Michigan State University currently ranks No. 2 for rehabilitation counseling in the U.S. News & World Report listing of “America’s Best Graduate Schools.”

This recognition is based on a survey of deans, directors and faculty from accredited peer programs (master’s and/or doctoral) across the country.

Learn more

The Ph.D. Program in Rehabilitation Counselor Education application, additional materials, and more information is available at:

education.msu.edu/cepse/rehab

Check us out on Facebook and LinkedIn

“MSU Rehabilitation Counseling Program”
Preparing Stewards of the Profession
The doctoral program in Rehabilitation Counselor Education is designed to prepare individuals for careers as university-level educators, researchers and administrators in the rehabilitation counseling profession. There currently exists a critical shortage of leaders in these roles nationally. This advanced degree program addresses these needs, while building on a long tradition of excellence at MSU. Over the years, graduates from this program have gone on to become recognized leaders in rehabilitation counselor education, research and administration, and have made many substantive contributions to the profession.

The intent of the program is to provide a learning atmosphere for innovative teaching and learning strategies where there is a critical balance between classroom instruction, teaching, clinical supervisory experiences, and research in order to prepare students for successful doctoral-level careers in rehabilitation counseling.

Doctoral study requires the equivalent of approximately two to three years of full-time academic study beyond the master's degree, and typically an additional year to complete the doctoral dissertation. The total number of credits required varies for each candidate based on their educational background, professional work experience and future career goals.

Employment Outlook
The employment outlook for graduates completing the doctoral degree has never been better. Graduates of our doctoral program occupy leadership positions at major universities or in notable administrative positions nationwide.

Program Highlights
- A long tradition of excellence, with more than 175 graduates and the No.2 ranking in the U.S. News and World Report
- Small class sizes with skilled faculty who are leaders in the field
- Opportunities to attend professional rehabilitation conferences and immediately integrate into a broad network of rehabilitation and counseling professionals
- Strong relationships with other programs, departments, associations and service institutions including international groups
- A curriculum that reflects the changing needs of the field and provides a level of confidence to graduates
- Hands on research and teaching opportunities Highly diverse students from all over the world

Faculty
The Office of Rehabilitation and Disability Studies’ distinguished faculty members have diverse professional experiences and interests in rehabilitation. By design, the faculty to student ratio is low. Faculty members are accessible, and there is extensive interaction between individual faculty members and students. For more information, visit:

education.msu.edu/cepse/rehab

Financial Support
The doctoral program receives federal funding from the U.S. Department of Education, Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA), which allows us to provide RSA scholarships to qualified doctoral students. In addition, students have regularly secured challenging teaching and/or research assistantship positions. Students also identify sources of financial assistance via full or part-time employment in rehabilitation agencies and MSU-based scholarships, fellowships and student loans.

Admission
Students are admitted for the Fall Semester of each academic year. Applications are accepted through December 1st of the year in which admission is desired. Applicants are expected to have:

1. Completed a master's degree from a CORE accredited rehabilitation counseling program
2. The equivalent of two years of full-time work experience in the field or in a related human service area

Applicants with related master’s degrees may be considered

Doctoral study requires a minimum of two years of academic studies and a dissertation.

For further program, application procedure, and admissions information see the department’s application page at the following web address:

http://www.educ.msu.edu/cepse/appforms.asp