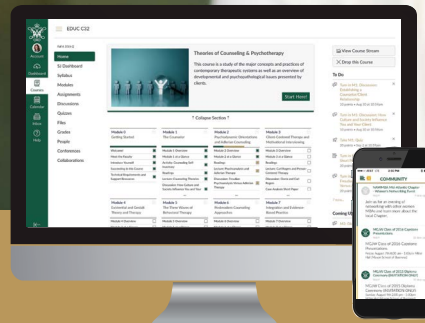




William & Mary
School of Education

Acknowledge. Empower. *Transform.*

William & Mary's Online Master
of Education in Counseling



Keep Your Day Job >>

Focus on Social Justice >>



Are You Called to Counseling?

Maybe you have always been compelled to help others. Maybe counseling has had a positive effect on your life and you want to pay it forward. Or maybe you want to take a step toward professional licensure.

Whatever your motivation, an [Online Master of Education \(M.Ed.\) in Counseling](#) from the William & Mary School of Education can set you up for a rewarding career.

At William & Mary, we are committed to educating ethical, reflective, socially responsible counselors. Our CACREP-accredited online program was designed with the same curriculum as our nationally recognized on-campus program, emphasizing personal and interpersonal growth, cultural responsiveness, and social justice, and we bring these concepts to life in a unique and engaging way with our dynamic online learning management system (LMS).

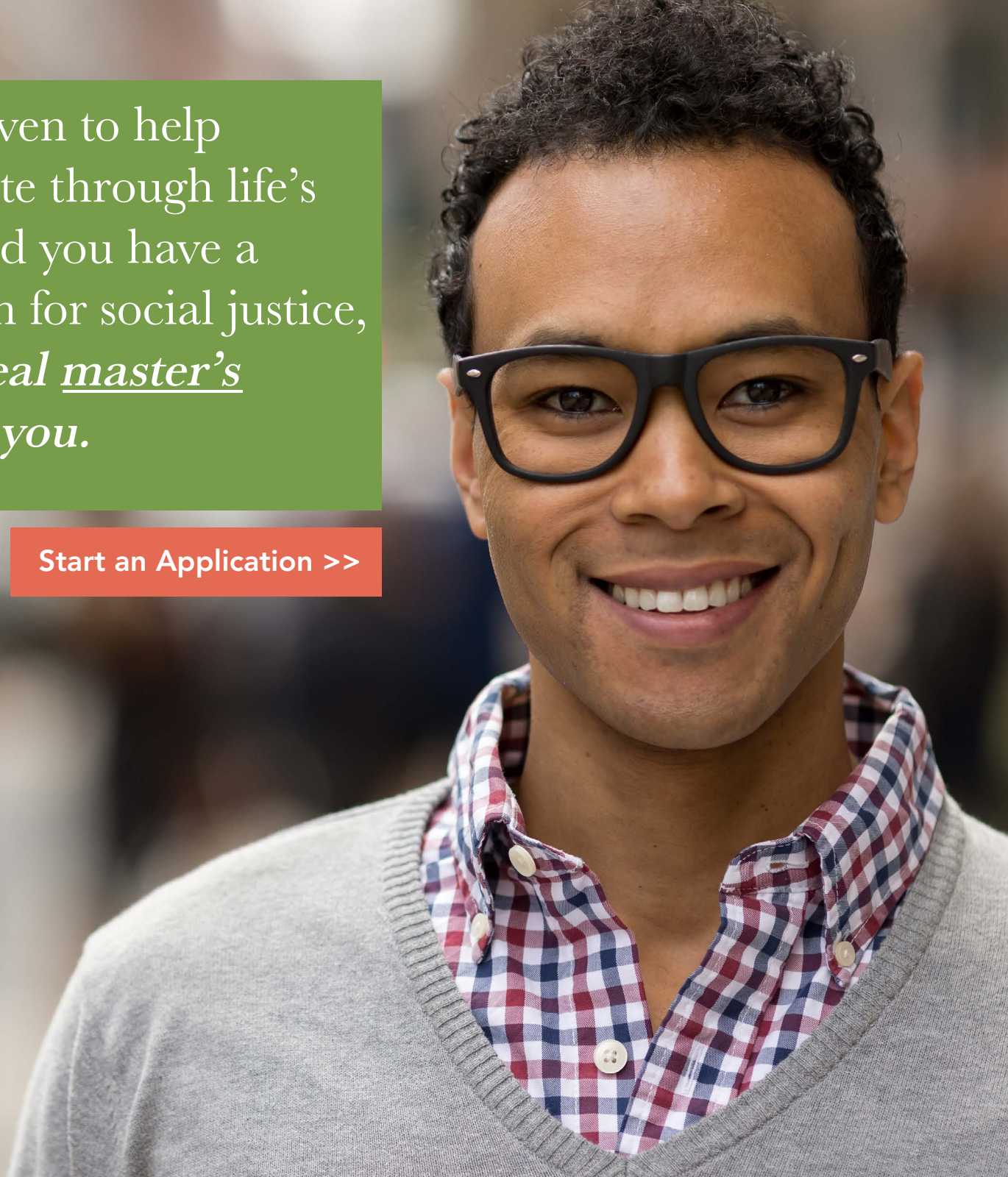
Check out our blog post:

