

Celeste M. Malone, Ph.D., M.S., is an associate professor and coordinator of the school psychology program at Howard University. She received her PhD in school psychology from Temple University and completed a postdoctoral fellowship in child clinical and pediatric psychology at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Before obtaining her doctorate, Dr. Malone received her master's degree in school counseling from Johns Hopkins University and her bachelor's degree in psychology from Brown University.

Malone's upbringing in Harlem, NY, has made her passionate about addressing issues of educational equity and preparing school psychologists to serve diverse populations. Her primary research interest relates to multicultural issues embedded in the training and practice of school psychology. Specifically, Malone focuses on multicultural competence, the ability to work effectively with diverse populations by applying cultural knowledge and demonstrating awareness of and sensitivity to cultural issues. The overarching themes of her research are (a) the development of multicultural competence through education and training, (b) the diversification of the profession of school psychology, and (c) the relationship between culturally responsive practice and pre-K–12 student outcomes. Through her consultative and professional development work, Dr. Malone bridges the research–practice gap and disseminates her research to state departments of education, university academic departments, school districts, and local schools.

Leadership has always been a part of Malone's school psychology career, helping her develop the skills to be an effective change agent. Since graduate school, she has consistently held leadership positions in national psychology professional associations, including the American Psychological Association (APA) and the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP), as well as state-level professional associations. Malone previously served as an elected member of the APA Board of Educational Affairs, the governance group that develops policies for education and training in psychology. Within NASP, she served as a student leader for her graduate program, a member of the 2012 Convention Committee, co-chair of the Leadership Development Committee, and a strategic liaison on the Board of Directors. These experiences culminated in Malone's election as 2022–2023 NASP President, where, notably, she became the second person of color to serve in this role.

Malone's leadership and dedication to social justice in psychology have not gone unnoticed. She has been recognized with presidential honors from NASP, the Maryland School Psychologists' Association, and APA Division 16 School Psychology. In addition to her professional role, Dr. Malone is an active member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and served as a regional co-chair of one of the sorority's leadership development programs.