

Admission Information

Deadlines for Admission

- New students are admitted twice each year and are eligible to begin fall, spring, or summer semester.
- Fall Semester (or Summer Semester)
 - January 1 - Review of Completed Applications Begins
 - March 1 - Deadline for Completed Applications
- For admission for summer semester (beginning early May) or fall semester (beginning mid-August), review of completed applications will begin January 1 and the final deadline for receipt of applications is March 1. Strong applicants are encouraged to apply as soon after January 1 as possible and will be reviewed and considered for acceptance as soon as their files are completed. Applicants will be notified of admission decisions no later than mid-March.
- Spring Semester
 - September 1 - Review of Completed Applications Begins
 - November 1 - Deadline for Completed Applications
- For admission for spring semester (beginning early January), review of completed applications will begin September 1 and the final deadline for receipt of applications is November 1. Strong applicants are encouraged to apply as soon after September 1 as possible and will be reviewed and considered for acceptance as soon as their files are completed. Applicants will be notified of admission decisions no later than mid-November.

Application Requirements

Online Application- Complete and submit the application for graduate studies available at the Office of Graduate Admissions website which can be found online at <http://admissions.odu.edu/graduate.php>. Click on "I Want to Apply." When you forward your information to the graduate admissions department please be sure to indicate "ODU Counseling Program at New College Institute" on your application materials. Submit the following materials with your online application:

- Current resume.
 - Overview of your educational and work experiences
 - Include your social security number, current address and phone number
- Essay.

Write and submit an original double-spaced 500-word essay that will be reviewed for content and will be used to judge your written communication skills. Your essay should include how your work and life experiences have influenced your academic and professional goals, a self-evaluation regarding the criteria listed below that are used to review applicants, your reasons for wanting to earn a master's degree in counseling, the place of social diversity in your thinking and future work, and the reasons you are interested in this particular master's degree program in counseling at Old Dominion University.

Supplemental Materials- Submit to the Graduate Admissions Office, 220 Alfred B. Rollins Jr. Hall, Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA 23529. Please indicate "ODU Counseling Program at New College Institute" on all application materials. Application materials that must be submitted to Graduate Admissions include the following (see details below):

- Official transcripts
- GRE scores
- Letters of recommendation- 3 Maximum (Optional)

Official transcripts.

- You must submit official transcripts from all universities you have attended (whether or not you earned degrees at those universities).
- There is no minimum GPA required, but applicants with higher GPAs have a better chance of being accepted.

GRE scores.

- Request that your official GRE scores be sent directly from the Educational Testing Service to Old Dominion University.
- Scores must have been earned in the last five years.
- In the event you take the GRE less than 6 weeks prior to the application deadline, submit a letter that lists your unofficial Graduate Record Examination (GRE) verbal and quantitative scores.
- There is no minimum GRE score required, but applicants with higher GRE scores have a better chance of being accepted.

Letters of recommendation. (Optional)

- You have the option to send a maximum of three (3) letters that assess your potential for success in a counseling master's degree program.
- If you choose to send a recommendation letter, if possible, include a letter from a faculty member you have taken courses from and a letter from a supervisor from a field placement experience, job, or volunteer position.
- You may send recommendation requests via the online application on the "supplemental materials" page. Recommenders will receive an email from you asking to complete a recommendation form OR send a letter. Forms can also be found at: http://admissions.odu.edu/forms/ODU_GRAD_APP_recommendation.pdf If a letter is submitted, the recommendation form is not required.

If you have questions regarding your application for graduate studies contact the Office of Graduate Admissions.

- Email: gradadmit@odu.edu.
- Telephone numbers: (757) 683-3685 or toll-free (800) 348-7926. Fax: (757) 683-3255.
- Mailing address: ATTN: Graduate Admissions, 220 Alfred B. Rollins Hall, Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA 23529.

If you have program specific questions about ODU at New College Institute please contact Tamekia Bell or Vivian McCollum, Program Director.

Email: TBell018@odu.edu or vmccollu@odu.edu

Telephone number: (757) 683- 6132

Mailing address: ATTN: Ms. Tamekia Bell, Counseling Graduate Admissions,
110 Education Building, Department of Counseling and Human Services, Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA 23529.

Criteria Used to Review Applicants

- Clear goal of becoming a professional counselor. Indicators include career goals that are clearly within the profession of counseling (as opposed to psychology, social work, or a related field); interest in becoming certified or licensed by a state department of education as a school counselor or becoming licensed by a state as a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC); or self descriptions of future job titles that include professional counselor or counselor (as opposed to psychologist, social worker, or therapist).
- Potential for success in the counseling profession. Indicators include successful experiences as a student, as an employee, or as a member of an organization or community group.
- Successful experience in counseling related activities. Indicators include leadership positions, jobs, or volunteer activities related to counseling.
- Academic aptitude for graduate study. Indicators include a high GRE score; a high grade point average in bachelor's degree program; and a high grade point average in any graduate course work completed.
- Verbal and written communication skills. Indicators include effective written communications in application materials; writing score on the GRE; or proficiency in the English language if an applicant's native language is other than English.
- Evidence of potential for completing a graduate program. Indicators include a strong desire to obtain a master's degree; past history of achieving goals, completing projects, and persisting with difficult tasks; ability to work autonomously with little need for direct supervision; and receptivity to feedback with desire to perform at a high level.
- Interpersonal skills. Indicators include a history of positive relationships with peers, professors, employers, friends, and family; demonstrated ability to interact effectively in an academic environment; ability to handle stressful situations effectively, and no evidence of having acted unethically.
- Interest in a counseling specialty area (college counseling, community counseling, school counseling, or mental health counseling) needed to balance the program. Indicators include indication of interest in a needed specialty area; or experience or background in a needed specialty area.