney for the purposes of application.  <b>Post Graduate Diploma (Honours equivalent stream)</b>          If you completed a Post Graduate Diploma that is equivalent to the Honours degree at the same University, however, only available to students who completed their undergraduate at that University, provide evidence by way of a letter from your fourth year coordinator stating it is directly equivalent to the Honours stream. Also, clearly indicate this on the supplementary form.</p>
<p><b>- Research thesis</b></p>	<p><b>Evidence of completion of major research project and individual thesis</b>          All qualifications must include an individual (or group) conducted research project and individual thesis as an essential part of the degree.  <u>For Australian qualifications:</u> On the supplementary form, record the research project and thesis title. Upload evidence: Transcript. If not clear from the transcript, upload the abstract or letter from your fourth year coordinator as evidence.  <u>For non-Australian qualifications:</u> On the supplementary form, record the degree name, research thesis title, thesis abstract, information on methods used (and whether conducted with methods consistent with an Australian fourth year honours degree). Indicate if thesis was theoretical or empirical, and individual or group. Indicate the thesis level equivalence (PG Diploma, Honours, Masters, PhD) and APS assessed equivalence (3-year, 4-year, 5-year). Upload evidence: Abstract or reference of a published article.</p>
<p><b>- APS</b></p>	<p><b>Australian Psychological Society (APS) assessment letter (if applicable)</b>          All non-Australian qualifications require APS assessment (for both admission and AHPRA registration). Processing time is up to 6-8 weeks and must be complete before the closing date.</p>
<p><b>- English Translations</b></p>	<p><b>Official English translation of documents not issued in English (if applicable)</b>          If the original language of issue for any document is not English, provide the originals together with a certified English translation.</p>
<p><b>2. IDENTIFICATION.pdf</b></p>	
<p><b>- Residency</b></p>	<p><b>Evidence of residency status</b> (Birth certificate, passport or certificate of citizenship)</p>
<p><b>- Change of name</b></p>	<p><b>Proof of change of name (if applicable)</b></p>
<p><b>3. SUPPLEMENTARY.pdf</b></p>	
<p><b>- <a href="#">Supplementary form</a></b></p>	<p><b>Complete the supplementary form</b>          Complete all sections of the supplementary form, presenting the most relevant information within the spaces provided. Additional attachments will not be considered.</p>
<p><b>- Publications</b></p>	<p><b>Relevant psychology publications</b>          Include only your most relevant psychology publications, within the spaces provided.  <u>Include type of publication</u> - Journal article; Manuscript; Published report; Conference presentation. Provide details with full citation (APA style).  <u>Indicate status of the publication</u> – Published; Accepted; In press. Do NOT include manuscripts submitted and/or in preparation, or non-journal article reports.</p>
<p><b>- Work Experience</b></p>	<p><b>Clinically relevant work experience</b>          Include only the most clinically relevant and current work experience (last 10 years) within the spaces provided, in order of paid then voluntary experience. Additional attachments will NOT be considered. A maximum of three types will be considered. Examples of suitable work experience are provided below.  <u>Include type of experience</u> – Voluntary or Paid; Position title (eg. Psychologist, Counsellor, Clinical research, or Other); Employer; Description of duties performed; Patient groups worked with.  <u>Include length of experience</u> - Length of employment as number of hours per week over number of months or years (e.g. 10 hours per week, 6 months). Full time equivalence is considered 35 hours per week per year.</p>