What's the Career Outlook for Counselors? >>



If you are driven to help others navigate through life's challenges and you have a strong passion for social justice, *this is the ideal master's program for you.*

Start an Application >>



“Thanks to the integrated teaching methods and experiential learning opportunities delivered with this program, we now have greater ability to train impactful counselors who can guide others in managing their own well-being and effectively resolving crises.



Dr. Charles "Rip" McAdams,
Professor and Chair, School Psychology
and Counselor Education



The Path to Licensure

The Online Master of Education in Counseling at William & Mary meets the highest standards set forth in the field of counseling. It is designed to prepare you to pursue [counseling licensure](#) in the specialization of your choice after graduation.

Our Credentials

- The Online M.Ed. in Counseling program is accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP)
- The [Clinical Mental Health Counseling concentration](#) prepares you for licensure and work as a Licensed Substance Abuse Treatment Practitioner (LSATP)
- The [School Counseling concentration](#) is accredited by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) and its curriculum adheres to the rigorous National Standards for School Counselors established by the American School Counselors Association (ASCA)

[Learn More About Licensure >>](#)

Graduates of CACREP-
accredited programs typically
perform better on the National
Counselor Examination for
Licensure and Certification
(NCE) than graduates
from programs without
CACREP accreditation.¹



¹ Retrieved on December 4, 2018, from
[cacrep.org/about-cacrep/research-corner/
professional-literature/](http://cacrep.org/about-cacrep/research-corner/professional-literature/)



Online M.Ed. in Counseling With a Concentration in Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Take your first steps toward becoming a licensed professional counselor, and build a career helping those in need. Let William & Mary guide you toward a new role in client intervention and help you master the methods of advocacy so you can serve as a first and critical point of contact.

Our [Online M.Ed. in Counseling with a concentration in Clinical Mental Health Counseling](#) is rooted in psychopathology, ethics, wellness and multicultural counseling, and it prepares you to serve the needs of individuals, families and communities. It provides grounding in best practices for diagnosis, treatment, referral and prevention, ensuring that you are prepared to work with those from other disciplines who may also serve your clients.

Read our blog post:

Counseling Skills in a Therapeutic Relationship >>

A woman with dark, wavy hair and a brown blazer is shown in a close-up shot. She is looking off-camera with a thoughtful expression. In the background, a blurred figure of another person is visible, and a bookshelf filled with books is partially seen. The lighting is soft and focused on the woman's face.

Help others find their strength to achieve.

As a licensed professional counselor, you might work with individuals, families and/or communities in mental health centers, hospitals, private practices and beyond.



Serve Those Who Have Served

William & Mary also offers a Military and Veterans Counseling specialization within our Clinical Mental Health Counseling concentration. This program prepares you to address the unique behavioral health needs of active duty military personnel and veterans.

Specialized courses include:

- Military Life, Culture and Challenges
- Assessment and Treatment of Trauma-Related Disorders
- Military-to-Veteran Transition

Help individuals and families who have sacrificed so much cope with life during duty and acclimate to life after duty. Read more about the [Military and Veterans Counseling specialization](#).

Discover the Program >>



Support an underserved population.

