Master's University Job Advertisement and Cover Letter

Job Advertisement for a Master's University

The Psychology Department of Midwest State is seeking a qualified applicant for a tenure-eligible position with specialization in Clinical or Counseling Psychology at either the assistant or associate level (MS #2001). The position responsibilities will include publishing scholarly research, teaching graduate coursework and supervising in the Clinical Mental Health Master's program, teaching undergraduate courses, advising graduate and undergraduate students, and serving on Master's thesis committees. The position will also include service on departmental and university committees.

Applicants must have an earned doctorate in Clinical or Counseling Psychology. Candidates must be licensed or license-eligible. Applicants must have a demonstrated record of excellent teaching and scholarly research. Midwest State is committed to increasing faculty diversity, and candidates are encouraged to apply and to identify their strengths and/or experiences in relation to diversity.

Midwest State is a regional comprehensive state university serving over 20,000 students. It is home to nationally and internationally renowned scholars and programs of study at the undergraduate and graduate level. Midwest State is a military-friendly and adult-learning-friendly campus that offers courses in a multitude of formats through regional military instillations and Veterans Affairs centers.

Listings of multiple possible specialties can be taken at face value, but other requirements may suggest a preference for one.

Advertisements for master's universities should be read closely to determine the emphasis placed on qualifications related to scholarship and teaching.

License requirements and degree requirements for applied programs will be nonnegotiable.

Requests for diversity-related information should be addressed in materials just like other qualifications.

Descriptions of the institutional setting can indicate factors search committees believe will be attractive or useful to candidates.

Cover Letter for a Master's University

Dear Search Committee Members,

I am writing to apply for the position as a professor with Clinical/Counseling Psychology specialization (MS #2001). I am a licensed psychologist with a doctoral degree in Counseling Psychology who is currently working as a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Iowa University Medical Center. I believe that my productive program of research, dedication to supervising interns, and passion for undergraduate teaching make me an excellent candidate for the position.

While pursuing a career in psychology, I have maintained an active balance between scholarly, clinical, and educational responsibilities, and this indicates my ability to be successful in the diverse requirements of the position. Beginning with scholarly requirements, I study how stigma affects the mental health treatment of people with substance-use disorders. In my early work, I documented stigma among mental health professionals and

Applications to Master's universities must strike a balance of evidence related to their mixed institutional missions.

Even when a balance is required, give research or teaching primacy when the advertisements suggest one is most important.

This material is a companion to *Becoming a Psychology Professor: Your Guide to Landing the Right Academic Job*, by Guy A. Boysen. An overview of the book can be viewed on the American Psychological Association website (https://www.apa.org/pubs/books/4313054).

Additional supplemental material is available on the book's companion website (http://pubs.apa.org/books/supp/boysen/).

validated a new measure of stigma toward mental health treatment seeking. To expand my research expertise, I sought out a postdoctoral position that would allow me to investigate treatment-related attitudes and behaviors among illegal drug users. The first of the studies I have conducted in collaboration with my colleagues at the Medical Center is in press, and we are currently analyzing and writing up an additional data.

I have a clear record of publication in top counseling journals that I will be able to continue and expand upon with the resources at Midwest State. The university's access to VA centers is especially attractive due to the high rates of veterans who seek treatment for substance-use disorders; I recently applied for a NIMH grant and would reapply with a focus on military affairs. Your position would also allow me to continue mentoring student researchers, which has become both a rewarding and productive component of my research program. I currently supervise a laboratory that employs four graduate students and eight undergraduate students, most of them from underrepresented groups. It has been extremely rewarding to train diverse students in the collection of data, lead them through reviews of the literature, and collaborate with them on new projects.

The clinical aspects of the position are also consistent with my experiences. My graduate training included advanced courses in counseling supervision, and I have been supervising multiple graduate students each semester since my preinternship year. I have also begun consulting with Psychiatry faculty at the Medical Center to increase the cultural competency among residents in their program. Specifically, I volunteered to help them create a hybrid curriculum designed to develop multicultural knowledge, awareness, and skills. The skills that I learned during the project would be relevant to clinical supervision and service related to curriculum design and Midwest State's ongoing diversity efforts.

Although I have focused thus far on graduate education, one of my true passions is teaching undergraduate psychology. In fact, I have pursued positions as an adjunct at two different institutions just so that I could keep active in the classroom. I completed a course in college teaching and teaching-assistant training early in my graduate career and then remained active in programming offered by the university teaching center. Be it at the undergraduate or graduate level, my teaching emphasizes engaging, evidence-based practices. For example, in several courses I utilize the just-in-time teaching technique to design lectures and discussion questions based on material students find difficult on the quizzes and discussion boards. In abnormal psychology, students conduct an antistigma project that fosters communication and diversity-related skills; this project has positive effects on student attitudes and learning, which is something I documented with a scholarship of teaching project presented at the NITOP conference. Evaluations of my teaching by

Institutions that require research productivity value postdoctoral positions due to candidates' increase experience.

Explain a future program of research and connect it to resources available at the institution.

Master's universities will value major attempts to seek grants even if they are unfunded.

Highlight not just research productivity but the use of scholarship to educate students, both graduate and undergraduate.

Highlighting any aspects of research, teaching, or service that signal a commitment to diversity.

Master's universities emphasize teaching as much or more than research, so it is important to outline teaching-related strengths even if it is later in the letter.

Scholarship of teaching and learning is consistent with the combined research and teaching mission of Master's universities.

students and teaching mentors has been overwhelmingly positive, as you can see summarized in my teaching statement.

In summary, I believe that my scholarly, clinical, and teaching experiences make me an excellent candidate for the position. I hope that I will be able to discuss my record and your college further during an interview. Thank you for considering my application.

When space does not allow detailed information in the cover letter, refer the reader to other application materials.