<b>4. ENGLISH.pdf</b>	
<b>- English</b>	<p><b>Evidence of satisfying the University's and AHPRA's English language requirement (if applicable)</b></p> <p>Applicants must comply with the <a href="#">English language requirements of the University of Sydney</a> (IELTS minimum of 7.0 overall and a minimum result of 7.0 in each band) and the <a href="#">English language requirements of the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA)</a>. Additional English language requirements apply under the current AHPRA standards for registration. Where AHPRA standards are inconsistent with University of Sydney standards, the higher standard will apply.</p> <p>Applicants relying on primary, secondary and/or tertiary qualifications to satisfy AHPRA's English language requirements must provide documentary evidence to demonstrate completion of the qualification, language of instruction, duration and recognised country, to also meet requirements as outlined in <a href="#">AHPRA's standards</a>. English language requirements must be met by the application closing date. English language test scores must be less than two years old at the date of application.</p>
<b>5. RESEARCH.pdf (MCP/PhD only)</b>	
<b>- Research supervisor</b>	<p><b>Evidence of Supervisor Contact and Acceptance</b></p> <p>Prior to applying, arrange a <b>research supervisor</b> from the School of Psychology, by contacting academics directly to discuss potential supervision and your research proposal. You may search for a potential supervisor through Research Supervisor Connect or the School webpage listing supervisors with clinically relevant research areas. Contact research supervisors who are engaged in areas of research in which you are interested. When contacting research supervisors provide your academic and educational background with examples such as your academic transcript, your CV, your research area of interest and why you believe your research topic aligns with the supervisor. It is recommended, not essential, to nominate an <b>auxiliary supervisor</b> with your application. Please consult with your supervisor regarding potential auxiliary supervisor/s. Upload evidence of contact with your research supervisor, with confirmation of acceptance. A copy of emails between you and your supervisor is accepted as evidence.</p> <p><a href="#">Research Supervisor Connect</a> <a href="#">School of Psychology Clinical Research Supervisors</a></p>
<b>- Research proposal</b>	<p><b>Research Proposal (at least 1000 words (2-4 pages))</b></p> <p>Once you have arranged a supervisor, prepare a research proposal to support your application. The research proposal should be developed in conjunction with your research supervisor, and outline the subject area, objectives and significance of your research. Include the research supervisor name and research project title, and any prior research experience and, where appropriate, copies of papers already published</p>

### 3. Arrange two references

MCP applicants must submit:

- Two academic references, **OR**
- One academic reference and one clinically relevant work experience reference.

MCP/PhD applicants must submit:

- Two academic references.

References must be provided via [Psychology Reference System](#) (not uploaded)

- Applicants must register with Psychology Reference System and nominate two referees. Referees are then prompted to complete an online reference. Applicants must share the completed references with the University of Sydney via Psychology Reference System.
- Applicants who do not correctly provide completed references and share these with the University of Sydney via Psychology Reference System by the application closing date will not be considered.
- References are **NOT** uploaded to your online application in Sydney Student. References are shared with the University of Sydney via the Psychology Reference system. References are confidential and not shared with the applicant.
- **It is strongly recommended you request your referees to complete the online reference at least two weeks prior to the closing date, to allow your referee sufficient time to complete the reference.**

## 4. Apply online

### Step 1

- Review course information and admission requirements to ensure eligibility.
- Prepare all supporting documentation for upload.
- Arrange two references via [Psychology Reference System](#).

### Step 2

- [Master of Clinical Psychology \(MCP\)](#)
- Submit one online application to the MCP degree (MACLIPSY1000).
- MCP is available to both domestic and international applicants.

### OR

- [Master of Clinical Psychology \(MCP\) AND](#)
- [Doctor of Philosophy \(Science\) \(MCP/PhD\)](#)
- Submit two online applications for the MCP/PhD double degree, both MCP (MACLIPSY1000) and PhD (RPPHDSCI4000) applications.
- PhD application for MCP/PhD (RPPHDSCI4000) is different to standalone PhD (RPPHDSCI1000).
- MCP/PhD is only available to domestic applicants.
- **Upload all five (as relevant) supporting documents to BOTH online applications.**  
As MCP and PhD applications are assessed independently.

### Scholarships (APA UPA)

- MCP/PhD students are not eligible to apply for [APA UPA Scholarships](#) until the end of their first year, for commencement in their second year of study. Do not apply for a scholarship at this time.
- However, if you are not offered a place in the MCP/PhD double degree, and wish to be considered for a standalone PhD, you may choose to submit an [APA UPA Scholarship](#) application now.

