



GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

All applicants to a CPSA doctoral program must satisfy the following:

Complete application, available at www.nl.edu/applyonline

Official transcripts from all institutions where a degree was earned. Official E-transcripts are acceptable and must be sent directly from the issuing institution to admissions@nl.edu

o Completion of a master's degree in psychology or related field and a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution must be verified for Community Psychology applicants

o Completion of a master's degree and a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution must be verified for Higher Education Leadership applicants

Recommendation Letters

o Community Psychology applicants must submit three professional letters of recommendation

– Letters of recommendation must be written by individuals who know the candidate from an academic or professional perspective and are able to comment on the candidate's capacity for undertaking graduate studies.

– If the applicant has graduated recently, or is currently enrolled in school, a [t least one] letter from a professor is encouraged.

– Strong letters of recommendation typically include:

- Length of time and capacity the reviewer has known the applicant.
- Assessment of the applicant's academic background and their likelihood of success in a graduate program.
- Assessment of the applicant's interpersonal skills, maturity, work ethic, and openness to feedback.

o Higher Education Leadership applicants must submit a minimum of two academic or professional letters of recommendation

– Letters of recommendation must be written by individuals who know the candidate from an academic or professional perspective and are able to comment on the candidate's capacity for undertaking graduate studies. Recommenders should include the following information in their letters:

- How long the recommender has known the applicant and in what capacity
- An assessment of the applicant's academic background and their likelihood of success in a graduate program
- An assessment of the applicant's maturity, work ethic, and openness to feedback
- An assessment of the applicant's experience with and/or specialized skills related to the field of Higher Education Leadership

Professional Resume

o Higher Education Leadership applicants must submit a professional resume or curriculum vitae

Written Statements:

o Community Psychology:

I. The personal statement should demonstrate that the applicant has a firm grasp of the field of community psychology. We understand that candidates for the program are interested in expanding upon their knowledge of the discipline; thus, we do not expect the statement to be exhaustive. However, it is important for applicants to have an understanding of community psychology on which to build upon. This essay is the applicant's opportunity to share the knowledge that they do have, express the knowledge they hope to gain, and give us an insight into what positive things they hope to accomplish upon completion of the program.

Please write a personal statement that discusses your core beliefs about community psychology and the role of community psychologists in addressing social problems (800-1000 words).

II. The statement on interest in the field is an opportunity for the applicant to share his or her personal interest in the field of community psychology.

Please write a brief statement (800-1000 words) that explains why you want to earn a Ph.D. in Community Psychology — what is it about your personal background, experience and/or career level that make this a good choice for you at this time?

III. The written statement reflecting the applicant's research interest is an opportunity for the applicant to give us insight into the research topic that they will most likely be exploring in their dissertation and said research's anticipated contribution to the field of community psychology. Interests can, and often do, change, so applicants need not worry that they will be locked into the area of research listed in the essay if they are formerly accepted into the program.

Please write a brief (800-1000 words) statement that describes your area of research interest. Include discussion of at least one specific academic journal article or book chapter related to your area of interest that reflects your views on, or approach to studying, the research topic in which you are interested.

o Higher Education Leadership:

- I. Writing Assessment: Please limit your responses to 500 words per question and cite references, where applicable:
 1. What are your professional goals? How do you envision this doctoral program supporting the achievement of those goals? How did your previous professional and personal experiences prepare you for success in this doctoral program?
 2. Identify a current challenge in higher education and explain its impact on students, institutions, and other stakeholders, if applicable. How would you address this challenge as a higher education professional?
- II. Professional Writing Sample: Submit a professional writing sample, such as a master's degree thesis or final paper for a graduate course, inclusive of cover page, references and appendices. If unavailable, an alternative written artifact may be approved at the discretion of the Program Chair.

Faculty review and interview.

- o Community Psychology applicants should bring their Master's Thesis if invited to interview (applicants without a master's thesis will be considered for admission but are required to complete a thesis or thesis equivalent)

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

- Proof of English language proficiency is required if English is not the applicant's native language and/or high school degree was earned outside of the United States. Please submit official scores from one of the University-approved examinations listed at www.nl.edu/elp
- Foreign transcripts must be translated and evaluated by one of the approved agencies listed at www.nl.edu/foreigncredential

DOCUMENT SUBMISSION

Requests to your recommenders may be submitted at www.nl.edu/adm/recommendationrequest or recommendation letters may be submitted via email directly from the recommender's professional or academic email account to admissions@nl.edu

Community Psychology Written Statements may be submitted at www.nl.edu/adm/phdwrittenstatement

Resumes and Higher Education Leadership Written Statements may be submitted as word, pages or real text email attachments to admissions@nl.edu

FINANCIAL AID (OPTIONAL)

- Fill out FAFSA form (school code 001733)
- Paper application takes 4–6 weeks to process
- Online (fafsa.ed.gov) application takes 2–3 weeks to process
- The financial aid year is July 1–June 30. You MUST complete a new application for each year you wish to be eligible for aid
- Students must be fully admitted to be eligible for financial aid