

Graduate Studies Committee Template

Prior to presenting at the Graduate Studies Committee (GSC) for review, please provide answers to the following questions, as relevant. Please contact Matthew Boots (mboots1@iu.edu) with any questions.

Title: Elimination of GRE as required for Counseling Psychology PhD Admission

GSC presenter: Jesse Steinfeldt

This proposal is for a...

- program change new program policy change new policy

Include responses to each question, as relevant:

1. What are you proposing and why? (If proposing a change, then the description and rationale should be relevant to the change(s) only.)

We are proposing to waive the requirement of GRE scores for admission to our Counseling Psychology PhD program for the 2020-21 admissions cycle. Students who have taken the GRE will continue to have the option of submitting scores for the purposes of university wide fellowship opportunities which may require the GRE for eligibility.

2. How will this impact enrollment?

We believe this will reduce barriers to qualified applicants and prevent a decrease in enrollment. Multiple Counseling Psychology programs and over 100 graduate psychology programs across the nation have already adopted this policy, and we are in competition with those programs for the most talented doctoral applicants. We are proposing this change because we believe in the principle of the change and it is also important to note that this change would allow us to remain competitive with other comparable doctoral programs to which many of our applicants are also applying.

3. How will this impact students' time to degree?

This will not impact time to degree.

4. How will this impact specific student populations and/or DEI issues?

Given evidence of potential cultural bias in the GRE, this change is consistent with the DEI values of the Counseling Psychology program and it may increase the potential for admission of a more diverse cohort. Currently, the Counseling Psychology program has an excellent record of recruiting and retaining diverse doctoral students, and this policy change can help support our efforts in this regard.

5. How will this impact School of Education resources, including faculty loads?

This should not impact faculty loads or other resources

6. How will this be effectively sustained over time?

We are proposing a time-limited approach for the upcoming application cycle wherein we waive the GRE requirement for the 2020-21 admissions cycle, and then we evaluate how

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this change has impacted admissions. Based on that analysis we will determine if this is a long term policy change we would like to pursue.

7. What was the departmental vote tally for this proposal? (e.g., “*12 in favor, 2 opposed, 3 abstained*”)

Vote Issued: September 16, 2020

28 total faculty members

0 on Sabbatical

1 serving as SoE EAD

23 voted to accept proposed changes

4 did not vote