

Lakehead University Clinical Psychology Program

Information for Clinical Psychology Applicants

Check out our Clinical Psychology FAQ section below for answers to common questions we receive about how to apply, who to ask for a letter of reference, how to approach potential faculty supervisors, and more.

You will find specific information about admissions requirements at this link: [Graduate Studies - admission requirements, application and general information](#)

Not sure what a word/term means (e.g., a CV, versus a resume)? It may be explained in the [Faculty of Graduate Studies Terminology](#)

Information about Lakehead University's Clinical Psychology Programs

You can review our program descriptions and list of degree requirements here: [Psychology graduate programs](#)

The amazing courses you can take are described in the [Psychology Graduate Course descriptions](#)

Our program's rules and regulations are outlined in the [Graduate Studies regulations and terminology](#) and [Psychology specific graduate programs regulations and terminology](#)

Writing a Personal Statement of Interest

First time writing a graduate application? Or looking for tips to improve your personal statement of interest? Check out these resources for tips and FAQs:

[Writing a Graduate School Personal Statement guide](#)

[Dos and Don'ts of a personal statement](#)

What is a CV? And Is it Different from a Resume?

[Student Success Centre CV tips](#)

[CV APA formatting](#)

Funding Your Graduate Education

Lakehead University has a number of funding opportunities to help pay for your graduate education. For example, did you know that most domestic graduate students receive a [Graduate Assistantship](#), which can be put towards your tuition? There are also internal bursaries and awards that you can apply for:

[Graduate Studies funding](#)

[Indigenous bursaries & scholarships](#)

[Indigenous post-secondary sponsorship](#)

Tuition Information

[Tuition fees, payment and deadline information](#)

[Calculate your fees here](#)

More Resources for Clinical Psychology Applications

[Applying to graduate school](#) (Canadian Psychological Association student section)

[A student's perspective on applying to graduate school in \(clinical\) psychology: A step-by-step guide](#) (Choukas-Bradley, 2011)

[Mitch's uncensored advice for applying to graduate school in clinical psychology](#) (Prinstein, 2021)

Application FAQ

Q: How do I apply?

Please go to the Faculty of Graduate Studies webpage:

<https://www.lakeheadu.ca/programs/graduate> in the Fall 2022 to start your application to the MA or PhD Clinical Psychology programs for Fall 2023.

Q: What documentation is required?

Application to the MA and PhD Clinical Psychology programs require:

- Application (including top 3 potential supervisors, and research interest)
- ~~GRE General and Subject~~ **** Due to COVID-19 GRE scores will not be required or accepted for Fall 2023 applications.**
- 3 references
- Optional: 1 additional “clinical” reference
- CV
- Statement of interest
- Transcripts from all postsecondary institutions you have attended
- COVID-19 academic impact statement (optional)

Visit the Faculty of Graduate Studies webpage for more information about the above terminology:

<https://www.lakeheadu.ca/programs/graduate/academic-information/terminology#grepsychology>

Visit the Faculty of Graduate Studies webpage for all of our program requirements:

MA: <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/programs/graduate/programs/masters/psychology-clinical/node/7257>

PhD: <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/programs/graduate/programs/doctoral/psychology-clinical/node/7250>

Q: Are GRE scores required?

No. For the Fall 2023 applications, our program has waived the GRE requirement. GRE scores are not required and will not be considered for the current application cycle.

Q: I think that COVID-19 has negatively impacted my application. What should I do?

Applicants can describe if and how COVID-19 impacted their application (for example, final grades, thesis research, conference presentations). Look for the "COVID-19 impact" section in the application steps.

Q: The application deadline is December 15th. Does that mean all documentation must be provided by the 15th?

Yes. In order to be considered for the 1st round of offers, your application and supporting documentation needs to be submitted by the deadline date. The review committee will begin reviewing applications almost immediately following the deadline date, and will not review applications that are missing required documents, including references.

