

FSoS ADMISSION PROCESS SHEET

Inquiries about graduate studies should be made to the **Student Support Services Assistant, Graduate Studies, Department of Family Social Science, 290 McNeal Hall, 1985 Buford Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55108, 612/625-3116**. Information may also be obtained by visiting our departmental website: <http://cehd.umn.edu/fsos/>.

Admission Requirements

The number of graduate applicants admitted into the program varies from year to year, depending on availability of faculty advisers, financial support, and qualifications of applicants. The most competitive applicants will meet the following minimum requirements for entry into the graduate program. A student lacking some of these minimum requirements, but admitted to the program will be advised to take make-up courses in the first year of graduate work.

A strong applicant will have the following:

- Two family courses
- One course in economics, political science, government, or public policy
- One course in sociology or anthropology
- One course in psychology
- One course in statistics or research methods
- Experience in working with families through paid employment or volunteer work
- Interest in developing competence in research

Required for MFT applicants

- Clinical Master's Degree

Required for Ph.D. Applicants

Students may enter the Ph.D. program after receiving a bachelor's or master's degree. Students entering the Ph.D. program with a bachelor's degree will be expected to fulfill the requirements for an M.A. degree in the process of working toward the Ph.D. degree.

Students who apply after completing a master's program are expected to have the above requirements plus three additional courses in social and behavioral sciences and two additional statistics or research methods courses. There should be evidence of interest in research and in the development of research competencies.

Students applying to the Marriage and Family Therapy Program must have a clinical master's degree. ***Clinical training at the master's level is not offered in this department.***

Application Procedures

1. For applicants for the doctoral program and Plan A master's program (with thesis), all materials need to be sent to the Graduate School **and** to the Department of Family Social Science as specified below by **December 15, 2008**, for admission in the fall of 2009. Except under unusual circumstances, applications for the doctoral program and Plan A master's program (with thesis) are reviewed only once each year, a few weeks after our December 15 deadline. Applications for the Plan B master's program (with project, not thesis) are considered during the academic year, and students may begin graduate study the semester after the application is approved. Students completing the Plan A or Plan B master's program ARE NOT eligible for admission to the MFT Ph.D. program.

2. **The Graduate School application for admission must be submitted online and all required supporting materials sent** to the Graduate School Office of Admissions, University of Minnesota, 309 Johnston Hall, 101 Pleasant Street S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55455-0421.

- All transcripts/credentials and fees requested by the Graduate School. You may mail photocopies or fax a legible copy of your transcript/credentials. If you do fax or send a photocopy, do not send official transcripts/credentials; if you are admitted, official or certified transcripts/credentials will be requested.
- The TOEFL, MELAB, or IELTS is required of all international applicants whose native language is not English, except those who will have completed 24 quarter credits/16 semester credits (within the past 24 months) in residence as a full-time student at a recognized institution of higher learning in the United States before entering the University of Minnesota.

3. **Submit the following materials online at ApplyYourself as supplemental materials or send to Family Social Science:** University of Minnesota, 290 McNeal Hall, 1985 Buford Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55108.

- Family Social Science application form
- A statement of at least 500 words regarding your personal and professional goals, research interests, and how graduate work in Family Social Science will help you achieve these goals.
- A sample of your writing, such as a term paper or research paper for publication.
- A description of your activities and experiences related to families, including past and current employment, coursework not appearing on transcripts, volunteer work, organization memberships, and workshops attended.
- Copies of transcripts that indicate your grade point average and grades for all of your undergraduate and graduate work. An undergraduate grade point average of 3.00 is preferred for admission to the graduate program. The most competitive applications will have a much higher GPA.
- Three letters of recommendation by professors, employers, or supervisors. Letters should address your potential for successfully completing this academic research program. Provide writers the letter to Writers of Letters of Recommendation regarding the content for letters of recommendation. Submit letters of recommendation in ApplyYourself by providing contact information on the Graduate School Application for Admission.
- Graduate Record Examination scores (General Test). The institution code for the test is **6874**; department code, **2299**.
- **MFT Applicants Only** – Complete page 2 of the application. Applicants for the accredited MFT Program must include at least two letters of recommendation from therapists familiar with the student's clinical skills.