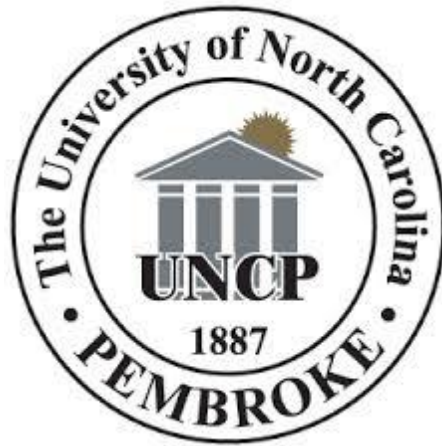


**UNCP COUNSELING PROGRAMS**  
**CLINICAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING PROGRAM**  
**PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAM**

**2022-2023 Testing Manual**



**The University of North Carolina at Pembroke**

**School of Education**

**Department of Counseling**

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## UNCP Counseling Programs Testing Manual

This manual includes information regarding testing requirements for degree-seeking students in the UNCP clinical mental health counseling and professional school counseling programs. There is one test (the CPCE) that is required of all student before starting internship, and there are separate licensure tests that are optional for students. A brief section on professional school counseling licensure is also provided.

Students who have questions about which tests would be best for them should contact their academic advisors. Students should also meet with advisors with concerns regarding preparation and studying for their exams. These meetings might include a written preparation plan signed that may contain any of the following:

- A comprehensive study plan
- Attendance at a formal test preparation course
- Audit specific course content

Informational videos can be found at:

<https://www.uncp.edu/departments/counseling/about-our-programs/field-placement-and-testing>

Students who have general questions about testing should contact the UNCP Department of Counseling Testing Coordinator, Dr. Nicole Stargell, at [nicole.stargell@uncp.edu](mailto:nicole.stargell@uncp.edu) or 910.521.6898

The UNCP Department of Counseling Testing Coordinator is responsible for coordinating three administrations of the CPCE (Summer, Fall, and Spring) and two administrations of the NCE (fall and spring) annually. The Testing Coordinator reports testing results to all relevant parties and corresponds with the test publishers and test administrators on an ongoing basis.

## Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Exam (CPCE)

**Note: The CPCE is a computer-based exam held at any Pearson Vue Testing Center**

1. All CMHC and PSC (60 credits) students are required to take the CPCE when enrolled in CNS 6100.
2. Students are permitted to take CNS 6100 with only 8/9 core courses previously completed. Students must complete the final core course concurrently with practicum. Students pursuing this option will be required to take the CPCE toward the end of practicum, and they will not be fully finished (but mostly finished) with their last core course, which is tested on the CPCE. Students may choose to complete all core courses before enrolling in CNS 6100 in order to avoid taking the CPCE while simultaneously completing one core course, which is tested on the CPCE.
3. All students who are enrolled in CNS 6100 are automatically enrolled to take the CPCE and will receive additional information via Bravemail throughout the semester.
4. No students may take the CPCE early.
5. The CPCE must be taken through UNCP and cannot be taken through another university
6. Only current UNCP students in the counseling programs may take the CPCE at UNCP
7. The CPCE is offered toward the end of every Summer, Fall, and Spring semester.
8. All CMHC and PSC (60 credits) students are required to pass the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Exam (CPCE) before beginning Internship 6120 or 6130.
9. Students may take the CPCE once per semester until they pass or until their time allowed to complete the program has lapsed.
10. All students who previously failed the CPCE will be automatically enrolled to take the CPCE every semester and will receive additional information via email throughout the semester.
11. The CPCE is created by CCE (<http://www.cce-global.org/>) and utilized by over 380 universities and colleges.
12. Students are responsible for the cost of the exam.
13. Bring a photo ID to the examination.
14. There is no official study guide for the CPCE. Because the CPCE and the National Counselor Examination for Licensure and Certification (NCE) are based on the same

eight knowledge areas, any study materials developed for the NCE should be useful for the CPCE.

