

## Clinical Psychology Admissions Selection Process

1. All applicants with Total GRE of 1250 or above and GPA of 3.5 or above are rated by an admissions rating team (usually made up of 3 clinical faculty members).
2. Applicants with lower numbers than noted above are reviewed by the clinical admissions coordinator to see if they have unique skills that would provide a good fit to the program (e.g., slightly lower GRE scores, but an extremely high GPA from a prestigious university and a number of publications and presentations on their CV). If the admissions coordinator deems the applicant to have a promising profile, then the applicant's file is reviewed by an admissions rating team.
3. All racial/ethnic minority applicants are included in the files that are rated by an admissions rating team.

### RATING SCHEME FOR ADMISSIONS RATING TEAMS

Ratings are made on a 1-6 scale, with 1 representing the most positive rating, as follows.

- 1 = Reserve for only the most **outstanding** candidates.
- 2 = Overall, **excellent**, credentials. Definitely should be recruited.
- 3 = Overall, **very good** credentials, and should be given high priority for acceptance.
- 4 = Overall, credentials are **adequate**, or **borderline**. Although these student could probably make it in our program, they are not competitive with the top applicants.
- 5 = Overall, credentials are **below** standards of acceptance. Do not accept.
- 6 = Credentials are **extremely poor**. Do not accept under any circumstances.

Open house invitees are selected from those applicants with mean ratings of 1-3. These selections are made by recruiting faculty, with an eye toward fit with their research program and goals of the clinical scientist model. Thus, the minimum rating of "Very good" is needed before an applicant can be invited to the Open House interview events. Approximately 30-35 applicants are invited to the Open House interview events each year.

After the Open House events are completed, applicants are reviewed in a meeting by all recruiting clinical faculty and any applicant who is found unacceptable will be denied admission. Once the final pool of applicants is approved by the recruiting faculty, then faculty mentors can rank order their preferences for who they will try to recruit. The clinical area usually tries to accept between 8 to 10 students into the program.

Within each lab, faculty members rank their preferences of candidates and any acceptable candidate who does not get an offer initially is put on a waiting list for their lab(s) of interest. Consistent with APA guidelines, applicants have until April 15<sup>th</sup> to decide on an offer. If they decline the offer before April 15<sup>th</sup>, then faculty members usually go to their next choice on the waiting list and give that person an offer (which again can be held until April 15<sup>th</sup>). This process is followed until all slots are filled or until the list of acceptable candidates for each lab is depleted. Also, consistent with APA guidelines, all applicants will be informed of their status in the admissions process by April 1<sup>st</sup> (but usually well before that date).

Please see the Student Statistics/Full Disclosure link for more information on the students who have been recruited over the last few years: <http://psychology.usf.edu/grad/studentstat/>

Good luck!!