Q. What is the difference between guidance counselors and school psychologists?

A. A school psychologist plays many roles in a school such as: assessing and diagnosing psychological and educational disabilities; serving on school based problem-solving teams; counseling students in groups and individually; providing consultation to teachers, administrators, and parents; designing and implementing academic and behavioral interventions; and conducting staff development workshops. Typically school psychologists serve more than one school within a school system and may deal with more difficult behavioral and academic concerns than do school guidance counselors.

Towson does NOT offer programs in guidance counseling or school counseling. You may wish to contact the following schools instead:

Loyola University Maryland: http://www.loyola.edu/admission/graduate.

Johns Hopkins University: http://www.spsbe.jhu.edu/https://www.jhu.edu/admissions/graduate-admissions/.

You may also wish to review our national organization’s website for more information http://www.nasponline.org.

Q. I have a Master’s in a related profession (e.g., teaching; special education; clinical psychology). Can I take classes for certification as a school psychologist?

A. All students need to be formally admitted into the school psychology program in order to complete coursework leading to certification as a school psychologist. In some cases, an individual needs only a few courses (based on a transcript review conducted by the Maryland State Department of Education) to be certified as a school psychologist. These individuals should contact the program director to discuss their situation. Please note that most assessment courses, all practicum courses, and internship are available only to students accepted into the School Psychology program.