15. The exam covers material from eight content areas.

<b>CPCE Content Area</b>	<b>Corresponding UNCP Courses</b>
Human Growth and Development	CNS 5025
Social and Cultural Foundations	CNS 5800
Helping Relationships	CNS 5050 and CNS 5400
Group Work	CNS 5100
Career and Lifestyle Development	CNS 5700
Appraisal	CNS 5600
Research and Program Evaluation	CNS 5500
Professional Orientation and Ethics	CNS 5000 and ACA Code of Ethics

16. The CPCE consists of 160 multiple choice items with 20 items per each of the eight (8) CACREP areas.

17. Of the 20 items per section, 17 will be scored items and the remaining three will be pretest items that are not identified to the student. As such, the total amount of scored questions on the CPCE is 136.

18. A passing score on the CPCE is 70/136. This score was calculated as the average of passing scores for 13 administrations of the CPCE at UNCP from Fall 2013 through the summer of 2018 (five academic years). For those 13 administrations, the passing score was calculated by subtracting one standard deviation from the national average for students who took the same form of the exam in order to graduate.

19. Accommodations (e.g., extended time, paper exams) will be honored with appropriate documentation in the form of a letter on school letterhead from the Disabilities Office or Student Affairs stating the student's name, what they are approved to receive, and a signature/date from the Disabilities Office on the letter. The letter must be submitted to the testing coordinator before paying for the exam.

## NCE/NCMHCE

**Note: The NCE/NCMHCE is a computer-based exam held at any Pearson Vue testing center**

The National Counselor Exam (NCE) is a national exam created by the National Board for Certified Counselors. Individuals must pass the NCE or the NCMHCE in order to become licensed to practice counseling in the state of North Carolina. Students register through the North Carolina Board for Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselors in order to become a Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor Associate (LCMHCA).

At any time after graduating and receiving conferred transcripts, students may register to take the NCE or NCMHCE at a state testing site through the following link: <http://www.nbcc.org/> Alternatively, students may participate in the early administration of the NCE/NCMHCE in order to take the exam and become a National Certified Counselor (NCC). With early test results, UNCP students may submit their licensure applications slightly before they get their conferred transcripts in order to expedite their licensure process.

Visit the following link to see the licensure application deadline that works best:

<https://ncblcmhc.org/>

More information about the NCE and obtaining an LCMHCA can be found at:

<https://www.uncp.edu/departments/counseling/about-our-programs/field-placement-and-testing>

- The National Board of Certified Counselors permits current students to take the National Counselor Exam (NCE) or the National Clinical Mental Health Counseling Examination (NCMHCE) before graduation at UNCP.
- As a special opportunity for UNCP students, an early administration of the NCE/NCMHCE is offered to students during Internship II.
- Students who take the early administration of the NCE must apply for the NCC credential (included in the registration fee). The NCC credential is not a license to practice professional counseling.
- The NCE/NCMHCE is offered once per semester in the fall and spring.
- The testing coordinator will send an email to all students who have passed the CPCE to allow students to sign up. Signups occur the semester before the exam is taken.
- The NCE is based on the CPCE (comprehensive exam) and is appropriate for clinical mental health and school counseling students. Successful testers will fulfill the testing

requirements to become an LCMHCA and a National Certified Counselor (NCC) upon graduation.

