Graduate Certificate in Child/Play Therapy

The counseling program in the department of counseling, educational leadership, educational and school psychology offers a postmaster’s certificate program in child/play therapy. This 15-hour certificate program curriculum is designed to meet training standards for play therapists established by the Association of Play Therapy. This certificate program is not eligible for Title IV (federal financial aid) unless the certificate is awarded as part of a degree program.

The certificate program comprises the following courses:

- CESP 841: Fundamentals of Play Therapy
- CESP 842: Play Therapy with Young Children
- CESP 843: Child Psychopathology in Play Therapy
- CESP 844: Advanced Techniques in Child and Play Therapy
- CESP 865: Practicum in Play Therapy*

*The practicum requires students to conduct 100 hours of play therapy while receiving weekly supervision from an experienced play therapist.

All courses are letter graded. Upon completion of CESP 841, students will be eligible to enroll in the practicum.

Completion process:

1. Students who are already admitted to an appropriate Graduate category and who are interested in pursuing a graduate certificate must declare their intent to do so by filling out the online Declaration of Intent to Pursue a Graduate Certificate form at www.wichita.edu/GrCertIntent
2. Graduate School staff will then verify eligibility for the certificate with that program area, and add the appropriate codes to the student record to indicate their intent to pursue the certificate.
3. In the semester the certificate requirements are met students must:
   - Prepare (with graduate advisor) and submit (to the Graduate School) a Plan of Study (for the certificate).
   - Submit an Application for Graduate Certificate, along with the $15.00 filing fee, online through the Graduation Links channel in the myWSU portal, no later than the 20th day of classes for the fall or spring semester or the 10th day of classes for the summer semester.

Note:

- A cumulative grade point average of 3.000 must be maintained for all courses comprising the certificate program with no grades lower than that which generate 2.0 grade points.
- Substitutions and transfer work are generally not allowed for graduate certificates.
Admission Requirements:

- Evidence of having completed a master's degree in counseling, social work, or a closely related field.
- Cumulative Graduate Grade Point Average: 3.25 in required courses for the prerequisite graduate degree.
- Resume: The resume should include evidence of experience working in a professional counseling role.
- Goal Statement: The goal statement must indicate an intention to work with young children as part of future professional role
- References: Two professional references.

Students seeking this graduate certificate program must be admitted to the Graduate School in at least non-degree Category A status. Students should contact the Graduate School to determine if they need to apply for admission to this status, or need to reactivate their enrollment file. Students who have not completed graduate coursework at Wichita State University will need to apply for admission to Category A status in Counseling, by submitting an application, and application fee to the Graduate School.

Details on how to apply for admission can be found online:

Domestic Applicants: [www.wichita.edu/grdoappinfo](http://www.wichita.edu/grdoappinfo)
International Applicants: [www.wichita.edu/grinappinfo](http://www.wichita.edu/grinappinfo)

**NOTE:** When applying for admission please indicate in the Additional Information field that you are interested in pursuing this specific certificate, so your file can be coded appropriately.

Certificate programs are not eligible for Title IV (federal financial aid) funding unless the certificate is a requirement of a degree program.

The exceptions are approved programs of at least one academic year in duration that leads to a certificate and prepares students for gainful employment in a recognized occupation. Approved programs will be designated with disclosure information on the program web page in the applicable academic college.

**For more information:**

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[Apply On-Line to Graduate School](http://www.wichita.edu/apply)