

Doctor of Philosophy in Rehabilitation Counseling Education Program:

Program Outcomes

Accreditation Status of the Program

The Rehabilitation Counseling Education (RCE) Program is fully accredited by the Council on Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) in 2017 as a Counselor education and Supervision program with a current accreditation cycle of 2015-2023.

The Rehabilitation Counseling Education (RCE) program at IIT is one of five programs in the country focusing on rehabilitation counseling education. The purpose of the doctoral program is to prepare leaders in the field of rehabilitation counseling at the highest level of training. Illinois Institute of Technology faculty view rehabilitation counseling as a specialized area of professional counseling practice in which the major goal is to assist a person with a disability or chronic illness move to psychological and economic independence.

Retention Rate

The Rehabilitation Counseling Education Program at IIT currently has 2 students enrolled in courses. The retention rate for the 2017-2018 academic year was 100%.

Time Necessary to Complete the Program

The average time necessary to complete the rehabilitation counseling education program is 3-4 years depending on whether students complete the program as a full time student (15 credits per semester) or as a working professional student (6-9 credits per semester).

Estimated Cost

The tuition cost for graduate students for the 2017-2018 academic year is \$1,530 per credit hour. The total number of credit hours for the PhD degree in Rehabilitation Counseling Education is 96 credit hours. Thus, the total cost of the degree is approximately \$146,880. This figure does not include fees, books, and supplies.

Tuition may increase each year by varying amounts. Whether a student enrolls for courses on a full-time or part-time basis will affect the total cost of the degree, as students who complete coursework over a longer period of time may be subject to a larger number of annual tuition increases. Students should plan for an increase in tuition each year and calculate the total cost based on their anticipated length of stay in the program.

Scholarships

The rehabilitation counseling education program holds a competition each year for scholarships for students interested in multicultural and international

rehabilitation. The application includes a personal statement describing their experiences and interests in international/ multicultural rehabilitation. The amount of the scholarship varies each year, but is typically ranges from \$3,000-\$5,000.

The Program provides graduate assistantship and teaching assistantship each year. Interested students apply for the assistantship in their first semester of the program. If selected for the assistantship, a student's tuition is supported at 30%-50% for each semester of the program depending on the number of credits a student takes. Students also receive a modest stipend to offset the cost of books and supplies.

Employment Rate of Graduates

No student graduated during the 2017-2018 academic year. Typically within 6 months of graduation, 100% of these graduates obtained employment or were accepted as a faculty position into academic programs.

Employment Settings where Graduates Work

Graduates of the RCEP have been positioned to obtain excellent jobs in academia and a variety of professional counseling and human service settings.

Licensure

Students who apply for the RCE program initiate doctoral study upon completion of a master's degree and at least one year professional experience post-master's. The entry-level master's degree must have been obtained from a program accredited by the Council on Counseling and Related Education Program (CACREP) or the student must provide satisfactory evidence of coursework meeting CACREP standards prior to beginning the program. Students must have obtained certification as a rehabilitation counselor through the Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification (CRCC) before entering the program and counseling licensure is also highly encouraged.

Graduates of the M.S. in Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling program at IIT are eligible to take the Certified Rehabilitation Counseling Exam (CRCE) through the CRCC and to become a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC), which is the standard certification for rehabilitation counseling practice in the United States. More information can be obtained from the CRCC website at <https://www.crccertification.com>.

Graduates are also eligible to take the National Counseling Examination (NCE) through the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC) and to become a National Certified Counselor (NCC). NBCC also offers the National Clinical Mental Health Counseling Examination (NCMHCE), which is required in some states for licensure as a professional counselor. Graduates of the program are also eligible to take the NCMHCE and to become a Certified Clinical Mental Health Counselor. More information can be obtained from the NBCC website at <http://www.nbcc.org>.

Graduates from the program are eligible to become licensed as a Professional Counselor in the state of Illinois. After a period of supervised practice, a Licensed Professional Counselor may apply to become a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor (LCPC) in the state of Illinois. An LCPC may practice independently if they wish.

Licensing laws for professional counselors vary from state to state. Therefore, prospective students are encouraged to check the licensing law in the state in which they intend to reside following graduation. In most states, graduation from a CACREP accredited program and possession of the CRC, NCC, or NCMHC designation is sufficient for licensure as a counselor. However, some states may have additional requirements. For example, if a state requires extra coursework, it is important for the student to identify this and discuss the matter with faculty to determine if the needed coursework is offered at IIT. To check on the requirements for a specific state, students can go to the American Counseling Association website, which lists the state counseling board websites by state:

<http://www.counseling.org/knowledge-center/licensure-requirements/state-professional-counselor-licensure-boards>.