

## Nebraska Department of Education Rule 24 Report

# SCHOOL COUNSELOR PK-8

(Content Area)

### Educator Preparation Content Program Review

Name of institution	University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Date Submitted	August 9, 2024
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Folio type:  Regular  Mini  Advanced Program

**Program(s) Covered by this Folio**

Endorsement(s)	Type	Grade Level	Program Level
	Subject	PK-12	Baccalaureate
	Field	6-12	Post-Baccalaureate
	Supplemental	7-12	Master's
List Endorsements	Low-Enrollment	Etc.	Etc.
<b>School Counselor</b>	<b>Field</b>	<b>PK-8</b>	<b>Master's</b>

Is the endorsement offered at more than one site?  Yes  No

If yes, list additional sites where endorsement is offered:

Institution Accreditation Status:  National  State

Is this a Nationally Accredited Program?  Yes  No

If Yes, list Accrediting Organization:

Attach National Letter to Cover Sheet

### **1a. Institutional Background**

#### *The University of Nebraska-Lincoln*

The University of Nebraska at Lincoln (UNL) was chartered as a land grant university on February 15, 1869, as part of the Morrill Act, and serves as the comprehensive public university for Nebraska. UNL is part of the University of Nebraska system that includes the University of Nebraska at Omaha, the University of Nebraska at Kearney, and the University of Nebraska Medical Center. The elected state Board of Regents governs the system and has designated UNL the flagship campus.

UNL is a member of the Big 10 Conference, the Big 10 Academic Alliance and the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities (APLU). Nebraska is classified within the Carnegie “R1 Doctoral Universities-Highest Research Activity Category,” accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and consists of eight academic colleges: Arts and Sciences, Business, Education and Human Sciences, Engineering, Fine and Performing Arts, Graduate Studies, Journalism and Mass Communications and Law. The university’s continuous improvement strategic plan, N2025, centers on the premise that every person and every interaction matters.

Enrollment in the Fall of 2023 reflected the national trend of small enrollment declines from UNL’s historical enrollment in 2017. UNL had 18,959 undergraduates and 4,641 graduate/professional students.

#### ***The College of Education and Human Sciences***

The College of Education and Human Sciences (CEHS) was established in 2003 when the College of Human Resources and Family Studies and the Teachers College were combined. It is home to more than 3,100 students, 220 faculty, and 175 staff members, with 25% of students identifying as first-generation college students. CEHS includes seven academic units: Child, Youth and Family Studies (CYAF), Educational Administration (EDAD), Educational Psychology (EDPS), Nutrition and Health Sciences (NHS), Special Education and Communication Disorders (SECD), Teaching, Learning and Teacher Education (TLTE), and Textiles Merchandising and Fashion Design (TMFD). The college offers bachelor, master, specialist, and doctoral degree programs and certificate and endorsement-only programs.

UNL’s programs that are nationally accredited include Speech Language Pathology Audiology (SLPA), accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech Language Pathology of the American Speech Language Hearing Association (ASHA) and School Psychology, accredited by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP). Music education, offered in the College of Fine and Performing Arts, is nationally accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music.

#### ***Department of Educational Psychology***

The department is home to five programs, two of which lead to educational licensure, School Psychologist and School Counselor. This department is one of the founding departments of Teachers College in 1908. The School Psychology program is nationally accredited and the Department Chair, Dr. Susan Swearer, has done extensive work focused on bullying across the

country. The Buros Center, an independent non-profit organization, is housed in the department and is well known for its expertise in assessment-related endeavors by providing appraisals of tests, offering psychometric consultation services and functions as a premiere test review center. Masters and Doctoral degrees are available in a variety of educational psychology specializations.

**1b. Standards for Admission, Retention, Transition, and Completion**

The educator preparation programs at UNL admit new graduate candidates based on the following criteria:

- A minimum undergraduate GPA or 3.0
- A valid teaching certificate or concurrently pursuit of initial certificate
- Applicants are required to have a command of oral and written English. Those who do not hold a baccalaureate or other advanced degree from the United States must meet the minimum language proficiency score requirement to be considered for admission. Some advanced programs allow candidates to concurrently pursue initial licensure.
- Candidates must meet the UNL graduate student admission requirements. Some programs require a secondary application to the specific endorsement program with additional requirements.