## SELECTION PROCEDURE

Timeline	
Applications open	July
Applications close	<b>Thursday 18 October 5pm</b>
Interview offers	Wednesday 21 November – Thursday 29 November
Interview dates	Wednesday 28 November, Friday 30 November 10am – 2pm
First round offers	After Monday 2 December
University closedown	Saturday 22 December - Monday 7 January 2019

### 1. Application assessment

Applications are processed by the Admissions Office. Only applications meeting minimum admission requirements and selection criteria are forwarded on to the School. Applicants will receive notification if their application is incomplete or missing documents, through the application portal.

**Incomplete applications are rejected after the closing date and will not be considered for interview.**

The Clinical Psychology Unit admissions committee will evaluate all applications after the application closing date. Applications are evaluated, scored and ranked upon the below criteria:

- Undergraduate academic performance in the honours year (or equivalent)
- Additional academic research qualifications in Psychology (Master of Science by research, Master of Philosophy by research, Doctor of Philosophy, in Psychology)
- Publications (published journal articles, published reports, conference presentations)
- Relevant paid clinical work experience (psychologist, counsellor, clinically relevant research)  
Relevant voluntary clinical work experience (teaching, research, other)
- Psychology references

## 2. Selection interview

The selection interview is an essential part of the selection process. Applicants who meet admission requirements and selection criteria are considered for the selection interview, with only the top fifty ranked applicants offered an interview. Interview rankings and interview offers will not be finalised until universities have released results for students who are currently completing honours, usually mid to late November onwards. Selection interviews are scheduled in the last week of November. Successful applicants will be contacted by phone to be offered a selection interview. Unsuccessful applicants falling below the interview cut off will be notified through the application portal once interviews have been finalised.

Applicants will attend a 15-minute group information session at 9.30am prior to their scheduled selection interview. Selection interviews will be 20-minutes in duration and scheduled every half hour between 10.00am - 2.00pm. The selection interview panel is comprised of three staff members, from the Clinical Psychology Unit and School of Psychology. When scheduling an interview please advise of any conflict of interest with staff on your allocated panel.

Applicants will be asked a standard set of questions. The interview questions are designed to assess the applicant's relevant academic, research, work experience and performance, demonstrated interest and aptitude for clinical psychology, and understanding and awareness of ethical and other issues relevant to clinical practice. It is not necessary to bring any additional materials to the interview, as all application materials have been assessed prior to interview. Appropriate professional dress is recommended.

Applicants who are not available to attend in person on the scheduled interview dates will not be considered for a place. This includes in person interviews for domestic applicants or web-based (ZOOM) interviews for international applicants. Domestic applicants, including interstate applicants, are required to attend the interview in person. However, domestic applicants may request to be considered for a web-based (ZOOM) interview if overseas during the interview period. Applicants invited to a web-based interview will need to set up a free Zoom account <https://zoom.us/> and have access to a computer with webcam, microphone and speakers, as well as a landline phone number in the event of technical difficulties.

Interview dates: Wednesday 28 November, Friday 30 November

Interview panel: [Paul Rhodes](#), [Ian Johnston](#), [Ilona Juraskova](#), [Louise Sharpe](#), [Michael Cavanagh](#), [Alex Blaszczyński](#), [Caroline Hunt](#), [Stephen Touyz](#), [Ilan Dar-Nimrod](#), [David Hawes](#), [Damian Birney](#), [Shyla Gooley](#).

Interview location: Level 3, Teaching Room 301, 94 Mallet St Camperdown 2050, University of Sydney (M02F) <https://goo.gl/maps/HpRPqXPAtXG2>

Transport: Public transport is recommended and easily available to Mallett St. By train, a 15-30 minute walk from Newtown, Redfern or Central stations; By bus to Parramatta Rd near Mallett St, Camperdown (Stop 205024); One hour free on-street parking is available in the surrounding streets, however, is very limited and regularly patrolled.

## 3. Offers

Applicants are ranked upon their application, academic record and interview performance. The top ranked applicants are offered places, with first round offers issued from early December. Places are offered full-time only, and are full-fee paying, however, a limited number of Commonwealth Supported Places (CSP), may be available each year, awarded on merit to the top-ranked applicants. At the time of offer, applicants will be notified if they have been awarded a full-fee paying place, or a Commonwealth Supported Place (CSP). Applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application through their application portal.

