Career Options
Graduates of the Counseling program are employed in numerous settings, including the following:

• Colleges and Universities
• Department of Human Resources
• Hospice
• Mental Health Centers
• Nursing Homes
• Rehabilitation Services
• Substance Abuse Programs
• Private Practice
• Elementary Schools
• Secondary Schools

Accreditation
at the UNIVERSITY OF NORTH ALABAMA
The Community Counseling (M.A.) and the School Counseling (M.A.Ed.) graduate programs in the Department of Counselor Education are accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) under the 2001 Standards and are listed in the International Registry of Counselor Education Programs (IRCEP). The University of North Alabama is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), and the College of Education and Human Sciences is accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE).

Clinical Mental Health Counseling Master of Arts
The Master of Arts (M.A.) in Clinical Mental Health is a 60 semester hour program of study. Graduates typically are employed in social service, mental health, and private practice settings. Students complete practicum and internship experiences in settings related to their career goals. The coursework content prepares students for National Counselor Certification and State Counselor Licensure.

School Counseling Master of Arts in Education
The Master of Arts in Education (M.A.Ed.) in School Counseling is a CACREP accredited and Alabama State Department of Education approved 48-51 semester hour program that results, upon graduation, in eligibility for certification as a school counselor in Alabama. Graduates typically are employed in public or private elementary, middle/junior high, or high schools as professional school counselors. Students complete a practicum and two internships in school settings. The School Counseling program offers two options: Track 1 and Track 2.

TRACK 1: Admission to this track requires that the applicant have a teaching certificate in a teaching field and two years of professional experience in a school. See listing of general and Track 1 School Counseling admission requirements.

TRACK 2: Individuals who do not meet all of the requirements for admission as a Track 1 School Counseling major may be admitted to the Track 2 School Counseling major. Track 2 requires satisfactory performance in the same courses required of students in Track 1. See general and Track 2 School Counseling admission requirements.
GENERAL ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Preparation Comprehensive Examination

Counseling majors must pass the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Examination and the National Counselor Certification, a passing score on the PRAXIS II Professional School Counselor Certificate.

Clinical Mental Health Counseling majors must pass the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Examination.

For program completion and eligibility for School Counseling certification, a passing score on the PRAXIS II Professional School Counselor Certificate, a passing score on the Students with Disabilities or an equivalent course with a grade of "A" or "B" is required.

Students holding a bachelor's degree, a minimum 2.75 cumulative undergraduate GPA, and successful completion of the ABI/FBI background check required of school personnel in Alabama.

If prior graduate coursework, minimum 3.65 cumulative graduate GPA is required.

Successful completion of the ABI/FBI background check required of school personnel in Alabama.

Additional Requirements for M.A. in Education

• Graduate application form & fee
• Official transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate work**
• Official MAT (minimum of 388) or GRE (146 V & 140 Q preferred) score report*
• Three Recommendation for Admission forms completed by supervisors or instructors.
• A copy of the Class B Professional Teaching Certificate
• A copy of the Admission to Certification Testing Program
• Verification of two years of successful teaching experience
• A copy of the Class B Professional Teaching Certificate

**Students whose credits have been earned entirely at the University of North Alabama need not submit transcripts.

Students with less than a 3.0 GPA or 388 MAT/146 V and 140 Q GRE score may be admitted based on a sliding scale that includes both grades and MAT or GRE scores.

Students with Disabilities or an equivalent course with a grade of "A" or "B"

Separate international candidates must submit approved international credential evaluations. Members of the Counselor Education faculty.

For program completion and eligibility for Clinical Mental Health Counseling, a passing score on the PRAXIS II Professional School Counselor Certificate.

For program completion and eligibility for School Counseling certification, a passing score on the PRAXIS II Professional School Counselor Certificate.

Admission to the Counselor Education program is based on academic foundation and personal criteria. Successful completion of the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Examination is required.

In addition, those wishing to pursue a Master's Degree in School Counseling must submit or complete the following:

• Bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited institution
• Official transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate course work
• Successful completion of the Counselor Education Orientation
• Successful pass on the Work-Key’s Basic Skills Assessment of the Alabama Educator
• Minimum 2.75 cumulative undergraduate GPA
• Verification of two years of successful teaching experience
• A copy of the Class B Professional Teaching Certificate

Additional Requirements for M.S.

• Graduate application form & fee
• Official transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate work**
• Official MAT (minimum of 388) or GRE (146 V & 140 Q preferred) score report*
• Three Recommendation for Admission forms completed by supervisors or instructors.
• A copy of the Class B Professional Teaching Certificate
• A copy of the Admission to Certification Testing Program
• Verification of two years of successful teaching experience
• A copy of the Class B Professional Teaching Certificate

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Students with Disabilities or an equivalent course with a grade of "A" or "B"

Separate international candidates must submit approved international credential evaluations. Members of the Counselor Education faculty.

For program completion and eligibility for Clinical Mental Health Counseling, a passing score on the PRAXIS II Professional School Counselor Certificate.

For program completion and eligibility for School Counseling certification, a passing score on the PRAXIS II Professional School Counselor Certificate.

Admission to the Counselor Education program is based on academic foundation and personal criteria. Successful completion of the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Examination is required.