Institutional Criteria	Gateway #1	Gateway #2	Gateway #3
	<i>UNL Admission</i>	<i>Program Admission</i>	<i>Completion</i>
GPA 3.0	X		
Teaching Certificate and completion of 2 years of teaching	X		
Baccalaureate, minimum language proficiency score	x		
Plan of Study		X	
Successful completion of Internship and assessments			x

**1c. Field Experiences**

Describe all field experiences required for the endorsement, including the number of hours for practicum experiences and the number of hours/weeks of clinical experience or internships.

The School Counseling program has no current students due to faculty retirement. The program has not accepted new students since 2022-2023 and currently has no students enrolled in the program. The department is continuing to search for qualified faculty to reactivate the program. Program revisions are being discussed and modified in preparation of when applications re-open and to meet current Rule 20 and Rule 24 compliance.

School Counselor candidates complete a pre-practicum course during which they can practice scenarios and role play to prepare for the clinical experience. A semester-long field placement is required for completion.

**Table 006.02-1 Field Experience for Advanced Program**

**1d. Program Completers**

Program Completers and Level – Content Area:					School Counselor PK-8					
Academic Year					Number of Endorsement Program Completers					
					Bac	Post Bac	Alternate Route	Masters	Ed. Specialist	PhD
20	22	to	20	23	NA	NA	NA	0	NA	NA
20	23	to	20	24	NA	NA	NA	0	NA	NA

[Link to Rule 20 Folio Website](#)

1e .See Appendix A for Advising Worksheet

**Section 2: Endorsement Program Key Assessments and Related Data**

**Artifact 1- Summary Table of Endorsement Program Key Assessments- Advanced Programs**

Due to no enrollment or completers in the two-year data cycle, there are no current key assessments. Program revisions are being discussed and modified in preparation of when applications re-open and to meet current Rule 20 and Rule 24 compliance and will result in an updated assessment and course sequence.

Name of Assessment used for the following areas:		Type or Form of Assessment	Brief Description of Assessment	When Assessment is Administered
1	Content – Knowledge			
2	Knowledge of Learner/Learning Environments			
3	Knowledge of Effective Use of Instructional Practices			
4	Professional Responsibility & Overall Proficiency			

### **Key Assessments – Descriptions and Information**

Due to no enrollment or completers in the two-year data cycle in the School Counseling PK-8 program, there are no current key assessments. Program revisions are being discussed and modified in preparation of when applications re-open and to meet current Rule 20 and Rule 24 compliance. New, modified and re-ordered key assessment will be utilized within the course sequence. At this time there are no key assessments identified as the program is on pause.

#### **Artifact 2: Key Assessment Data by Endorsement**

School Counseling PK-8 is a mini folio with 0 completers and no enrollment over the data cycle.

#### **Section 3: Use of Related Data and Information for Continuous Program Improvement of Endorsement Program**

Continuous program improvement is essential to all educator preparation programs (EPP). The UNL EPP has involved stakeholders in annual reviews of key assessment data since 2019 with PK-12 educators, faculty and other educational stakeholders involved in the discussions. These discussions in combination with program faculty meetings, have resulted in a well-defined program improvement process. The Rule 24 folios include 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 data, which was the key assessment data available at the time of the last Professional Education Committee meeting held in April. Assessment reviews and analysis led to the following changes since the 2017 visit.

Recruitment of qualified faculty to re-activate the program is the programs biggest challenge. Due to retirement, current faculty do not possess the school counseling-specific expertise and budget restrictions have impeded efforts to re-hire the position. The intent is to activate the program as soon as qualified faculty can be hired. Program adjustments, modifications and other changes must be made once fully staffed to identify appropriate key assessments.

Department and PEC stakeholders continue to review data on an annual basis to determine modifications and other changes that might be necessary.

**Appendix A  
Advising Worksheet**

<b>School Counseling Masters Program</b>	
<b>Course Number</b>	<b>Course Title</b>
EDPS 800	Foundations of Educational Research
EDPS 850 OR 851	Child Psychology (PK-8) or Psychology of Adolescence (7-12)
EDPS 853	Psychological Assessment I
EDPS 866	Counseling Pre-Practicum
EDPS 868	Multicultural Counseling
EDPS 859	Statistical Methods
EDPS 870	Introduction to Educational and Psychological Measurement
EDPS 964	Counseling Theories and Intervention Techniques
EDPS 965A	Group Counseling: Social Psychological Aspects
EDPS 974	Guidance and Counseling in Schools
EDPS 975	Occupations and Vocational Psychology
EDPS 987A	Developmental Perspectives on Gender and Sexuality in Counseling
EDPS 854 OR 855 OR 961	Human Cognition and Instruction OR Teaching Learners to Learn or Cognitive Development