

4.1.3.4 MEd (Educational Psychology) (First intake 2025)

If you successfully complete this structured programme as well as the subsequent twelve-month, prescribed internship, you will be able to register as an educational psychologist with the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA).

Specific admission requirements

- a) The following qualification:
 - A BEdHons in Educational Psychology or
 - A BEd (Psych) degree or
 - an approved honours degree in Psychology in combination with an approved professional education qualification or
 - any other combination of academic and professional studies deemed suitable for admission to the programme by Senate. In this case, additional studies may be prescribed.
- b) A minimum of 65% for Educational Psychology or psychology-orientated subjects passed on NQF level 8.

Additional recommendations

Since this is a selection programme which attracts many applicants, formal continuous experience of at least two years within any contiguous field (e.g. education, social work, medicine, health therapies and counselling) may be advantageous to your application.

Selection

- This is a selection programme.
- Selection takes place annually after July.
- A minimum of EIGHT students are admitted to the programme each year.

Internship

- **Admission requirements for internship:**
 - Registration as an intern psychologist with the HPCSA *and*
 - an MEd (Educational Psychology) qualification.
- **Duration and presentation structure of internship:**
 - A minimum of one year's continuous full-time internship.
 - Consult Form 160 on the HPCSA website for latest regulations.
- Internships are approved by the HPCSA and fall under the supervision of the Department of Educational Psychology. You must submit your internship programme to the Department at least five months before you plan to start your internship. After this, it is sent to the Health Professions Council of South Africa for approval.
- You are responsible, in consultation with the Department, to arrange to do your internships at an accredited institution.

Closing date for applications

The closing date for applications is **30 June** in the year before admission.

Duration and presentation structure of the programme

- The programme consists of course work which will be offered full-time over one academic year.
- You must complete your research thesis before writing the national board exam.
- For registration with the HPCSA, an internship of another year is required (see "Internship" above).
- You must complete your studies in the time period allowed by the HPCSA. Your qualification and internship must both be completed within three years.

Assessment and examination

- Assessment consists of formative and summative assessment opportunities in each module as explained in the module frameworks.
- If there is clear evidence that you are insufficiently prepared in certain module content, the programme committee may delay your professional practice.
- Students' performance is monitored and assessed continuously throughout the year. Staff members involved in training meet regularly to discuss students' progress.
- Continuous support strategies are stipulated in the work programmes of the respective modules and form part of the teaching and learning curriculum. Should a student experience challenges with certain aspects of the programme, they will be required to participate in a formal mentoring process.

In some cases, mentoring and/or professional support may be a condition of continued programme participation.

- You must attain a minimum of 50% in the integrated oral exam before you will be allowed to proceed with the internship. The integrated exam forms part of the assessment of the practicum module.
- You must have a pass mark of at least 50% in each of the modules, including the research thesis, for the degree to be awarded to you.

Enquiries

Department of Educational Psychology

Programme coordinator: Dr K Conradie

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Website for more detailed information: www.sun.ac.za/education

Programme contents

The aim of this programme in Educational Psychology is to develop the research capacity, theoretically grounded knowledge, skills and attitudes, which will equip you to practice as an educational psychologist in the South African context.

Anchor module

Educational Psychology	8xx (180)
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Compulsory modules:

Child and Adult Psychopathology	8xx (10)
Pathways to Psychological Wellbeing	8xx (30)
Educational and Psychological Assessment	8xx (12)
Learning Support	8xx (20)
Professional practice prescribed by the Health Professions Council of SA	8xx (33)
Research Methodology	8xx (15)
Research Thesis	8xx (60)

Practicum

The practicum is done at the Practicum Unit in the Department of Educational Psychology as well as in approved sites in the community.

You must pass the practicum.

4. Master's programmes

For rules about matters like the formatting, printing and binding of theses, continuation of registration and interruption of master's degree studies, as well as the code of conduct for the supervisor and student, see "Postgraduate Qualifications" in Part 1 (General Rules) of the University Yearbook. Detailed guidelines regarding initial contact with departments, the preparation of a research proposal and progression of postgraduate studies are provided in the Student Guide for Postgraduate Study, available on the Faculty of Education website under the heading Postgraduate Study. These guidelines must be read together with the information presented below.

4.1 MEd

The MEd programme consists of a full-thesis option in different fields of study in Education, as well as structured MEd options.

4.1.1 Admission requirements, selection and other information for all MEd-programmes

Admission requirements

Qualification

To be admitted to the MEd programme, you must:

- have a BEdHons degree from this University, *or* another four-year bachelor's degree in Education approved for this purpose by Senate;
- or*
- have obtained an honours degree at level 8 approved for this purpose by Senate, and an approved education diploma/certificate (additional studies in Education may be required of you);
- or*
- have obtained a pass in another combination of studies both academic and professional, deemed appropriate by Senate for the purpose of joining the intended programme, including the combination of a four-year professional degree that has no Education component and an education diploma/certificate (supplementary study in Education will be required of you);
- or*
- in some manner have attained in your particular field of study a standard of competence deemed adequate by Senate (supplementary studies in Education will be required of you).

Conditions for admission

You will be considered for admission based on your above qualification on the following two conditions:

- You must have obtained an overall average of 60% in your BEdHons or equivalent study
- The relevant department must have the capacity to offer the programme.

Research methodology at honours level

- A module in research methodology at honours level is compulsory if you are enrolling for the full-thesis master's degree.
- For the structured MEd programmes, you must preferably have passed a module in research methodology at honours level.

Specific admission requirements for individual programmes

See the individual structured MEd programmes for their specific admission requirements.

Selection

You must be selected to be admitted to MEd studies.

Requirements for obtaining the MEd degree

If you have a BEdHons degree from this University, or another four-year bachelor's degree in Education approved for this purpose by Senate (see bullet 1 under "Qualification" above), you must have been registered at the University as a student in the MEd programme for at least **one academic year** to be awarded the MEd degree. In all other cases (bullets 2-4 above) it is **two years**.

If you are doing an MEd programme, you also have to do related work on the subject area as may be prescribed by the lecturers concerned.

Duration of the programme

The maximum number of years that a student can be registered for the MEd programme is 3 years.

Application procedure and closing date

- You must apply in writing to do an MEd programme.
- The structured programmes are presented only if at least **five** students are admitted.
- The closing date for applications is **30 September** of the year before admission, but *please note*: in the case of the programmes MEd (Psych) and MEd (Educational Support) it is **30 June** (of the year before admission).
- New applicants apply online on the following webpage: www.sun.ac.za/pgstudies.
- If you are currently registered as a student at the University of Stellenbosch, you may apply to the Faculty Administrator by e-mail:

Ms EE Louwrens

E-mail: eel@sun.ac.za

Programme structure and content

You will find more on the structure and content of the different MEd programmes below. The programme content is described in alphabetical order of subjects in the chapter "Subjects, Modules and Module Content". See the table of contents and the alphabetical list of subjects in the back of the book for page numbers.

Disclaimer:

The content above comes from the 2024 Education Yearbook. Make sure to consult the full **Education Yearbook** to see this extract in context and to check if there have been any changes. Take special note of additional information in the yearbook under section **1. Summary of postgraduate programmes.**