

## Graduate Studies Committee Template

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*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](mailto:mboots1@iu.edu)) with any questions.*

**Title:** Elimination of GRE as required for Admission to graduate programs in MEd Mental Health Counseling and Counselor Education (MH and Addictions Track), MEd Counseling and Counselor Education-School Track, MEd Learning and Developmental Sciences: Counseling Psychology Track, and PhD Counseling Psychology

**GSC presenter:** Lynn Gilman

**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 eliminate the requirement of GRE scores for admission to our master's and doctoral programs. The GRE is no longer the primary measure by which we evaluate potential success in our programs. For MH and School Track programs, we require the GRE for students from Non-US institutions and if a GPA is below 3.0 for undergraduate work or 3.3 for graduate work. After a few years of using this requirement, we believe that the GRE remains a barrier and that we can evaluate applications without its use. The Ph.D. Program in Counseling Psychology instituted a GRE change temporarily, and this proposal aims to make that change permanent.

It is important to note that 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. We will indicate this on our website.

2. How will this impact enrollment?

We believe this will reduce barriers to qualified applicants and increase the number of applications to our programs. If there is an impact on enrollment, it will increase enrollment.

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 programs and it may increase the potential for admission of a more diverse cohort.

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?

No action is needed to sustain this over time.

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

Vote Issued: January 24, 2022

26 total faculty members

1 Sabbatical

**17 voted to accept proposed changes**

**1 voted to reject proposed changes**

**1 abstained from voting**

6 did not vote

Notes from voting (taken directly from Qualtrics voting):

- I have concerns about a permanent plan to no longer require the GRE (as part of a holistic review of application materials). This concern is specific to doctoral programs.
- I know this will pass. And I understand that the tide is pushing this decision. But I disagree with doing away with the GRE as *\*one\** source of evidence.