- The NCMHCE assesses an advanced clinical skill set, and is appropriate for some clinical mental health counseling students. All successful testers will fulfill the testing requirements to earn LCMHCA and NCC upon graduation, and testers will be eligible for the Certified Clinical Mental Health Counselor (CCMHC) credential with no additional fee after 3,000 documented hours of work in the field.
- If you choose to participate in this early administration program, you are required to complete the applicable National Certified Counselor (NCC) and/or the Certified Clinical Mental Health Counselor (CCMHC) application process upon graduation; the certification fees are included in the exam fee.
  - Certification is not a license to practice counseling
  - Certification indicates that you are trained at nationally-recognized standards
- You may choose not to participate in this early administration program and register to take the NCE or NCMHCE off campus after graduation if preferred.
- Students may only take the NCE or NCMHCE through UNCP one time.
- Students are eligible to take the NCE/NCMHCE if they have passed the CPCE (program comprehensive exam) and are in good academic standing (no incomplete grades or academic warning/probation).
- Students must be currently enrolled in a degree-granting counseling track to take the NCE/NCMHCE through UNCP. Students enrolled in certificate programs or taking additional courses for licensure (i.e., enrichment students) are not eligible to take the NCE/NCMHCE through UNCP. Students who are submitted on the roster in error and who do not meet NBCC eligibility requirements will not receive a refund on the application fee, and their examination scores will be invalidated.

## The NCE

- Is one requirement for provisional clinical licensure in North Carolina (LCMHCA)
- Is one requirement for the NCC, a national credential

### The NCE:

- must be completed within 4 hours
- is comprised of 200 questions (160 are scored, 40 questions are being field tested)
- covers nine content areas:
  - Human growth and development
  - Social and cultural diversity
  - Counseling and helping relationships
  - Group counseling and group work
  - Career development
  - Assessment and testing
  - Research and program evaluation
  - Professional orientation and ethical practice
  - Counseling Field Experience
- covers six domains:
  - Professional practice issues
  - Intake, assessment, and diagnosis
  - Areas of clinical focus
  - Treatment planning
  - Counseling skills and interventions
  - Core counseling attributes

To learn more about the NCE and NCC certification visit: <https://www.nbcc.org/home>



## The NCMHCE

### The NCMHCE:

- can fulfill provisional clinical licensure testing requirements in North Carolina (LCMHCA)
- can fulfill testing requirements for the NCC, a national credential
- can fulfill testing requirements for the CCMHC, a national credential, after 3,000 documented hours (only for CMHC students)

### The NCMHCE:

- consists of 10 clinical simulations designed to sample a broad area of competencies, not merely the recall of isolated facts
- includes the following content areas
  - assessment and diagnosis
  - counseling and psychotherapy
  - administration, consultation and supervision

**To learn more about the NCMHCE visit: <https://www.nbcc.org/home>**

## Study Guides

### Study Guides Required in the UNCP Counseling Programs

- Mastering the National Counselor Exam and the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Exam (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition) [https://www.amazon.com/Mastering-the-National-Counselor-Exam/dp/0135192455/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?dchild=1&keywords=Mastering+the+National+Counselor+Exam+and+the+Counselor+Preparation+Comprehensive+Exam+3rd&qid=158981629&s=books&sr=1-1](https://www.amazon.com/Mastering-the-National-Counselor-Exam/dp/0135192455/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=Mastering+the+National+Counselor+Exam+and+the+Counselor+Preparation+Comprehensive+Exam+3rd&qid=158981629&s=books&sr=1-1)
- Encyclopedia of Counseling: Master Review & Tutorial for the NCE, State Counseling Exams, and the CPCE (4<sup>th</sup> Edition) [https://www.amazon.com/Encyclopedia-Counseling-1-Howard-Rosenthal/dp/1138942650/ref=dp\\_ob\\_title\\_bk](https://www.amazon.com/Encyclopedia-Counseling-1-Howard-Rosenthal/dp/1138942650/ref=dp_ob_title_bk)

