

Note to prospective students:

If you plan to be in a state other than Virginia while completing an online program at VCU, please note that state regulations in every state determine whether VCU may offer you a place in a course or program. VCU participates in the [National Council of State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements](#) (NC-SARA), which allows students from NC-SARA approved states to enroll in VCU's programs. If the state in you will reside while taking online courses through this program is not [approved as a SARA state](#), please contact Dr. Courtney Holmes (cmholmes@vcu.edu) in order to determine whether the regulations of your state permit your enrollment at VCU. Please also note that, as a VCU student enrolled in an online program, the [university-wide policies would apply](#) to you--in addition to policies of the Department of Rehabilitation Counseling and the School of Allied Health Professions.

The Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling Program typically leads to Licensure as a Professional Counselor. Please be aware that requirements for licensure vary from state to state. Faculty and administrators in VCU's academic programs leading to professional licensure help students learn about licensure in a variety of ways. Advisors and clinical coordinators, for example, typically engage students in written and verbal explorations of the professional licensure requirements throughout the program. Some programs include academic units designed to teach students how to comply with professional licensure requirements. In the Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling Program, you will do a review of your state's licensure requirements in one of the introductory courses. Also, you will be working with your advisor throughout your program to make sure that you are up-to-date on your state's requirements and are meeting all educational requirements throughout the program.

The Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling Program has determined that the curriculum includes applicable educational prerequisites for professional licensure or certification for counseling for which the program prepares students, in Virginia and the following states (as of Spring 2018): Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas (with grades of B or above), Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Hawaii, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming.

The Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling Program has reviewed the applicable educational prerequisites of the following states and determined that its curriculum does not immediately satisfy one or more of the requirements (as of Spring 2018): California,

Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nevada, New York, Ohio, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont.

However, just because a state's requirements are not met immediately with the requirements of VCU's Rehabilitation and Mental health Counseling program, this does not mean that they cannot be met with assistance and planning. In some cases, students may need to simply accrue more hours in their internships.

In all cases, students applying from other states should check their state's licensure requirements and be in touch with their faculty advisor throughout the program.

If you have questions about the program's current curriculum or satisfaction of a specific requirement, you may contact Dr. Courtney Holmes (cmholmes@vcu.edu) or your assigned advisor if you are a current student.