



# School Psychology

## Eastern Illinois University

Department of Psychology  
Eastern Illinois University  
600 Lincoln Ave.  
Charleston, IL 61920

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## SPECIALIST IN SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY

### What Do School Psychologists Do?

They help children succeed in all aspects of life (academically, socially, emotionally, & behaviorally). They help create supportive learning environments.

Children face everyday problems as well as more serious societal issues. School Psychologists work with students, teachers, parents, and the community to address concerns by providing resources and support to ensure all students thrive.

### Job Responsibilities

#### **Consultation**

Collaborate with teachers, parents, and administrators to find effective solutions to learning and behavior problems

#### **Intervention**

Provide psychological counseling and help manage crises

#### **Research and Planning**

Use evidence-based research to develop effective interventions

Evaluate the effectiveness of academic and behavior management programs

#### **Evaluation**

Evaluate learning environments, academic skills, learning aptitude, and eligibility for special education services

#### **Prevention**

Design programs to promote student success

### *Essential SP Skills*

- Intellectual and scientific curiosity
- Interpersonal and social skills
- Effective communication skills
- Desire to assist and support ALL children
- Leadership skills
- Understanding and respect for diversity
- Adaptability, organization, and responsibility

### *Overall Benefits:*

#### *Job Stability*

There is an immense shortage of school psychologists throughout the country.

#### *Summers*

Many school psychologists enjoy traveling during the summer or spending time with their families.

#### *Salary*

25th Percentile  
**\$60,500**

Average salary of a School Psychologist:  
**\$83,225**

75th Percentile  
**\$100,000**

### *Recent Events in EIU School Psychology!*

#### **Academic Intervention Clinic**

This is our 2<sup>nd</sup> year offering a 10-week Academic Intervention (AI) clinic for reading. The AI clinic is ran by EIU School Psychology students in the fall, their second year of training.



#### **Intern/Intern-Supervisor Conference**

On September 6<sup>th</sup>, current third-year intern students traveled to Illinois State University for the annual Intern/Intern-Supervisor Conference. Keynote speakers were Karen Flint Stipp and Kyle Miller who presented on Trauma-Informed Self-Care.



#### **Upcoming EIU Intern Conference**

*October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019*

Current EIU School Psychology Interns come back to campus to share their intern experiences with first and second-year students!

## How to Prepare for Graduate School at EIU

### Required Undergraduate Prerequisites

- Intro/General Psychology
- Research Methods
- Statistical Methods
- Child Psychology/Human Development
- Abnormal Psychology
- Psychology of Learning/Behavior Management

#### The following courses are highly recommended:

- Adolescent Psychology
- Physiological Psychology
- Cognitive Psychology
- Psychology of Exceptional Children
- Psychological Measurement

## WHY CHOOSE EIU FOR SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY

OUR PROGRAM HOLDS A 100% PLACEMENT RATE  
WITH ALL OF OUR STUDENTS  
FINDING JOBS DIRECTLY AFTER GRADUATION.

### Perks

**Financial Support!** – 80% of students receive graduate assistantships

### Students & Opportunities

#### Conduct research

3 semesters of **practical, real-world training** and experiences in a school setting

Take classes with your cohort (a **close group of peers** that become “like family”)

**Mentorship** (first-year students have a second-year mentor who is there when you need support, advice, or just a friend!)

#### Student Association of School Psychologists

SASPE (our **student association**) assists with making differences in the field and advocating for important topics

### Faculty

**Dr. Gary L Canivez**  
Professor



**Dr. Margaret T Floress**  
Program Coordinator  
Associate Professor



**Dr. Assege HaileMariam**  
Professor



“The School Psychology Program at Eastern

### DON'T TAKE OUR WORD FOR IT

Illinois University is exceptional and unparalleled. This program exceeded my expectations and set a strong foundation for me to become a knowledgeable school psychologist that utilizes best practices and culturally responsive services to effectively serve children, families, and communities. EIU has a community feel and endless support from peers and faculty alike. The professors at Eastern fostered my research interests, exposed me to diverse learning opportunities, and rigorously prepared me to continue my education in a Ph.D. program. The knowledge, practical skills, and mentorship I received at EIU is unmatched. I never thought going on to get my Ph.D. would be a possibility, but my experience at EIU made this dream a reality. I am confident that without the EIU School Psychology program and faculty, I would not be the well-rounded student and professional that I am today.”