Q: Can I continue to submit documentation to complete my application after December 15th?

No. If applicants submit required documentation after December 15th, we cannot guarantee your application will be considered.

Q: Do I need to secure a Supervisor before I apply?

No. Applicants do not need to secure a supervisor. Applicants are asked to indicate their top 3 potential supervisors on their application. Once an applicant meets the acceptance threshold, as

determined by a review committee, offers will be made based on supervisor fit and availability until the program is full.

It is recommended that applicants review Faculty research areas and interests (available to view on the Psychology department home page: (<https://www.lakeheadu.ca/programs/undergraduate-programs/psychology>)) to determine fit with research interests. Applicants may contact potential supervisor(s) about their research and supervisor availability via email, however, Faculty are unable to confirm supervision prior to application review by the Admissions Review Committee.

Q: What is the minimum average that is required for the MA Clinical program?

Applicants must have a minimum average of 70% in order to apply to the MA Clinical program. Applicants are assessed based on the entirety of their application. However, to help applicants gauge their competitiveness, the following data are provided (based on applicants who received an offer for Fall 2021):

- Admission average: 88.7%; range: 82.4 – 96.5%
- Average Psychology GPA (based on undergraduate psychology courses): 89.1%
- Range: 81.0 – 97.3%

Q: How is the admission average calculated?

The admission average will be calculated using the last 10 undergraduate degree level full course equivalents (not including college transfer credits) completed at the time of application. If credits are in-progress at the time of application, they will not be used to calculate an admission average. Graduate courses, college transfer credits, CEGEP, first year level courses and Secondary School courses are not considered as part of the admission average calculation.

Q: Do you accept any degrees other than an Honours Psychology degree?

- No. The MA Clinical program requires an Honours Bachelor of Arts or Science Degree in Psychology.

Q: I don't have an Undergraduate Thesis, can I still be considered without it?

No. Applicants are required to have completed an undergraduate Thesis (or equivalent).

Q: What do you look for in a successful applicant? How can I be competitive?

Applicants are rated for admissibility by a review committee based on the following:•

- GPA (and particularly the average in all Psychology courses)
- ~~GRE scores~~ ** Due to COVID-19 GRE scores are not required or accepted for fall 2023 applications.

- Research experience and activities (such as volunteer/paid positions, conference presentations, publications, thesis, etc.)
- Reference letters
- Personal statement of interest
- Applicants can describe if/how COVID-19 impacted their application

The clinical programs are competitive, and students should keep in mind that they are competing with the pool of applicants for that year.

Q: Who should my required 3 references be from?

The reference letters (3) should be from faculty or academic/professional supervisors with whom you have a history, such as someone you worked for as a student researcher, or who you have met with several times throughout a semester and therefore is familiar with your work. The goal is to ask someone who knows you well, and someone who can comment on the areas assessed (e.g., academic preparedness, oral and written communication skills, initiative, judgement, research skill, and overall academic ability). The referee will also be asked to comment on your professional suitability for clinical training (e.g., ability to function well under stress, sensitivity to others, awareness of interpersonal impact, receptiveness to constructive feedback, professionalism).

We strongly recommend that one of the references be from your thesis supervisor. References should not be from a family member or friend.

Q: What if a referee cannot comment on my professional suitability for clinical training? What if they only know me in a research/academic capacity?

Many academic/research supervisors will also be able to comment on your suitability for clinical training (e.g., ability to function well under stress, sensitivity to others, awareness of interpersonal impact, receptiveness to constructive feedback, and professionalism). However, referees can also indicate “no basis for judgement” if they do not have enough information to make an informed judgement.

Applicants can choose to provide a fourth reference, focused only on professional suitability for clinical training, should they so desire. Once again, this reference should not be from family members or friends, but rather should be from a person who knows you in an academic or relevant professional context.