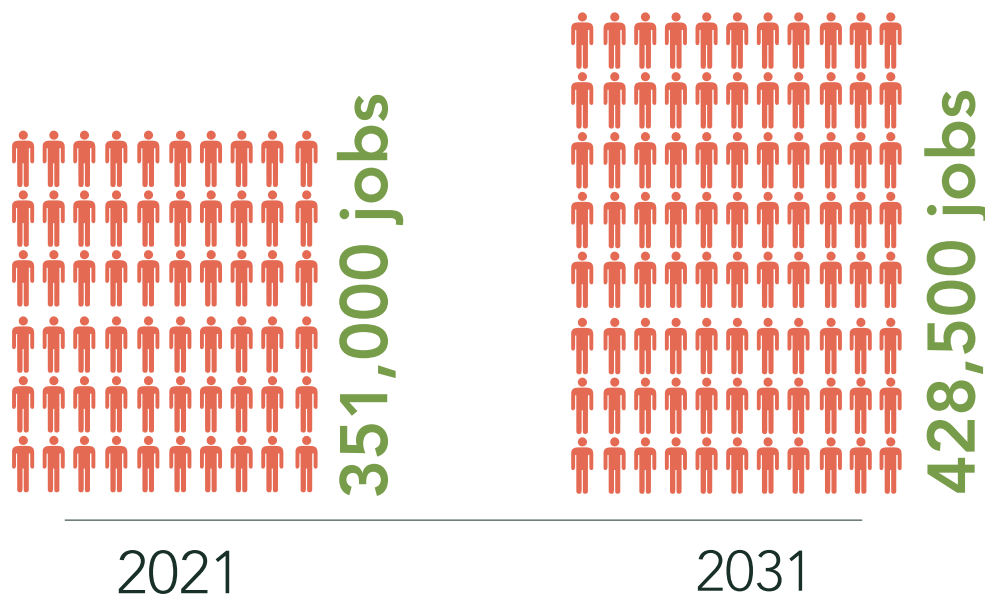
As a military and veterans counselor, you might work with veterans, active duty service members and military families in Veterans Affairs clinics, hospitals, private practices and beyond.



Career Outlook for Clinical Mental Health Counselors

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), this field is growing faster than most.

In 2021, there were more than 351,000 jobs associated with this counseling specialty, and the number of opportunities is expected to grow by an additional 77,500 positions (a projected growth rate of 22%) by 2031. Actual 2031 projection is 428,500.¹



Check out our infographic:

How Clinical Mental Health Counselors Save Lives >>

¹ Retrieved on January 4, 2022, from www.bls.gov/ooh/community-and-social-service/substance-abuse-behavioral-disorder-and-mental-health-counselors.htm



Online M.Ed. in Counseling With a Concentration in School Counseling

As a school counselor, you have the opportunity to reveal every student's potential and help them thrive in and beyond their academic setting. And William & Mary can help you rise to meet this challenge.

Our [Online M.Ed. in Counseling with a concentration in School Counseling](#) is designed to test and develop your ability to guide the mental, emotional and physical development of students of all ages. With emphasis on program planning and evaluation practices, our curriculum provides the knowledge you need to help students maximize their ability to learn, engage with peers, navigate early-life decisions and become more resilient.

Read our blog post:

What It Takes to Be a School Counselor >>



Teach students how to change their world.

As a school counselor, you will work with children and/or young adults, typically in elementary, middle and/or high schools.

