



# The Wellness Graduate School of Psychology

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## Postgraduate Degree Programs

### Frequently Asked Questions

[rev. 10-29-2015]

1. *What postgraduate degrees are offered by The Wellness Institute?*

**Master's Degree (M.A.) in Transpersonal Psychology**  
**Doctor of Psychology Degree (PsyD)**

2. *What are the admission prerequisites?*

**Master's Degree (M.A.)** The threshold admission requirement to the Master's degree program is a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university, and completion of the Institute's Six-Day Hypnotherapy Certification course.

**Doctoral Degree (PsyD)** The threshold admission requirement to the doctoral degree program is a master's degree earned from an accredited institution, and completion of the Institute's Internship and PTI Leadership courses.

3. *What are the requirements to earn a degree?*

**Master's Degree (M.A.)** The Master's degree normally is earned over three years and requires 48 quarter hour credits of course work, which includes a graduate level thesis. About half the credits are earned through attending Wellness Institute certification courses (the Internship and PTI Leadership), and half are taken online.

**Doctoral Degree (PsyD)** The doctoral degree normally is earned over five years and requires 86 quarter hour credits of course work, which includes a doctoral dissertation. About one third of the credits are earned through attending Wellness Institute Mentors courses, and the remainder are taken online.

4. *Can I transfer credits from another college toward this degree program?*

You can request that some credits from your previous graduate work be accepted as transfer credits toward this degree. Those credits from another institution will be evaluated to determine how many will be accepted toward The Wellness Institute's degree.

5. *When did these postgraduate degree programs begin?*

We were authorized by the State of Washington to grant these degrees beginning in 2015. Courses were offered beginning Spring Quarter 2015.



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6. *When can I apply to enter one of the degree programs?*

The Institute is accepting applications now. The deadlines for applying to begin coursework are listed below, by Quarter.

Application Deadline	Winter 2015-16	Spring 2016	Summer 2016	Autumn 2016
Date	Dec 14, 2015	March 7, 2016	May 23, 2016	August 22, 2016
Registration and payment of fees	Dec 28, 2015	March 21, 2016	June 6, 2016	Sept 6, 2016
Quarter begins	January 4, 2016	March 28, 2016	June 13, 2016	Sept 12, 2016
Quarter ends	March 11, 2016	June 3, 2016	August 19, 2016	Nov 18, 2016

7. *What is the application process?*

A complete application requires the following:

- One official transcript forwarded directly to the Graduate Admissions Office from every institution you have attended if you received a degree, or intend to transfer credits earned toward the Wellness Institute degree. Must be received by The Wellness Institute within 60 days from the date of submitting the Application.
- A one page or less personal statement of why you want to be admitted to The Wellness Institute postgraduate degree program.
- Two letters of recommendation written by qualified mental health professionals evaluating personal qualifications and potential for success in doctoral studies must be submitted.
- Application fee (\$25).

8. *Are the courses leading to a degree on-campus, off-campus, or online?*

The Wellness Institute courses are partially online and partially on-campus (experiential), so to participate each applicant must have access that includes e-mail and the internet, and also be capable of attendance at the relevant scheduled on-campus courses.

**Master's Degree (M.A.)** On-campus required courses are:

- Prerequisite: Six-Day Hypnotherapy Certification course
  - The Internship Advanced Training (8 seminars over 2 years)
  - The Personal Transformation Leadership Training (4 seminars over 1 year)
- The remainder of the coursework, including writing a thesis, is online.

**Doctoral Degree (PsyD)** On-campus required courses are:

- Twelve classes of the Mentorship Program (12 seminars over 4 years)
- The remainder of the coursework, including writing a dissertation, is online.

9. *If I have already completed Wellness courses (the Internship, PTI Leadership, or Mentors programs), are they accepted retroactively?*

Having completed any of these courses previous to enrolling in the Graduate Program certainly satisfies the admission requirements. Previous completion of any of these courses can be transferred into the degree program with these provisions:

- a. The student would complete any additional written assignments and any course examinations designed by the faculty member currently teaching the course under degree-granting authority



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- b. The student would meet with the designated faculty to assess how their mastery of the course's subject matter fits into the overarching objectives of the requirements for attaining the degree
- c. The student would pay the per credit tuition for each course (\$200 per credit for courses toward the Master's and \$300 per credit for courses toward the PsyD)
- d. No more than 18 credits in the Master's program or 24 credits in the PsyD program are accumulated from such previously completed courses.

