

## **MSC Psychological Science Application FAQ**

### **1. How do I apply?**

The application is available on the Faculty of Graduate Studies webpage:

<https://www.lakeheadu.ca/programs/graduate>

### **2. What documentation is required?**

Application to the MSc, Psychological Science program requires:

- Application (including top 3 potential supervisors and research interest)
- GRE General **\*\* Due to COVID-19 GRE scores will not be considered for applications to the 2021-22 academic year\*\***
- 3 references
- CV
- Statement of Interest
- Transcript(s) for all post-secondary institutions attended

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:

<https://www.lakeheadu.ca/programs/graduate/programs/masters/psychology-psychological-science/node/7249>

### **3. The application deadline is February 1st. Does that mean all documentation must be provided by the deadline?**

Yes. In order to be considered for the 1<sup>st</sup> round of offers, your application and supporting documentation needs to be complete 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.

### **4. Can I continue to submit documentation to complete my application after February 1st?**

Yes. You can continue to submit your documentation after the deadline, to complete your application, however, once the program is full, applications will no longer be considered.

### **5. I cannot get my official GRE scores before the deadline. Will I still be considered?**

Yes. You can upload your unofficial GRE scores. If you are offered admission, it will be conditional upon providing the official GRE scores.

**\*\* Due to COVID-19 GRE scores will not be considered for applications to the 2021-22 academic year\*\***

### **6. Do I need to secure a Supervisor before I apply?**

No. Applicants do not need to secure a supervisor.

Students are asked to indicate their top 3 potential supervisors on their application. Once a student meets the acceptance threshold, as determined by a review committee, offers will be made based on fit and supervision availability until the program is full.

It is highly recommended that students review Faculty research areas and interests (available to view on the Psychology department home page: <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/programs/undergraduate-programs/psychology>) and contact potential supervisor(s) about their research and supervisor availability via email before listing potential supervisors on their application.

**7. What are the average GRE scores that are required? \*\* Due to COVID-19 GRE scores will not be considered for applications to the 2021-22 academic year\*\***

Applicants are assessed based on the entirety of their application, and we do not have a minimum GRE score that is required. However, to help applicants gauge their competitiveness, the following data are provided (based on applicants who received an offer for **Fall 2020**):

	General GRE – Verbal	General GRE – Quantitative	General GRE – Analytical Writing
Average	157.2	155	4.7
Range	152-158	150-160	3.5-6

**8. What is the minimum average that is required?**

Applicants must have a minimum average of 70% in order to apply to the MSc, Psychological Science 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 2020**):

- Average Psychology GPA (based on undergraduate psychology courses): 81.9%
- Range: 74.4 – 88.7%

**9. I don't have an Undergraduate Thesis, can I still be considered without it?**

Yes. Although preference in admission will be given to applicants who have completed an undergraduate thesis, applicants with equivalent research experience may be considered.

**10. 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 will not be considered for applications to the 2021-22 academic year\*\***
- research experience and activities (such as volunteer/paid positions, conference presentations, publications, thesis etc)
- reference letters

- personal statement of interest
- one advanced course in statistics and experimental design is required

### **11. Who should my general references be?**

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.

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

### **12. Do you accept any degrees other than a 4 year Psychology degree?**

Yes. MSc applicants may be considered with an Honours Bachelor of Arts or Science degree in a related interdisciplinary program.

### **13. You require a CV for the MSc Psychological Science program, 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>

### **14. Do you require an interview?**

No. There is no formally scheduled interview required as part of the admission process. Refer to Q 6 – contacting potential supervisor(s).

### **15. I have applied, what can I expect now?**

Admissions 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.

1. Successful applicants will first hear directly from their potential supervisor to informally let the applicant know they are being recommended for admission.
2. A formal offer letter is sent to the applicant from the Faculty of Graduate Studies.
3. Students have until April 15<sup>th</sup> to accept an offer.
4. Unsuccessful applicants are notified by the Faculty of Graduate Studies after April 15<sup>th</sup>.

Applicants are welcome to check on the status of their application anytime in the online portal. If you have not heard about the status of your application by mid-March, please feel free to be in touch with the Psychology Program Coordinator.

**16. I have questions about the application or my application status, who can I contact?**

If you are having issues with your application, uploading documents or myInfo; or to check the status of your application contact the Faculty of Graduate Studies directly by calling (807) 343-8785 or emailing [grad.studies@lakeheadu.ca](mailto:grad.studies@lakeheadu.ca)

If you have questions about the application assessment process, please contact the Psychology Program Coordinator by emailing [grad.psych@lakeheadu.ca](mailto:grad.psych@lakeheadu.ca)