Program Overview

Programs in school psychology began at Ball State with a Master of Arts degree (M.A.) program in school psychometry in 1964. This was soon followed by a Specialist in Education (Ed.S.) program in 1969 and a doctoral program in 1976. Currently, the Department of Educational Psychology offers M.A., Ed.S., and Ph.D. degrees in school psychology and a M.A. and Ph.D. in educational psychology. The school psychology programs have earned a reputation for excellence in training and practice. The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) and Specialist in Education (Ed.S.) degrees are fully accredited jointly by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) and the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) now subsumed under the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP; hereafter referred to as NACATE/CAEP in this Handbook version). The Ph.D. program has been granted full accreditation by the American Psychological Association (APA) since 1985.

Program Governance

Policies and procedures for M.A. and Ed.S. levels of the program are determined by the Department of Educational Psychology, the departmental Advanced Graduate Studies Committee, The School Psychology Core Committee, and the Director of the M.A./Ed.S. Program. Two graduate students serve as a full voting member of the Core and a student serves on the Advanced Graduate Studies Committee. The department chairperson confirms the appointment of the program director, who develops and monitors program quality, structure, and content. The director of the program develops course content and sequence for the program that in turn is approved by the department’s Curriculum Planning and Review Committee. Training is conducted in compliance with professional standards of competency and behavior as outlined by NACATE/CAEP and The National Association of School Psychologists (NASP). Moreover, all programmatic changes are made within the standards imposed by the Graduate School. The Teacher Education Committee (TEC) approves changes in licensure requirements for Indiana psychologists. The director also solicits comments and recommendations from students and faculty involved in course work in order to update and improve existing course structure.

Funding and Support

Available funding allows the department to offer assistantships to top incoming students each year. An assistantship includes approximately 95% waivers of tuition and all out-of-state additional charges, and a ten-month stipend. Additional summer support is available (15% of yearly stipend).