### Additional Free Study Guides

- Pam Turner NCE Prep Youtube Video: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL-LekQ97ZzLx14FzranqkMu6vOFMK78F3>
- Additional information: <https://www.nbcc.org/exams/examprep>
- CPCE sample questions: <http://www.counselorprep.com/cpce-practice-exam/>
- 200 free practice questions for CPCE: <http://www.practicequiz.com/cpce-exam-prep>
- CPCE Practice Test Review: <http://www.testprepreview.com/cpce.htm>
- CPCE flashcards: <http://www.cram.com/tag/cpce>
- CPCE Free Practice Exam taken from USM: <https://usm.maine.edu/sites/default/files/Counselor%20Education/CPCEpractice.pdf>
- CPCE Exam sample items taken from TXState: <https://www.txstate.edu/clas/Professional-Counseling/current-students/CPCE/sample-items.html>
- CPCE Practice Questions: <https://quizlet.com/subject/CPCE/>
- CPCE Practice Question sets: <https://www.test-questions.com/cpce-exam-questions-04.php>
- NCMHCE practice exam items: <http://www.clinicalexamworkshop.com/ncmhce-practice-exam.html>

- NCMHCE practice exam items: <http://www.studyguidezone.com/ncmhce.htm>

### **Additional Study Guides:**

- CPCE Materials Package: <https://aatbs.com/cpce-materials-package>
- Mometrix NCE Flashcard Study System: [https://www.amazon.com/NCE-Flashcard-Study-System-Examination/dp/1610722329/ref=pd\\_bxgy\\_img\\_2/132-1927118-6960438?pd\\_rd\\_w=esQM6&pf\\_rd\\_p=6b3eefea-7b16-43e9-bc45-2e332cbf99da&pf\\_rd\\_r=Z17D7D6CD1GGXQ173WE6&pd\\_rd\\_r=67550094-ea2e-484a-8f9a-3ccd9ea7c7e2&pd\\_rd\\_wg=LUXNG&pd\\_rd\\_i=1610722329&psc=1](https://www.amazon.com/NCE-Flashcard-Study-System-Examination/dp/1610722329/ref=pd_bxgy_img_2/132-1927118-6960438?pd_rd_w=esQM6&pf_rd_p=6b3eefea-7b16-43e9-bc45-2e332cbf99da&pf_rd_r=Z17D7D6CD1GGXQ173WE6&pd_rd_r=67550094-ea2e-484a-8f9a-3ccd9ea7c7e2&pd_rd_wg=LUXNG&pd_rd_i=1610722329&psc=1)
- Study Guide for the National Counselor Examination and CPCE – (print version)  
<http://www.counselorprep.com/national-counselor-examination-study-guide/>
- CPCE Secrets Study Guide –  
<http://www.mo-media.com/cpce/>
- CPCE Flashcard Study System -  
<http://www.flashcardsecrets.com/cpce/>
- CPCE Practice Questions: CPCE Practice Tests & Exam Review for the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Examination -  
[http://www.amazon.com/CPCE-Practice-Questions-Preparation-Comprehensive/dp/1630948942/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1441052361&sr=1-1&keywords=CPCE](http://www.amazon.com/CPCE-Practice-Questions-Preparation-Comprehensive/dp/1630948942/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1441052361&sr=1-1&keywords=CPCE)
- Vital Information and Review Questions for the NCE, CPCE, and State Counseling Exams: Special 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition - (Audio CD)  
[http://www.amazon.com/Vital-Information-Review-Questions-Counseling/dp/0415801419/ref=sr\\_1\\_6?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1441052361&sr=1-6&keywords=CPCE](http://www.amazon.com/Vital-Information-Review-Questions-Counseling/dp/0415801419/ref=sr_1_6?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1441052361&sr=1-6&keywords=CPCE)
- NCE Practice Exam Kit -  
<http://www.tests.com/NCE-National-Counselor-Practice-Exam?gclid=CJjoucSv07oCFYee4Aod3ioA-g>