Applicants who do not receive a first round offer will be notified if placed on the reserve list. Often a second round of offers will be made, where the next applicant on the reserve list will be contacted should a first round offer be declined. Offers sometimes continue into late December and January, until all places are accepted. Unsuccessful applicants will be notified through the application portal once all places have been accepted and students have enrolled.

The University closes down for a two-week period over Christmas and reopens a week after the New Year. As this is a very busy time of year for the Admissions Office processing applications, we anticipate delays.

## Clinically relevant work experience

Applicants are encouraged to have gained some previous relevant work experience. The benefit of work experience is that it is likely to enhance the understanding of clinical issues and allow a prospective student to determine whether they would like to pursue working with a clinical population. If invited to interview, an applicant will be advantaged if able to draw upon previous work experiences, particularly in regard to answering questions that specifically assess understanding of clinical issues and potential difficulties of work in clinical contexts. Examples include but are not limited to the below.

<b>WORK EXPERIENCE EXAMPLES</b>	
<b>Clinical</b>	<p><b>Paid position providing services to people with mental health issues, neuropsychological difficulties, health problems, forensic problems, or their carers.</b></p> <p>FACS case worker: Disabilities, adoption, foster care, child protection            Counsellor: Centacare, Anglicare, Relationships Australia, Wesley gambling counselling            Community rehab officer: brain injury and community rehabilitation units            Marriage and relationships educator / group facilitator            Group behaviour therapist; Triumph over OCD and phobias (TOP), Anxiety disorders alliance            Support group coordinator: Transcultural mental health centre, STARRTS            Case work / counsellor for abuse services: Rape crisis centre, domestic violence counselling            Registered nurse in acute care psychiatric hospital            Psychologist: Ministry of Health and other government departments            Support worker: Schizophrenia fellowship, pioneer clubhouse (rehab program for people with mental illness (schizophrenia, bipolar)            Employment services for people with a mental illness: Centrelink, Commonwealth rehabilitation service            Clinical case manager / clinician: adult mental health, child and family mental health, mental health crisis            ABA (applied behavioural analysis) therapist, lizard children's centre, working with children with autism            Therapist with autistic children (implementing intervention strategies)            Drug and alcohol counsellor            Intern psychologist, trainee psychologist            Youth worker in a refuge            Respite worker for disabled children (home care)            Lifeline telephone counselling</p>
<b>Research</b>	<p><b>Clinical research position involved with patients with mental health problems, psychological sequelae of health problems or in neuropsychology/psychometric assessment.</b></p> <p>Research Assistant: University Psychology Clinics (clinical treatment trials for adults/children/families)            Research Assistant in Neuropsychology (University / private practice setting)            Research Assistant in Clinical or Experimental Clinical or Neuropsychology            Research Nurse (eg. depression trial)            Research Officer / Assistant: Justice Health, Ministry of Health            Research assistant, NHMRC clinical trial (client management, research assessments, follow-up interviews)            Psychometric and neuropsychology questionnaire development</p>
<b>Voluntary</b>	<p><b>Volunteer in an organisation providing services or support to people with mental health issues, neuropsychological difficulties, health problems, or their carers.</b></p> <p>Telephone Counselling: Lifeline, Kids Helpline, Quitline, ADIS, Abortion Help, G-line, Mens Phone Line, Womens Health Centres, Gay and Lesbian Counselling, Domestic Violence Counselling Service, Mental Health Information Service, Salvation Army Counselling, Financial counselling ARAFMI            Schizophrenia Association, Schizophrenia Fellowship NSW, Alzheimer's Association, Epilepsy Association            Anxiety Disorders Alliance: Self Help, support groups            Depression and Mood Disorders Association: Support groups            Mental Health Association NSW, Mental Health Information Service            Volunteer Friend for the Mentally Ill: Association for relatives and friends of the mentally ill            Organisational Psychology internship (conducting psychometric assessments, writing reports)            Salvation Army: Youth programs            Volunteer: Royal North Shore Pain Clinic            Volunteer Counsellor: Wayside Chapel, Kings Cross            The Benevolent Society: First five years home visiting program            Volunteer hospital health worker with psychiatric patients</p>