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r/PsyD • 7 mo. ago
Major-Technology-231



How is the Chicago School of Professional Psychology to earn a PsyD?

I've just been accepted to The Chicago School for the PsyD program. I'm having a harder time getting clear answers on whether or not it's a good program and "worth" all the debt. The stats seem really competitive, the faculty are promising, my interview process made me feel pretty strongly about this university. But a lot of people call the school a "diploma mill" and claim that it's harder to pass the EPPPs and get an internship. And for the amount of loans I'm taking out, I want to ensure I'm investing in my education rather than maybe setting myself up for potential issues down the line. Does anyone have any experience or opinions on the university?



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Coastal_Tide • 7mo ago

I'm a PsyD student and I've heard my professors and supervisors (all from different locations) talk negatively about this school and how it is a degree mill. Usually, reputable schools do not have that many admitted students. I personally would not go if I was in your shoes

9

1 more reply



Off_on_myfoolserands • 7mo ago

Think about the fact that the education you get gives you a 66% chance of licensure, slightly better than flipping a coin.

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Strong-Lair • 7mo ago

I am curious what thoughts people have on the Los Angeles campus specifically. They have a 90% licensure percentage and have a neuropsych concentration (what I am interested in). I know regardless there are better options but just curious!

↑ 7 ↓ ...

⊕ 1 more reply



[deleted] • 7mo ago



MAD_FR0GZ • 7mo ago

Whatever school and degree actually gets you to where you want to be, that's the best one for you. Redditors are excessively snobbish when it comes to schools. That said, I would avoid campuses like Chicago's Anaheim or Alliant's Fresno, as they have terrible internship match rates.

Everything else is just discrimination and elitism, especially against minority applicants and nontraditional students.

America is in a mental health crisis and needs more Psychologists. There will always be work once you are licensed; just make sure whatever program you choose can get you there.

↑ 8 ↓ ...

⊕ 3 more replies



[deleted] • 7mo ago

I planned on applying here too, however, after meeting with various professors/mentors and those providing LORs they all recommend to steer clear from programs like these. I ultimately decided to err on the side of caution and did not include them on my list.

↑ 2 ↓ ...

⊕ 9 more replies



DisastrousDeer643 • 7mo ago

What about National Louis University in Tampa - is it also a diploma mill university?

↑ 2 ↓ ...

⊕ 1 more reply

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is not APA accredited (because the APA doesn't accredit forensic programs period), the Clinical PsyD at the LA campus IS APA accredited. For reference, my cohort is 4 people including myself. My experience has been pretty good - I've had some absolutely amazing professors and some so-so. Nobody outright terrible. Essentially this program is about what you put into it. If you make the effort to do the work, build relationships with profs and develop mentors, and seek out practicum placements that interest you, it is a great experience. But the school does not spoon feed you or hand you things on a platter. The LA clinical program has great relationships with local sites for practicum and internship. The main complaint I have is the cost and lack of grants/funding available, but that is a Psy.D issue, not a school/program specific one. In general, all doctoral programs are brutal. Any time I was feeling like this program had major issues or like there was so much bullshit red tape (with dissertation, practicum applications, etc.), I would talk to friends who had done doctoral programs at places like UCLA, Berkeley, Pepperdine, and they all seemed to have the same complaints. To some degree, getting your doctorate in psych is 20% learning the stuff you need to know and 80% surviving the mental and emotional trauma. Lean on your cohort, put in the work, advocate for yourself, and you'll be fine in most programs. One more caveat about the Chicago School programs - even with the PsyD program you still do a dissertation on top of clinical rotations. I'm not 100% sure if the clinical psyd program is a original study dissertation, but for the clinical forensic psyd we have to do a full original research-based dissertation. Hope that's somewhat helpful - happy to answer any other questions!

+ 2 more replies



Salt-Platform-2711 • 7mo ago

Screw what people say. The program is APA Accredited, meaning they meet the standards of every other school, at least at a minimum. If it is the actual campus in Chicago, that is a good school. Loans are so personal, though; they will change your life and decisions. I am about to head off for a 5th-year internship and thinking a lot about government repayment options or private practice. If you get into a university based program go there, if not go to CSPP.

-



Major-Technology-231 OP • 7mo ago

That's what I've been thinking. It's accredited, many psychologists in the northern Illinois area have graduated from there, and they have ties with top medical institutions. But some stuff I see online really makes me worry. The debt, if put at the right place, is an investment for me in my career and education and something I will have to deal with in life anyway.

+ 4 more replies

+ 2 more replies

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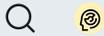
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