



M.A. IN COUNSELING PROGRAMS OUTCOMES -2020-2021

Clinical Mental Health Counseling (CMHC) Specialty

The M.A. in Counseling Program at Palo Alto University is proud to offer two CACREP accredited specialties. This statement highlights relevant program and student outcomes for the CMHC specialty.

Graduation and Completion Rates-2020-2021

- 27 students graduated from the Clinical Mental Health Counseling specialty area in the 2020-2021 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. The first is a California Law and Ethics exam and the second is the National Clinical Mental Health Counseling Exam (NCMHCE). The table below identifies the 2021 pass rates for PAU graduates of the CMHC specialty seeking licensure as a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC) in California.

		All PAU Test Takers			PAU First Time Test Takers		
	Exam	Taking Exam	Passed	Pass Percent	Taking Exam	Passed	Pass Percent
2021-Jan to March	LPCC Law and Ethics	6	6	100%	5	5	100%
	NCMHCE	5	5	100%	4	4	100%

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. Below are pass rates reported by NBCC for our CMHC students who took the NCE or NCMHCE in Fall 2020 and Spring 2021:

		PAU CMHC Students			National Pass Rate
	Exam	Taking Exam	Passed	Pass Percent	Pass Percent
Fall 2020	NCE/NCMHCE	1	1	100%	80%
Spring 2021	NCE/NCMHCE	1	1	100%	85%

Job Placement Rates-CMHC

Based on the results of the 2021 Alumni Survey (n=31), 74% of respondents who graduated from the CMHC emphasis area reported they were employed either full time or part time. 3% were pursuing doctoral education in CES. 3% were working in a field unrelated to counseling. 10% indicated “unemployed” as a status.

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