



ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS POLICY: COUNSELLING, CHAPLAINCY AND SPIRITUAL CARE

Responsible officer	Dean for Academic and Regional Development	
Contact	counselling@morling.edu.au	
Approved by	Academic Board	
Responsible body	Academic Board	
Approval date	17 October 2018	
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Review date	October 2021	
Superseded documents	Admission Requirements for Courses in Counselling September 2014	
Related documents	Admissions Policy: Education, Counselling, Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care Admission Procedure: Counselling, Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care	
Policy classification <i>Select a General OR an Academic option</i>	General	Academic Student Services and Administration

1. PURPOSE

To articulate the specific admission entry requirements for Morling College awards in Counselling, Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care.

2. DEFINITIONS

Key Term or Acronym	Definition
HSC	NSW Higher School Certificate

3. SCOPE

This policy applies to courses in Counselling; and Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care.

4. POLICY STATEMENT

Morling College admits students to:

1. Graduate Certificate of Counselling
2. Graduate Diploma of Counselling
3. Master of Counselling
4. Graduate Certificate of Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care

5. Graduate Diploma of Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care
6. Master-of Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care

according to the specific requirements of each award.

Training in counselling or chaplaincy and spiritual care requires an interface between expert knowledge, skill development, internal resilience and self-awareness. These training programs at Morling College provide the opportunity for students to integrate both spiritual and personal growth, to develop increased psychological resilience and maturity, and to develop the qualities and skills needed to be a highly skilled counsellors or chaplains

The aim of the admission process is:

- a) To ascertain an applicant's motivation and commitment to enter a Counselling or Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care training program from a Christian world view.
- b) To determine whether applicants have reasonable capacity to acquire the qualities and skills needed to be competent in this field of work.
- c) To assess that the applicant has sufficient maturity to engage in the learning processes that comprise counselling/ chaplaincy and spiritual care training.

While everyone can learn and grow from counselling or chaplaincy and spiritual care training, there are a number of reasons why not everyone is suitable to pursue a career in counselling or chaplaincy and spiritual care. For this reason, the selection process seeks to apply the knowledge and skill of experienced counsellors and chaplains as well as objective assessment methods to determine applicants' suitability for training in this area.

5. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Basic Requirements

- 5.1 An applicant should meet basic requirements and Morling College rules for admission to a study program.
- 5.2 Method of Assessment:
 - Confirmation of Identity
 - Assessment of English Competency. Applicants whose first language is not in English must have a minimum IELTS score of 7
 - Citizen/Resident

Prior Learning

- 5.3 The applicant needs to demonstrate that they have sufficient prior learning to enable them to undertake a Counselling or Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care Program at a graduate level. This may be demonstrated through different pathways including:
 - a. A recognised undergraduate degree.
 - b. In the absence of possessing a recognised degree, a level of prior learning judged to be equivalent to a degree may be acceptable. This

will be assessed individually on a case by case basis. If an applicant is assessed as possessing the required characteristics that would enable them to complete the course successfully they will be eligible for study. In this case, applicants will only be accepted for the Graduate Certificate level of study and on successful completion may then apply to be admitted to further study.

5.4 Method of Assessment:

- Current resume
- Academic records
- Case by case review.

Community Standing

5.5 The applicant should demonstrate that they have a basis for sufficient standing within the broader community in which counselling or chaplaincy and spiritual care services are offered.

5.6 Method of Assessment:

- Pastor's Referee Report
- Professional Referee Report
- Current Working with Children Check number from the Office of the Children's Guardian. This can be applied for at:
<https://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/child-safe-organisations/working-with-children-check>

Resourcefulness

5.7 The applicant must demonstrate that they have sufficient motivation and resourcefulness to complete the study program.

5.8 Method of Assessment:

- Individual interview

Maturity

5.9 The applicant must demonstrate a level of maturity to enable them to engage in counsellor or chaplaincy and spiritual care training.

5.10 Method of Assessment:

- Personal statements
- Interviews
- References

An acceptable level of psychological resilience

5.11 Applicants must be assessed to have good mental health sufficient to enable them to deal with the demands and pressures of the counselling or chaplaincy and spiritual care training program without themselves

experiencing excessive or unmanageable psychological distress.

5.12 Method of Assessment:

- Psychometric Assessment (counselling only) to identify whether the applicant is potentially suffering from any psychological condition that may render them unsuitable for training as a counsellor.
- Interviews
- References

The Counselling, Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care Program wishes to ensure that people are not accepted for training in circumstances that may be harmful to their psychological health.

This assessment is strictly confidential.

Personal Qualities or Characteristics

5.13 The applicant must demonstrate that they sufficient capacity to engage relationally in the role of a helping professional.

5.14 Method of Assessment:

- Interview
- References
- Psychometric Assessment (counselling only)

6. RELATED DOCUMENTS AND LEGISLATION

[Admissions Policy: Education, Counselling, Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care](#)

[Admission Procedure: Counselling, Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care](#)

[Variation to Enrolment Policy: Education; Counselling, Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care](#)

7. REFERENCES

None

8. VERSION HISTORY

Version	Approved by	Approval Date	Effective Date	Changes made
2	Academic Board	17 October 2018	17 October 2018	Split into separated policy and procedure documents. Formatted to new template
1	Academic Board	April 2015	April 2015	

*Always **download** this policy anew from the Policies folder on the Morling share drive Policies/Student Policies, as it may have changed.*