QUICK FACTS

DIVERSITY
UAB is regularly ranked among Princeton Review’s top 10 universities for diversity. More than 35 percent of students are minorities and nearly 61 percent are female; they hail from every region of the country and more than 110 nations.

NIH FUNDED
UAB ranks 23rd (top 4 percent) nationally and 8th (top 2 percent) among public institutions in funding from the National Institutes of Health.

RESEARCH
The Carnegie Foundation identifies UAB as one of a handful of institutions rated for “very high research activity” that also is a leader in “community engagement.”

No. 1
The University of Alabama at Birmingham has been ranked the top young university in the United States and No. 10 worldwide in the Times Higher Education World University Rankings, 2018 Young University Rankings.

THE CITY
Birmingham is a growing and progressive city located in the foothills of the Appalachians. It was recently rated #1 Next Hot Food City by Zagat and was selected as one of Outside Magazine’s 25 Best Towns of 2017.

Have questions about the Lifespan Developmental Graduate Program?

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Our Department
There are 31 full-time faculty in our department who support our three graduate programs. Department culture emphasizes collaborative research. Faculty are committed to growing and establishing new areas of research, giving our students the opportunity to work in a challenging and exciting environment.

Our Training Program
- Training emphasizes preparing students to study development in natural social contexts, as well as in laboratory settings.
- A key component of students’ training is translating basic scientific principles and theories to practice.
- The program is designed to be completed in 4-5 years.
- Graduates of LDPP have secured academic faculty positions or have moved into industry, government, or community/non-profit organization positions.
- Please note that our program does not prepare students to be clinicians.
- There are opportunities to earn a dual degree (e.g., MPH).
- Graduate students typically receive full tuition remission and research or teaching assistantships that provide a competitive stipend.

Our Course Curriculum
Through a core curriculum of developmental psychology, statistics and research design, and general psychology, students develop a solid foundation in the history, methods, theory, and current research in developmental psychology.

Our Department
Using a lifespan perspective, our graduate program trains students to discover basic principles of psychological development and apply them in interdisciplinary contexts.

Our Mission
Using a lifespan perspective, our graduate program trains students to discover basic principles of psychological development and apply them in interdisciplinary contexts.

Our Faculty
LDPP Faculty are dedicated to rigorous research, excellence in teaching, and strong, supportive mentorship of students. Our faculty have received national recognition for their scholarship and for their practical contributions to promoting healthy development across the lifespan. Scientific outputs from our faculty have led to policy changes, new research tools, novel programs, and technological breakthroughs. Visit our faculty listing on the LDPP home page to learn more.

OUR RESEARCH FOCI
- Developmental Disabilities
- Child and Adolescent Health
- Applied Cognition
- Health Disparities
- Successful Aging
- Developmental Psychopathology
- Parent and Peer Influences
- Neighborhood Effects
- Bio-psycho-social Pathways
- Injury Prevention
- Post-injury Care and Recovery

Applied Training Opportunities
Students and faculty conduct socially relevant action research in a variety of settings across campus and surrounding community. Examples include:
- Civitan International Research Center
- Center for Research in Applied Gerontology
- Comprehensive Center for Healthy Aging
- Alzheimer’s Disease Center
- UAB Early Head Start Program
- Collaborations with the UAB Schools of Medicine, Education, and Public Health
- Public K-12 schools

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ADMISSIONS FAQ

What are the requirements?
Admission to the program is highly competitive. Research experience is essential. We prefer a solid background in psychology as well as some courses in the life sciences. Strong GRE scores and excellent grades in statistics and mathematics are also valued. We follow an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity process.

When should I apply?
The deadline for all application materials to be in the Graduate School online system is November 30th. Application materials are available at http://www.uab.edu/graduate. Late or partial applications will not be considered.

Do I need to choose a mentor?
Applicants should identify one or more faculty members with whom they share research interests.

Can I enroll part-time?
No, admission is for full-time studies only. Students are admitted annually each fall.

The Application Process

PREPARE
Gain Research Experience
Successful applicants typically have 2-3 years of research experience in psychology or related fields

Take GRE
Successful applicants typically have a verbal score > 156 and a quantitative score > 152

Finish Your Degree
Successful applicants typically have a degree in psychology or a closely related field with a GPA of at least 3.5

APPLY
Identify Your Faculty Research Mentor
Visit our website and learn more about our faculty and their ongoing research

Submit Application to Graduate School by November 30th
Visit the graduate school website to submit application, CV, & personal statement

Send Supplementary Materials
GRE scores, transcripts, and at least 3 letters of recommendation

DECIDE
Interview
Competitive applicants will be invited for an in-person interview in January or February

Explore the Program
Applicants are encouraged to ask current students and faculty about the program

Explore Birmingham
Discover all that Birmingham has to offer!