## Estimated costs for CMHC students applying for licensure

ACA or AMHCA membership fee	CPCE fee	NCE fee for exam and NCC credential (through UNCP)*	LPCA application associated fees
<p>ACA: \$105 -or- AMHCA: \$84 -or- LPCANC: \$25</p> <p><i>Membership in one of these organizations includes liability insurance, which is required for field placement courses, and must be renewed at least once to cover all of field placement</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">\$103.50</p> <p><i>per administration; must take it during the semester registered for practicum and must pass before beginning internship</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">\$355</p> <p><i>Can only be taken one time through UNCP during final semester or within 12 months of graduation</i></p> <p>*Alternatively, students can take the NCMHCE for \$425 which includes the CCMHC and the NCC credential</p> <p>**Waiting to take the NCE after graduation will cost \$275 for the exam alone and does not include the cost of the NCC application</p> <p>***Students who fail the NCE taken through UNCP pay \$150 for a retake after graduation; 3 attempts allowed for combined NCC</p>	<p><b>NCE:</b> \$25 score verification (\$75 for 2-day rush) *you will need to send transcripts to NBCC and NCBLPC</p> <p><b>Transcript fee:</b> \$5 mailed or faxed, \$10 for same day service.</p> <p><b>Jurisprudence exam fee:</b> \$45</p> <p><b>Fingerprints:</b> \$20 (2 cards, can obtain at UNCP campus police)</p> <p><b>LPCA Application fee:</b> \$238 (includes background check fee)</p> <p><b>Total:</b> \$338 minimum</p>
<p><b>From Practicum to LCMHCA Application:</b> \$826.50 (minimum) <b>UNCP Graduation Fee (includes cap &amp; gown):</b> \$100</p>			

## Professional School Counseling Licensure

### Obtaining a Provisional School Counselor License

Professional School Counseling Students can obtain a provisional license to work as a school counselor in North Carolina after completing 24 hours of master's-level coursework. You may print an unofficial transcript from BraveWeb to take with you to interviews to show you have completed at least 24 hours and are eligible for provisional licensure.

Once you receive a job offer, the district HR office will need an official transcript that shows what courses you have completed up to this point. Here's a link for ordering an official transcript: <https://www.uncp.edu/resources/registrar/transcript-ordering-portal>

The district office will use this transcript to apply for your provisional license from NCDPI.

Contact the UNCP School of Education for more information:

<http://www.uncp.edu/academics/colleges-schools-departments/colleges-schools/school-education/licensure>

### Becoming a Licensed School Counselor

In addition to completing the UNCP School Counseling Program requirements, students pursuing school counseling licensure will need to take the Praxis II. The UNCP School of Education coordinates the Praxis II. Students are able to take the Praxis II during Internship I, Internship II, or after graduation.

1. Review the School of Education licensure website at <http://www.uncp.edu/academics/colleges-schools-departments/colleges-schools/school-education/licensure>
2. Learn more about the Praxis at <https://www.ets.org/praxis/prepare/materials/5421>

Applications and information about the Praxis II tests are available at the Educational Testing Service website at <http://www.ets.org> and Pearson website at <http://www.nc.nesinc.com>

### Professional School Counselor Praxis II (5421 School Counselor) Study Resources

**FREE**

Praxis II Study Plan- [https://www.ets.org/s/praxis/doc/studyplan\\_5421.docx](https://www.ets.org/s/praxis/doc/studyplan_5421.docx)

Praxis II- Study Topics and Sample Questions-

<https://hpcsc.appstate.edu/sites/hpcsc.appstate.edu/files/0421.pdf>

Professional School Counselor PRAXIS II Quizlet- <https://quizlet.com/28575409/professional-school-counselor-praxis-ii-flash-cards/>

Youtube- [Praxis II 5421 School Counselor - Counseling Exam Prep](#)

Youtube- [Free Praxis II Professional School Counselor Practice Test \(5421\)](#)

Youtube- [5421 Praxis II Exam Prep School Counselor -Free Study Guide](#)

Praxis Study Companion- <https://www.ets.org/s/praxis/pdf/5421.pdf>

ASCA Review- <https://www.schoolcounselor.org/>

Free Practice Test- <https://study.com/academy/exam/course/praxis-professional-school-counselor-practice-study-guide.html>