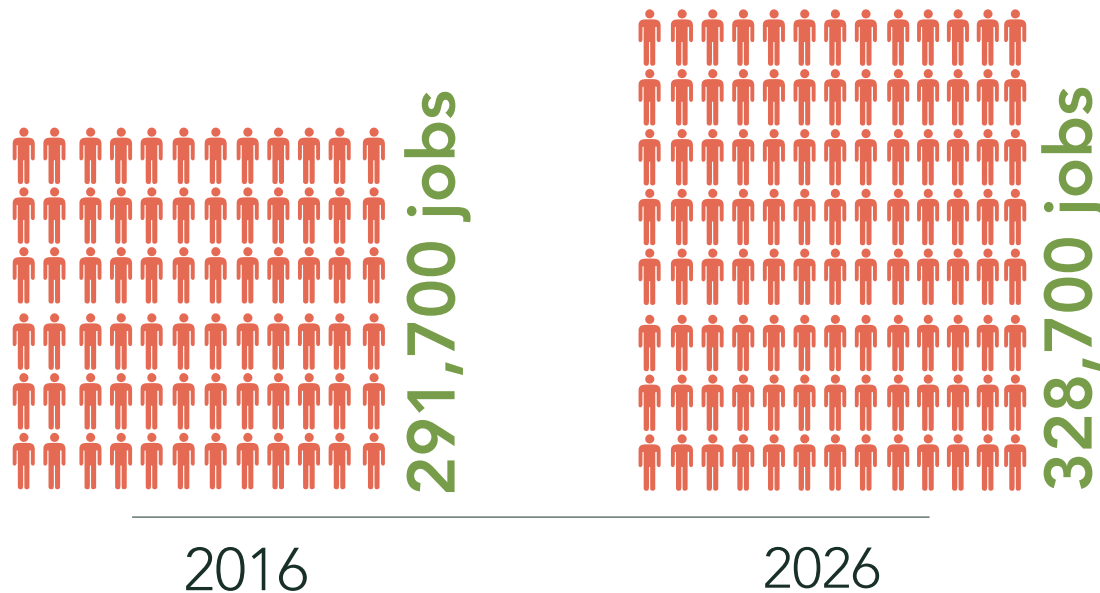


Career Outlook for School Counselors

The BLS reports that the job rate in this field is expected to increase by at least 13% over a 10-year period, which is faster than average.

In 2016, there were 291,700 professional job opportunities, with an additional 37,000 expected by the year 2026.¹

And with school enrollments expected to rise by as much as 3% from now until 2027 (an increase of almost 2 million students), job opportunities for school counselors can be expected to rise, too.²



¹ Retrieved on December 4, 2018, from www.bls.gov/ooh/community-and-social-service/school-and-career-counselors.htm
² Retrieved on December 4, 2018, from nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/indicator_cga.asp

A photograph of a man and a woman sitting together, smiling. The woman is on the left, wearing glasses and a pink shirt. The man is on the right, with a beard and a grey t-shirt. They are in a room with bookshelves in the background.

Q: Can I pursue Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) licensure if I enroll in the [School Counseling concentration](#)?

A: Yes. The [Online M.Ed. in Counseling](#) program aligns with LPC [licensure standards](#), regardless of which concentration you choose.




Get to Know Our Faculty

A master's program is only as strong as its teachers, especially when it comes to intensive counseling education.

As an online student at William & Mary, you will receive attentive teaching and mentoring from our [esteemed faculty](#), who will guide you through the innovative curriculum emphasizing your personal and professional growth.

These counseling professionals, many of whom are best-selling education authors, have demonstrated unfailing excellence in their fields, which include marriage and family counseling, spirituality and meditation, violence prevention and intervention, and legal issues in counseling. They engage in ongoing research and professional writing to broaden their knowledge in their specialty areas and provide you with the most relevant educational experience.

And thanks to our program's small size, you will benefit from extensive opportunities for interaction and collaboration with faculty through your coursework and clinical experiences.

A group of five people, three men and two women, are standing in a brightly lit hallway. From left to right: a man with a beard and glasses wearing a blue and white plaid shirt; a man in a light blue button-down shirt; a woman with short blonde hair wearing a black turtleneck; a man with glasses wearing a grey polo shirt; and a woman with dark curly hair wearing a pink top and a blue denim jacket over a long grey skirt. They are all smiling at the camera. The hallway has a polished floor, recessed ceiling lights, and a fire alarm pull station on the right wall.

In the last decade, W&M
counseling faculty have
collectively garnered more than
\$44 million in grants and private
funding for professional research.

[Read Faculty Bios >>](#)

“Our faculty are truly committed to understanding each student’s strengths and professional goals and interests. It is my hope that our online students feel just as encouraged as our on-ground students to seek advice and mentorship.



Spencer Niles,
Professor, William & Mary School of Education



Experience Seamless Online Learning

Our Online M.Ed. in Counseling program invites students from across the nation to collaborate with their instructors—and each other—and engage in an [immersive learning experience](#) that personally aligns coursework with individual professional objectives.



Our intuitive online LMS is your launching point for our innovative Social Justice Dashboard, which helps you track your development of key social justice competencies and domains. Throughout your time in the program, you will visit the dashboard to:

- Submit personal reflections about transformative experiences
- Self-evaluate your out-of-class activities and experiences
- Request feedback from mentors within or outside the program
- View your program roadmap

By providing a clear visualization of your professional strengths and areas for improvement, the dashboard helps you shape your education to fit your career goals.

