ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF A REHABILITATION COUNSELOR

- Counseling, vocational assessment, and goal planning
- Case management, job placement, and support services
- Advocacy to remove environmental and social barriers to inclusion
- Consultation with physicians, psychologists, and other rehabilitation professionals about disability and work
- Consultation with employers to identify and/or modify job opportunities, work tasks, and training options for consumers
- Building connections among individuals with disabilities, their families, their communities, and their work environment

TO APPLY

Applications to the rehabilitation counseling graduate programs are accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis for both fall and spring enrollment. All applications are submitted electronically at hofstra.edu/gradapply.

For additional information, please contact:
Andrea Perkins Nerlich, PhD, CRC, CVE
Program Director and Associate Professor
Phone: 516-463-6492
Email: Andrea.Nerlich@hofstra.edu

Hofstra University is an EO/AA/ADA educator and employer.
A rehabilitation counselor possesses the specialized knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed to collaborate in a professional relationship with persons with disabilities to achieve their personal, social, psychological, and vocational goals.

**MSED PROGRAMS**

Hofstra offers two master’s degree programs that prepare students to become nationally certified as rehabilitation counselors, including:

- **Rehabilitation Counseling, MSEd**
- **Rehabilitation Counseling in Mental Health, MSEd** – a combined program that also prepares students for mental health licensure in addition to certification.

The programs are designed to prepare students to work as professional counselors with specialized knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed to assist individuals with disabilities toward achieving their personal, social, psychological, independent living, and vocational goals. The programs include specialty courses that prepare students to work in mental health and other specialized settings.

The Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP), a specialized accrediting body recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA), has granted accreditation to both the Rehabilitation Counseling (MSEd) and the Rehabilitation Counseling in Mental Health (MSEd) programs at Hofstra University.

**ADVANCED CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS**

Professionals looking to supplement their existing credentials can pursue one of two advanced certificate options. **The Advanced Certificate in Rehabilitation Counseling** is intended for professionals in a related field (e.g., counseling, psychology, social work, etc.) who wish to qualify for the national Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC) exam. **The Advanced Certificate in Rehabilitation Counseling in Mental Health** is intended for rehabilitation practitioners or those in a related counseling profession interested in becoming eligible to sit for the Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC) examination in New York.

The following programs are also available:

- Interdisciplinary Transition Specialist, Advanced Certificate
- Rehabilitation Administration, Professional Diploma

**A GROWING PROFESSION**

The demand for rehabilitation services is enormous and continues to grow at a rapid rate. It is estimated that more than 43 million Americans have disabilities that restrict them from one or more life activities and/or prevent them from obtaining or maintaining a job. Of those with disabilities, many are interested in working and achieving independence. More qualified rehabilitation counselors are needed because of the demand for rehabilitation services throughout the country.

**A REWARDING CAREER**

- Gain a profound sense of satisfaction in making an impact on the quality of many lives, including your own.
- Empower others to achieve their potential.
- Work in a creative, compelling, and professional environment infused with passion, idealism, and realism.
- Enjoy a career that offers unlimited growth potential.

**CAREER PREPARATION**

Rehabilitation counselors are required to hold a master’s degree from an accredited college. Hofstra’s Rehabilitation Counseling programs involves two years of academic and clinical training. Clinical training consists of a practicum and 600 hours of supervised internship. Clinical field experiences are available in a variety of community, state, federal, and private rehabilitation programs. Graduates of the programs are trained in counseling theory, counseling skills and techniques, job development, job placement, career counseling, medical aspects of disabilities, case management, psychiatric rehabilitation, vocational evaluation, and issues of ethics.

**SCHOLARSHIPS**

Matriculated students may be eligible for federal fellowship grants when available. Please contact the program director for more information. Inquiries about other tuition assistance should be directed to Student Financial Services at 516-463-8000.

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

- State, federal, and county rehabilitation agencies
- Comprehensive rehabilitation centers
- Mental health clinics
- Insurance companies
- Medical centers
- Drug and alcohol centers
- Veterans Health Administration
- Independent living centers
- University and school settings
- Private, for-profit companies
- Employment settings
- Correctional facilities