Free Practice Test- <https://www.testprepreview.com/praxis-ii/school-guidance-counselor.htm>

Praxis II School Counseling and NCE Review (Partial) Flash Cards-

<https://www.cram.com/flashcards/praxis-ii-school-counseling-and-nce-review-partial-4829002>

Praxis II School Counseling Review Flash Cards- <https://www.cram.com/flashcards/praxis-ii-school-counseling-review-5605741>

## **PAID**

Interactive Practice Test subscription-

<https://store.ets.org/store/ets/DisplayProductDetailsPage/ThemeID.12805600/productID.305704>

[600](#)

Praxis II Professional School Counselor (5421) Exam Flashcard Study System-

[https://www.flashcardsecrets.com/praxisii/?\\_ga=2.211303057.541470275.1649691079-](https://www.flashcardsecrets.com/praxisii/?_ga=2.211303057.541470275.1649691079-283787215.1649691079#buynow)

[283787215.1649691079#buynow](#)

Praxis II Professional School Counselor (5421) Exam Secrets Study Guide-

[https://www.amazon.com/Praxis-Professional-School-Counselor-Secrets/dp/1630940224/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?crid=37RANLDQK57H1&keywords=praxis+ii+school+counseling&qid=1649689295&prefix=Praxis+II+coun%2Caps%2C70&sr=8-1](https://www.amazon.com/Praxis-Professional-School-Counselor-Secrets/dp/1630940224/ref=sr_1_1?crid=37RANLDQK57H1&keywords=praxis+ii+school+counseling&qid=1649689295&prefix=Praxis+II+coun%2Caps%2C70&sr=8-1)

Praxis II Professional School Counselor (5421) Exam Flashcard Study System:

[https://www.amazon.com/Praxis-Professional-School-Counselor-Flashcard/dp/1627339183/ref=sr\\_1\\_6?crid=100EZ9Z058J1K&keywords=Praxis+school+counselor&qid=1649692206&s=books&prefix=praxis+school+counselor%2Cstripbooks%2C49&sr=1-6](https://www.amazon.com/Praxis-Professional-School-Counselor-Flashcard/dp/1627339183/ref=sr_1_6?crid=100EZ9Z058J1K&keywords=Praxis+school+counselor&qid=1649692206&s=books&prefix=praxis+school+counselor%2Cstripbooks%2C49&sr=1-6)

Praxis Professional School Counselor Practice Questions: Practice Tests and Exam Review for the Praxis Subject Assessments - [https://www.amazon.com/Praxis-Professional-Counselor-Practice-Questions/dp/1516714350/ref=sr\\_1\\_15?crid=37RANLDQK57H1&keywords=praxis+ii+school+counseling&qid=1649689295&prefix=Praxis+II+coun%2Caps%2C70&sr=8-15](https://www.amazon.com/Praxis-Professional-Counselor-Practice-Questions/dp/1516714350/ref=sr_1_15?crid=37RANLDQK57H1&keywords=praxis+ii+school+counseling&qid=1649689295&prefix=Praxis+II+coun%2Caps%2C70&sr=8-15)

[Practice-](https://www.amazon.com/Praxis-Professional-Counselor-Practice-Questions/dp/1516714350/ref=sr_1_15?crid=37RANLDQK57H1&keywords=praxis+ii+school+counseling&qid=1649689295&prefix=Praxis+II+coun%2Caps%2C70&sr=8-15)

[Questions/dp/1516714350/ref=sr\\_1\\_15?crid=37RANLDQK57H1&keywords=praxis+ii+school+counseling&qid=1649689295&prefix=Praxis+II+coun%2Caps%2C70&sr=8-15](https://www.amazon.com/Praxis-Professional-Counselor-Practice-Questions/dp/1516714350/ref=sr_1_15?crid=37RANLDQK57H1&keywords=praxis+ii+school+counseling&qid=1649689295&prefix=Praxis+II+coun%2Caps%2C70&sr=8-15)