**** Note that the three (3) required reference letters also ask referees to comment on these areas; the optional clinical reference is intended for applicants who wish to provide another DIFFERENT referee who can comment specifically on the areas listed above.**

Q: You require a CV, what information should I include?

The CV should focus on relevant postsecondary education and experiences.

You can learn more about a CV here: <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/programs/graduate/academic-information/terminology#cv>

Q: When I enter my reference information this task still shows as incomplete. How do I complete this task?

The reference tasks will automatically be marked as complete once your referee submits the reference for your application. You will receive an email to your Lakehead University email account when your reference accepts the request, and when they complete the reference form. Once all of your references have been received, you are required to log in to your application and submit your application as the final step.

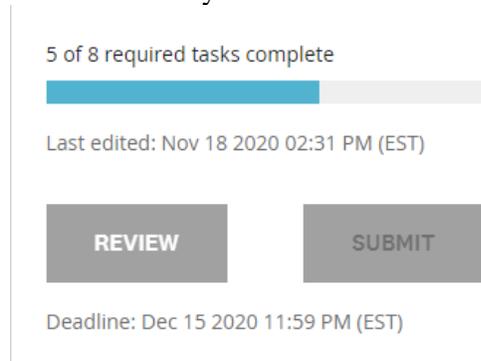
Q: One of my references is not completing the reference request. Can I change who my reference is?

References are sent email reminders to provide the reference for your application. However, you can resend the link or withdraw the reference entirely and enter a different reference in your application. If you are not sure how to do this, please contact us by emailing gstudent@lakeheadu.ca.

Q: All of my tasks are complete, how do I submit my application?

Once all of your tasks are marked as completed, you must click the “submit” button in order to submit your completed application. You cannot submit your application until all tasks have been completed.

You must submit your application as the last step, in order for it to move on to the review stage, and be considered by the admissions committee.



5 of 8 required tasks complete

Last edited: Nov 18 2020 02:31 PM (EST)

REVIEW SUBMIT

Deadline: Dec 15 2020 11:59 PM (EST)

The screenshot shows a progress bar that is approximately 60% full (5 of 8 tasks complete). Below the bar, there are two buttons labeled 'REVIEW' and 'SUBMIT'. At the bottom, a deadline is listed as 'Dec 15 2020 11:59 PM (EST)'. The 'Last edited' timestamp is 'Nov 18 2020 02:31 PM (EST)'.

Q: Do you require an interview?

No. There is no formally scheduled interview required as part of the admission process. However please refer to the question about potential supervisor(s) above.

Q: I have applied, what can I expect now?

Applicants are welcome to check on the status of their application anytime in the Lakehead University online portal (myInfo), follow these steps: Once you have logged into your Lakehead University myInfo account, choose the “For Applicants” tab. The Graduate Studies Online

Application section includes an option, “My Application Status.” You can check that tab for updates on your application status.

Admission decisions begin in January. While we make every effort to notify applicants in a timely manner, we receive many applications and the admissions process is usually ongoing until the end of March.

Successful applicants will first hear directly from their potential supervisor to informally let the applicant know they are being recommended for admission. A formal offer letter is sent to the applicant from the Faculty of Graduate Studies. Students have until April 15th to accept an offer.

Unsuccessful applicants are notified by the Faculty of Graduate Studies after April 15th.

If you have not heard about the status of your application by mid-April, please feel free to be in touch with the Psychology Program Coordinator grad.psych@lakeheadu.ca

Q: I have questions about the application or my application status, who can I contact?

If you have questions or need assistance with the application itself, or questions about general admission requirements, please contact gstudent@lakeheadu.ca for application support.

For eg: need assistance with uploading documents; how to change your referee; how to resend a request to referee, international degree equivalents to 4 year degree, English language requirements

If you have questions about our programs, or program-specific admission requirements, please contact the Psychology Program Coordinator directly grad.psych@lakeheadu.ca

For eg: What courses does the program require, does the program have a practicum component, I haven't had any updates on my application status