

**M.A. IN CLINICAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING PROGRAM OUTCOMES
2023-2024**

The M.A. in Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program at Palo Alto University is proud to offer its CACREP-accredited degree and highlights its relevant emphasis areas and student outcomes.

Graduation and Completion Rates 2023-2024

- 166 students graduated from the Clinical Mental Health Counseling program in the 2023-2024 academic year.
- This number represents an 83% on-time completion rate based on an anticipated enrollment period of 2.5 years.

Licensure Exam Pass Rates

In the state of California, the Board of Behavioral Sciences (BBS) requires two exams for licensure depending upon the type of license sought. Applicants seeking licensure as a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC) are required to take the California Law and Ethics exam and the National Clinical Mental Health Counseling Exam (NCMHCE). The table below identifies the 2023-2024 pass rates for PAU graduates of the CMHC program seeking licensure as a (LPCC) in California.

		All PAU Test Takers			PAU FIRST TIME TEST TAKERS		
	Exam	Taking Exam	Passed	Pass percent	Taking Exam	Passed	Pass percent
2023 January To 2024 June	LPCC Law and Ethics	49	38	77%	42	34	81%
	NCMHCE	15	9	60%	9	7	78%

At the Forefront of Psychology & Counseling

For students seeking licensure as a Licensed Marriage and Family Counselor (LMFT), the BBS requires an emphasis in Marriage, Family, Couples and Child counseling and passing scores on two exams; the California Law and Ethics Exam and the LMFT Clinical Exam. The table below identifies the 2023-2024 pass rates for PAU graduates of the CMHC program seeking licensure as a LMFT in California.

		All PAU Test Takers			PAU FIRST TIME TEST TAKERS		
	Exam	Taking Exam	Passed	Pass percent	Taking Exam	Passed	Pass percent
2023 January to	LMFT Law and Ethics	104	81	78%	86	66	77%
2024 June	LMFT Clinical Exam	73	57	78%	56	48	86%

Starting in the Fall of 2020, Palo Alto University became a partnership school with the National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC) to be able to offer to currently enrolled students the opportunity to take two exams often used for license. One student took the National Counselors Exam (NCE) in Fall 2023 and four students took the exam in Spring 2024, all with a 100% pass rate.

Job Placement Rates

Two sources of data were used to identify job placement rates of CMHC graduates. The "future plans" survey is completed by all students at the time of graduation, and the "Alumni" survey is sent each Spring to all PAU alumni.

Based on the results of the Future Plans survey of all graduating counseling students (not disaggregated by emphasis area, N=131), 81 graduating students, or 62%, had secured employment at the time of graduation.

Based on the results of the 2023 Alumni Survey (n=34), 73% of respondents who graduated with a degree in CMHC reported they were employed either full time or part time. 2.44% were pursuing additional education. The majority of respondents (23%) indicated employment in nonprofit organizations.

When asked about setting for current employment, CMHC alumni identified numerous mental health settings including private practice, community agencies, correctional facilities, hospitals, private agencies, university settings, addiction/recovery settings, behavioral health centers, educational settings, and children services centers.