

Kent State University
School Psychology Program
“What Graduates Say about the School Psychology Program at Kent State University”

“Kent State’s School Psychology program prepared me to be a change agent, as well as being receptive to, and prepared for the many changes that are constantly occurring in the fields of education and mental health. ...

Many of the courses personalized issues which brought more meaning to the subject matter and enabled greater retention of the information. ...

The program at Kent State was not just an opportunity to become trained as a School Psychologist, it was a place where I made friends and developed an attitude to pursue continuous growth and professional development. Graduate School can be very competitive but the environment at Kent was very supportive and cooperative.”

LaKesha Buggs, Ed.S., NCSP
School Psychologist
Cleveland (Ohio) Municipal School District
2002 Graduate

“The School Psychology Program at Kent State University has contributed significantly to my professional career development and growth in the field of school psychology.

The graduate coursework and field experiences provided a strong foundation in the theory and practice of school psychology. This knowledge base, skill set, and practical experience enabled me to build and refine more advanced skills of clinical practice, research/program development and evaluation, and organizational consultation. In particular, the School Psychology Program at Kent State University prepared me for the role of a school-wide change agent. As a school psychologist in the Howard County Public School System, I have been involved directly in the development, implementation, and evaluation of programs such as Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) and Instructional Consultation (a collaborative problem-solving model) at the system and school-based levels. The School Psychology Program at Kent State University imparted to me the knowledge, skills, and vision needed to serve as an educational leader and change agent.”

Mark Cooper, Ph.D., NCSP
School Psychologist
Howard County (Maryland) Public Schools
1999 Graduate

"The KSU graduate program offered me a challenging training program which helped me to develop the skills necessary to become an effective school psychologist and change agent. The faculty maintained very high expectations, instilled excitement about the field of school psychology, and provided ongoing support in my academic courses, practicum and internship experiences. I am particularly grateful for the consultation and problem solving skills I developed, which I apply every day I walk into my school buildings."

Amanda Tandy, Ed.S., NCSP
School Psychologist
New Haven (Connecticut) Public Schools
2002 Graduate

"To be honest, Kent State's School Psychology Program is no walk in the park. Free time is a minute concept when you are reading several chapters a night, studying test manuals, learning to interpret results to countless assessments, writing and rewriting (and rewriting) reports, and practicing your latest counseling theories on roommates and family members. However, when meeting students from other programs and even some School Psychologists already in the field lacking training or experience in some of the aforementioned areas, you will not be able to stop yourself from feeling overly confident about having made the best choice in this graduate school. No stone is left unturned at Kent State, and no matter how heavy some of the boulders may be along the way, you will thank your professors for every challenge and experience because you know you will be making a difference in many lives yourself."

Brian Carlisi, Ed.S., NCSP
School Psychologist
Southwest Licking (Ohio) School District
2005 Graduate

“Kent State’s program provided a well-rounded curriculum that gave me solid preparation for the many roles psychologists play in today’s schools. A wide range of perspectives and tools were presented to equip us for traditional assessment as well as consultation and problem-solving, and broader issues such as improving school climate.

The program’s cohort system gave us a strong support network during graduate school, which became a group of professional colleagues to consult with as beginning school psychologists.”

Susan Petti, Ed.S., NCSP
School Psychologist
Waukegan (Illinois) Public School District
2005 Graduate

“My training in the Kent State School Psychology program was the perfect blend of assessment, consultation, and communication skills that helped me become a well rounded professional. As a student in the program, I also made lasting personal and professional relationships with others in the field that continue to this day. I couldn't have asked for a better experience.”

Matthew Bradic, Ed.S., NCSP
School Psychologist
Mayfield (Ohio) City Schools
2004 Graduate

“I’m very grateful for the graduate training I received through the KSU school psychology program. The emphasis on theoretical foundations to support best practices and the development of skills was essential to my ability to become a successful practitioner, and now supervisor of school psychologists. I attribute the well-rounded experience I received at KSU, and the program's commitment to NASP/APA standards as critical to my professional development and growth.

Kelly Humphreys, Ph.D.
School Psychologist
Washoe (Nevada) County School District
1999 Graduate