Small. Historic. Influential.





The [William & Mary School of Education](#) comprises a small but influential community of educators with a passion for transforming students, schools and communities.

Our students receive not only the unrivaled education you would expect from a “Public Ivy” ranked among the top 10 public schools in the country,¹ but attentive mentorship from dedicated faculty who want nothing more than to see them succeed as well. Join our community and see what has set us apart since 1693.

School of Education Values:



Innovative teaching
and learning



Influential research



Community
engagement



Cultural competence
and diversity



Positive climate



Clear and supportive
organizational structure

[Get to Know the School of Education >>](#)



Our students come from a wide variety of backgrounds, including nonprofits, educational services, real estate, technology, government, healthcare, media, consulting and the military.



Meet Our Students*



24 undergraduate
institutions represented



6 years work
experience (median)



4% William & Mary
alumni



68% female



32% male



40% Virginia residents

Program at a Glance

- Participate in two on-campus residencies
- Complete a 100-hour practicum* and a 600-hour internship
 - Practicum will require 100 clock hours at a school or CMHC site placement over two minimesters (an average of 8 hours per week on-site for each 7.5-week minimester), plus 1-2 hours per week synchronous class/supervision time with faculty
 - Internship requires a total of 600 hours over four minimesters (an average of 18 hours per week on-site for each 7.5-week minimester), plus 1-2 hours per week of synchronous class/supervision time with faculty
 - As a general rule, students are not allowed to complete their practicum and internship placements at their current place of employment (for both school counseling and clinical mental health), to avoid any conflicts of interest
- Graduate in as few as three years
- Start classes in August, January or May
- Satisfy classroom requirements for most licensure exams
- Engage directly with faculty and peers through the online LMS
- Take advantage of our flexible program structure and scheduling to continue to work full time throughout the program
- Enjoy 24/7 IT support

**In addition to the hours conducted in the field site placement, students will have additional synchronous supervision and course requirements.*





Admissions Requirements

When you're ready to apply to the Online M.Ed. in Counseling, you will need to [submit the following](#):

- ☐ Completed [online application form](#)
- ☐ **Application fee** of \$50*
- ☐ **Completed bachelor's degree** with a GPA of 3.0 or higher (on a 4.0 scale) preferred
- ☐ **Official transcripts** from all prior institutions attended

Please submit sealed copies of official transcript(s) by mail to:

The College of William & Mary,
School of Education
Office of Academic Programs
PO Box 8795

Williamsburg, VA 23187

Official transcripts may also be emailed to graded@wm.edu

- ☐ [Resume](#) detailing full employment history
- ☐ **3 letters of recommendation** from professional and/or academic references

- ☐ **For international applicants:** proof of having successfully passed one of the following:
 - Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), with a minimum score of 100 on the internet version (or comparable, if test is not taken online)
 - International English Language Testing System (IELTS) exam, with a minimum score of 7.0

- ☐ [Personal essay](#) addressing the following:
 - As you begin to outline and compose your essay using the following guiding questions, please think about your career aspirations, past academic, professional and volunteer experience, leadership potential, collaborative skills and propensity to engage in reflective practice:
 - What has led you to become interested in becoming a ____ (Clinical Mental Health, School, Clinical Mental Health – Military & Veterans) counselor?

- Why are you interested in pursuing your counselor education at William & Mary?
- How will your graduate degree in Counseling at William & Mary help you achieve your career goals?
- What strengths would you bring to your graduate studies at William & Mary?
- What do you think would be the greatest challenge(s) for you in your graduate studies at William & Mary? How would you address the challenge(s)?

* If you are a military or veterans service member, speak with an advisor about determining your eligibility for an app fee waiver.



Q: When will I know my admissions decision?

A: Most decisions are posted within two weeks of receiving a completed application. If accepted, you will gain access to a dedicated Student Success Coordinator—your point person for all concerns, questions and guidance throughout the program—as well as a full complement of program resources, both on campus and online.



Start Your Application

WE ARE NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS!

We offer three start dates (January, May or August), so you can begin classes when it is most convenient for you.



[Schedule a call](#) with an
Admissions Advisor



Or email
counselingonline@wm.edu

Create lasting change
in the lives of others.

Start with the Online Master
of Education in Counseling
From William & Mary.

[Start Your Application >>](#)