- Morgan Eldridge (2017)



“I am so glad that I chose EIU for my graduate training in School Psychology. The program aligns with the standards of practice set by the National Association of School Psychologists, making national certification a streamlined process. The program is rigorous, but the faculty was highly supportive and invested in my development as a professional. The program offered many learning opportunities both in and out of the classroom. In addition to the high quality of the program, it was an excellent value with several graduate assistantships being offered and no trouble finding a position upon completion. After finishing my first year in the field, I know that my time at EIU thoroughly prepared me to be an effective school psychologist.

-Kari Meyer (2017)



## CONTACT INFORMATION

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Program Coordinator

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**CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!**

<https://www.eiu.edu/schoolpsych/>

**LIKE US ON FB!**

<https://www.facebook.com/eiuschoolpsychology/?ref=bookmarks>

**APPLY NOW!**

(apply to the graduate school, then to the school psychology program):

<https://www.eiu.edu/schoolpsych/apply.php>

[Application Deadline:](#)

*January 1st 2020*



## Differences in School Professionals

### School Counselor:

2 years of grad school

Trained in teaching and education

Work in one school (at the HS level)

Teaching degree required sometimes

Academic advising, social-emotional, college/career

### Clinical-Child Psychologists:

Not trained in education, classroom management, or instruction

Work in hospitals, private clinic, mental health centers, or university setting

### School Social Workers:

Bridging the gap between home and school

Address social-emotional concerns

Collaboration is key in educating the child

### School Psychologists:

3 years of grad school

Trained in **education** and **psychology**

Focus on **impact** of social emotional issues, family problems, mental illness and neurological factors **on learning**

**Assessment, prevention, intervention, and consultation**



## Meet our First Year Cohort!



## The "Buzz" Around School Psychology at EIU



### SACIS Take Back the Day 5K

Some of our first and second year students participated in the Sexual Assault Counseling & Information Services (SACIS) Take Back the Day 5K Run/Walk!



### SASPE Book Drive

The Student Association of School Psychologists at Eastern is going to be doing a Book Drive this October for the community! First and second year students will be distributing flyers throughout the community to get the word out to those who wish to donate books to those in need. SASPE also hopes this will serve as a learning experience for the community about the role of a school psychologist and the importance of reading for development and overall academic success!

## PARTICIPANTS NEEDED



Third year student Nikki Davidson is conducting a study in which **teacher participants (K-8<sup>th</sup> grade) are needed.**

The research task includes a brief online survey regarding learning behaviors of 2 randomly selected students. The same survey is completed 2 months later, and the survey takes approximately 5 minutes per child to complete.

Participant data will be anonymous, and participants will be entered to win a **\$50 Amazon gift card!**

The link to participate is below:

[https://eiu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_e55BdJrYN2w75kx?fbclid=IwAR3gW\\_wfSvUjsKXFW\\_zT4WIZhENVAkzCfWur81VjgzRape\\_9\\_9npY-67tE](https://eiu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_e55BdJrYN2w75kx?fbclid=IwAR3gW_wfSvUjsKXFW_zT4WIZhENVAkzCfWur81VjgzRape_9_9npY-67tE)

You can contact Nikki with any questions at [nrdavidson@eiu.edu](mailto:nrdavidson@eiu.edu)

Third year student Zachary Yehling is conducting a study where **all school staff are invited to participate, at any K-12 school setting.** (Teachers, counselors, social workers, school psychologists, etc.)

This research task includes a brief online survey, regarding praise/positive feedback. The survey takes about 10 minutes to complete and will assist learning about school staffs' knowledge of praise.

All participants have the **chance to win one of 18, \$10 Amazon gift cards!**

The link to participate is below:

[http://eiu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_3dEo61u45m8gJUh](http://eiu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3dEo61u45m8gJUh)

If there are any questions regarding participation in this study, please reach out to Zach at [zyehling@eiu.edu](mailto:zyehling@eiu.edu)