

Requirement of Professional Liability Insurance

Students who plan on starting Practicum in the Spring 2011 or afterwards are required to obtain their own professional liability insurance in addition to the coverage provided through the College and/or his/her placement. A copy of the student's certificate of insurance needs to be submitted to his/her Practicum or Internship course instructor at the beginning of the semester and when the student renews his/her professional liability insurance. While the Department requires students to purchase professional liability insurance to adhere to the best practice, it should be noted that it is a rare occurrence that would require the protection provided by professional liability insurance.

The Department suggests membership in American Counseling Association (ACA) and enrollment in the professional liability insurance plan that is available to all ACA graduate student members. For the students in School Counseling Program, American School Counselor Association (ASCA, a division of ACA) also offers the professional liability insurance plan. Similarly, the students in Marriage, Couple and Family Counseling and Therapy Program may obtain a professional liability insurance through membership in American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT). Each student will need to evaluate the clinical site to determine which professional liability insurance is appropriate. Student membership benefits for ACA, ASCA, or AAMFT can be found in its respective website, counseling.org, schoolcounselor.org, or aamft.org.