

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION FOR
College of Liberal Arts
Psychology Department**

STRENGTHS:

- Program is built on broad expertise of faculty that prepares students for careers focused on health and well-being.
- A comprehensive in-house mentoring and advising program contributes to strong retention and graduation.
- BA and BS degree programs are completely online, and have made the program resilient and available to a broad population of students.
- Expertise working with Alaska Native communities and organizations
- Research-active program with faculty engaged in a variety of collaborations (e.g., Center for Alaska Native Health Research, One Health, Institute of Arctic Biology, Institute of Circumpolar Health, Institute for Social and Economic Research)
- Research and service opportunities for students (e.g., Undergraduate and Scholarly Activity, Biomedical Learning and Student Training)
- Students publicly present their results and co-author publications.
- Community research programs promoting wellness (e.g., Working with aging at home Fairbanks, Calypso Farm & Ecology Center, Foundation Health, rural schools and tribal organizations)
- Program attracts both full-time and part-time students.
- Strong enrollment yields significant tuition revenues.

WEAKNESSES:

- Small number of faculty (7 full-time) that are stretched thin
- No graduate program to attract students who can support and expand research and instructional programs
- Demographic diversity of faculty does not reflect goals of diversity and cultural competence.

OPPORTUNITIES:

- Psychology is relevant to both urban and rural students in Alaska, and available by distance to students across the state, which could lead to program growth.
- Develop interdisciplinary research based on breadth of faculty expertise (e.g., public, behavioral and mental health, biological, community, organizational and social psychology).

THREATS:

- Budget cuts increase pressure for higher course loads without increase in faculty.
- Given current faculty workloads the faculty are limited in ability to grow research.
- Unrealistic expectations about demands of online instruction
- Possible retirement of departmental faculty advisor

CENTRALITY TO MISSION:

The programs primarily address the UAF Mission under the themes of Educate (Ed), Prepare (P), Connect (C), and Engage (En):

- Ed3, Prepare undergraduate students for further study, future employment, and contemporary life.
- P9, Prepare students for the professional, career, and technical workforce.
- C11, Academic programs relevant to Alaska Native and rural residents are delivered broadly across the state.
- En14, Partner with Alaskan communities on issues of mutual interest.

INDICATORS OF QUALITY:

- Faculty are research active, and undergraduate students engage in research.
- Programs attract students from across Alaska and the nation.
- Dean's support of the program

COST-EFFECTIVENESS:

SCH

Metric	Detail	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20
SCH	PSY - Lower	1293	1281	1620	1614	1557
SCH	PSY - Upper	835	1201	1189	1044	1244
SCH	PSY - Grad	362	339	228	182	120
SCH	PSY - External	1128	949	1360	1295	1206

Majors

Metric	Detail	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20
Majors	BA Psychology	166	178	173	194	184
Majors	BI Premajor - Psychology	12	13	2	2	1
Majors	BS Psychology	53	59	71	76	67
Majors	PHD Clinical-Community Psychology	23	21	17	14	12

Degrees

Metric	Detail	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20
Degrees	BA Psychology	30	26	20	31	31
Degrees	BS Psychology	4	4	9	10	7
Degrees	PHD Clinical-Community Psychology	1	3	3	2	4

FTEs

Metric	Detail	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20
FTEs	Adjunct FTEs	0.6	0.9	0.3	0.1	0.1
FTEs	Faculty FTEs	6.4	6	5.5	5.8	5.6
FTEs	Staff FTEs	4.1	2.7	1	1.1	0.8

FTEs	Student FTEs	3.1	2.4	0.9	0.4	0.6
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Expenditures

Metric	Program	Detail	FY20
Instructional Expenditures	CLA Psychology	Restricted	3273.4
Instructional Expenditures	CLA Psychology	Unrestricted	943310.6
Research Expenditures	CLA Psychology	Restricted	500.9
Salaries and Benefits	CLA Psychology	Restricted	2772.6
Salaries and Benefits	CLA Psychology	Unrestricted	923437.4

The committee recognizes the quality and the success of the Psychology BA and BS programs with high enrollments and stable graduation rates. The committee encourages the faculty to pursue the opportunities to engage more students from rural Alaska and develop interdisciplinary collaborations. Committee encourages faculty to consider the development of a graduate degree in Psychology at Masters level.

Note: The enrollments and graduation data suggest a 6-year degree completion for BA and 9-year degree completion for BS, which may reflect the large number of part-time students in the program.

Psychology BA

RECOMMENDATION:	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:	DATE FOR FOLLOW-UP:
Continuation: 7 votes		
Continuation w/ improvement plan: 1 vote		

Psychology BS

RECOMMENDATION:	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:	DATE FOR FOLLOW-UP:
Continuation: 7 votes		
Continuation w/ improvement plan: 1 vote		