10. *What are the costs of working toward a postgraduate degree?*

Individuals are responsible for the tuition for any of the Wellness Institute certification courses (Six-Day Certification, the Internship, PTI Leadership, and Mentors programs), *plus* an additional tuition per credit for work toward a postgraduate degree. The per credit tuition for each course must be prepaid before the course begins.

**Master's Degree (M.A.)** - \$200 per credit (45 credits @ \$200 = \$9000, plus incidental fees), paid at the beginning of each course. For example, each Internship or PTI Leadership weekend workshop is 1.5 credits toward the degree, so the per-credit tuition of \$300 (1.5 @ \$200) would be paid before each meeting.

**Doctoral Degree (PsyD)** - \$300 per credit (86 credits @ \$300 = \$25,800, plus incidental fees) paid at the beginning of each course. For example, each Mentors weekend workshop is 2 credits toward the degree, so the per-credit tuition of \$600 (2 @ \$300) would be paid before each meeting.

11. *Are there payment plans available for the degree program tuition?*

No, tuition must be paid by the beginning of each course in order for the course to satisfy graduation requirements.

12. *Are student loans or student financial aid available?*

Not at this time. Financial aid may become available following full accreditation and listing by the U.S. Department of Education.

13. *What is the time commitment involved?*

**Master's Degree (M.A.)** – Attendance at the Internship and PTI Leadership weekend workshops (four per year for three years). The additional online coursework and thesis will be done at home on your own time frame during these years.

**Doctoral Degree (PsyD)** - Attendance at the Mentors weekend workshops (three per year for four years). The additional online coursework and dissertation will be done at home on your own time frame during these years.

14. *Are these postgraduate degree programs accredited?*

National accreditation will be sought at the first opportunity, approximately two years from when classes began. The national accrediting bodies require that a school be in operation offering postgraduate degrees for at least two years before that school can apply for national accreditation. Credits and degrees earned by students enrolled in courses during that initial two year period are grandfathered as accredited once the school completes the accreditation process. Of course, there is no guarantee that The Wellness Institute's postgraduate degree programs will ultimately be approved for accreditation. However, we have been very encouraged in our contacts so far with the degree-granting authorities.



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15. *What is the grading system for the courses?*

All coursework in both degree programs is graded in traditional letter grades.

16. *Will the Master's degree meet state requirements for licensing as an LPC?*

The Master's degree in Transpersonal Psychology offers the student an option regarding preparation for licensure as a Mental Health Counselor. The degree meets all academic requirements as preparation for licensure, *provided that the student opts to participate in the optional practicum*; however, licensure in Washington state requires that the school granting the degree be accredited by an accreditation body recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). The Wellness Institute's degree programs are not accredited, and therefore are not approved by Washington state as meeting the education requirement for licensure. While The Wellness Institute fully intends to seek accreditation at the earliest opportunity, which will be two years after beginning operations, there is no guarantee that accreditation will be granted. Additional post-degree requirements, including supervised counseling experiences and an examination, are required for licensure in Washington and most states.

17. *Is the PsyD degree a clinical degree? Does it require a practicum or internship?*

The Doctor of Psychology (PsyD) is an applied, clinically focused degree; an internship or practicum is available as an elective option. The Doctor of Psychology, Transpersonal Specialization is not designed to prepare graduates for licensure; however, many students are already clinicians seeking to expand their clinical skills without the limitations inherent in degree paths designed in an APA model. This Specialization offers a flexible, self-directed option for obtaining a doctoral degree in Psychology. Students are able to work closely with their advisor and mentor to develop a course path designed to meet their particular needs, interests, and vocational aspirations. The Wellness Institute's doctor of psychology program is not accredited by the APA or by the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB).

18. *How can I learn more about this opportunity to earn a postgraduate degree?*

A full Wellness Graduate School Handbook is available online that includes course descriptions, graduation requirements, fees and more. Other details are available as well. <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/nkqnxx5saq7iycc/AACONX3mpeur1GSOMeyzay3La?dl=0>



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