Program Outcomes

The Graduate Program in Rehabilitation Counseling program at Western Washington University is fully accredited by the Council on Rehabilitation Education (CORE) through 2020 (www.core-rehab.org). The master's degree program has a goal of admitting 15-18 students each fall. Student outcomes are evaluated each year on a variety of different metrics that are part of the overall written program evaluation.

As of Winter 2017, the graduate program has a total of 39 students (27 full-time and 13 part-time). The program has two full-time tenured and tenure-track faculty members and five part-time non-tenure-track instructors who teach the CORE-accredited curriculum. The FTE instructor to FTE student ratio is 1:9. Of the 39 students, 46% are individuals with disabilities and 18% are ethnically diverse. Over the last three years, students graduate in 8.41 quarters on average, which means that most students graduate from the program in 8 quarters.

Twenty-one students began the program in 2012-2013 with 19 graduating and one student continuing on a part-time basis. Nineteen students began the program in Fall 2013 with 10 graduating in August 2015, 2 graduating in December 2015, 1 graduating in March 2016, and 3 graduating in August 2016. Sixteen students began the program in Fall 2014 with 11 graduating in August 2016, 2 with an anticipated graduation in August 2017, and one with an anticipated graduation in March 2018. Over the past three years, the student retention rate has been 89.3%.

The estimated tuition for an incoming first year student in Fall 2016 is $20,764 in tuition for the 8 quarter program with an estimated textbook cost of $2,000. The program has one RSA long-term training grant focusing on master’s level students for a total of $200,000 per year. At least $167,072 is used each year to support students in the form of tuition and stipends. For more information on the RSA grant, visit https://wce.wwu.edu/rc/tuition-financial-aid. For information regarding scholarships available within Woodring College of Education, visit https://wce.wwu.edu/scholarships/woodring-scholarships. For information regarding scholarships available through Western Washington University, visit http://www.finaid.wwu.edu/scholarships/pages/wwu_scholarships/graduate.php.

During the 2015-2016 academic year, all but one student met at least the minimum standard for the mid-program assessment (conducted with students during the end
of their first year) and all students passed the clinical course (RC 583) with a B or better.

A total of 14 students graduated from the program in August 2016 and December 2016. All of these students passed the comprehensive examination that is given in the last quarter of the program. Twelve (85.7%) of the graduates were employed in the field of rehabilitation counseling within the first 6 months following graduation. Employment settings for these graduates include WA State Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, nonprofit community rehabilitation providers, and private agencies providing workers compensation services.

For the time period beginning October, 2013 through July, 2016, 37 students and graduates of the WWU Rehabilitation Counseling program passed the Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC; www.crccertification.com) exam. For the October 2013-July 2014 exam cycle, WWU students and graduates achieved an 87% pass rate as compared to the national average of 73%. For the October 2014-July 2015 exam cycle, WWU students and graduates achieved a 93% pass rate as compared to the national average of 72%. For the October 2015-July 2016 exam cycle, WWU students and graduates achieved an 83% pass rate as compared to the national average of 69%. During this three year cycle, students and graduates achieved an 88% pass rate as compared to the national average of 71.5%.

Graduates are eligible to apply for a Washington State Mental Health Associate Licensure. For more information, visit http://www.doh.wa.gov/LicensesPermitsandCertificates/ProfessionsNew Renewor Update/MentalHealthCounselor.aspx.