

Psychology Careers Working with Children

Specialty	Focus	Degree
Child Life Specialist	Help children cope with the challenges of hospitalization, illness, and disability	Bachelors & Certification
School Counselor	Prevention, identification and intervention of problems at school, academic success, career and college preparation	Masters from CACREP accredited program & Certification
School Social Worker	Psychological and social issues; systemic approach	Masters & Licensure
School Psychologist	Diagnosis, assessment/evaluation, consultation	Masters from CACREP or Doctorate from APA accredited program & Certification
Student Assistance Coordinator	Address substance abuse issues, social and emotional issues, and behavioral problems	Licensed Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor Credential
Applied Behavior Analysis Therapist	Use behavior management to help children with autism or developmental issues with communication, social, and life skills and decrease problematic behavior	Masters & Certification
Child Psychologist	Assess and treat children and adolescents for mental illness and developmental issues. Expert in psychological assessment.	Doctorate & Licensure
Marriage and Family Therapist	Offer guidance to couples, families, and groups who are dealing with issues that affect their mental health and well-being	Masters & Licensure

Expressive Therapies

Career	Focus	Educational Requirements	Resources
Art Therapy	Psychotherapy involving the encouragement of free self-expression through studio art as a remedial activity or an aid to diagnosis.	Masters from CACREP and AATA accredited program to become an LPC and Licensed Professional Art Therapist (LPAT) *need 18 credits of studio art for graduate study applications	https://www.caldwell.edu/graduate/grad-academic-programs/psychology-and-counseling/ma-counsel-art
Music Therapy	Use of music within a therapeutic relationship to address physical, emotional, cognitive, and social needs of individuals including creating, singing, moving to, and/or listening to music.	BA or MA from a AMTA approved program; Music Therapist-Board Certification (MT-BC) *the national standard by 2020	https://www.musictherapy.org/careers/information-for-becoming-a-music-therapist/ https://njmusictherapy.org/
Drama Therapy	Use of drama and/or theater processes to achieve therapeutic goals	MA in Drama Therapy from a NADTA approved program or MA in related field with 300 contact hours and 470 internship hours; 500 hours of drama/theatre experience 1000 hours of paid experience as a drama therapist; registration as a Drama Therapist (RDT) *strongly encourage earning an LPC in conjunction	https://www.nadta.org/education-and-credentialing/become-an-rdt.html
Dance Movement Therapy	Psychotherapeutic use of movement to promote emotional, social, cognitive, and physical health and well-being	ADTA approved MA program; registration as a Dance/Movement Therapist (R-DMT) and/or Board Certified Dance/Movement Therapist (BC-DMT) *licensure in NJ in progress *strongly encourage earning an LPC in conjunction	https://adta.org/how-to-become-a-dmt/ https://www.njadta.org/take-action https://www.rider.edu/academics/colleges-schools/college-education-human-services/graduate-programs/counseling-services/ma-clinical-mental-health-counseling/dance-movement-therapy

* Be certain any program you attend is accredited/approved in the discipline you seek to study and will lead to the licensure/certification needed

Psychology Careers in Legal Settings

Area	Focus	Minimum Degree/Licensure
Non-Criminal Assessment	Civil (e.g. Personal Injury), evaluation of police officers, gun ownership evaluations, restraining orders, etc.	Ph.D./Psy.D.(Psychologist)
Family	Child-parent problems, custody, neglect/abuse, child support, parental rights, best interest of children, victim advocate	BA or BSW working under supervision; MA/MS to work independently
Criminal Assessment	Competency for trial, expert witness, profiling, recidivism	MA/MS (LPC), LCSW or BA + FBI training; other than FBI training, the Ph.D./Psy.D. (Psychologist) provides the most career opportunities and highest level of expertise, especially if utilizing formal assessment instruments
Probations	Counseling; monitor & report progress	BA or BSW
Court involvement	e.g. counseling clients with drug convictions; testifying as a fact witness	MA/MS (LPC), LCSW
Corrections	Evaluation and treatment of prisoners	MA/MS (LPC), LSCW
Public Policy	Research	BA or BSW

Psychology Careers in School Settings

Specialty	Focus	Degree
Therapeutic Support Specialist	Support and assist children with disabilities	Bachelors
School Counselor	Prevention, identification and intervention of problems at school, academic success, career and college preparation	Masters from CACREP accredited program & Certification
School Social Worker	Psychological and social issues; systemic approach	Masters & Licensure
School Psychologist	Diagnosis, assessment/evaluation, consultation	Masters from CACREP or Doctorate from APA accredited program & Certification
Student Assistance Coordinator	Address substance abuse issues, social and emotional issues, and behavioral problems	Licensed Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor Credential

Careers in Therapy, Counseling, and Mental Health

Career	Focus	Degree
Clinical Psychologist	Highly specialized in diagnosis and psychotherapeutic treatment of mental, behavioral, and emotional illness	Doctoral degree (PsyD or PhD in counseling or clinical psychology); Licensure
Mental Health Counseling	Works with individuals on issues that impacts mental health with psychotherapy	Master's degree in mental health counseling; Licensure (LPC)
Marriage and Family Therapist	Guide couples, families and groups on issues that affect their mental health and well-being with an emphasis on systems	Master's degree in marriage and family therapy; Licensure (LMFT)
Licensed Clinical Social Workers	Work with clients to help deal with issues involving mental and emotional health as well as general social work	Master's degree in social work (MSW) & clinical training; Licensure (LCSW)
Substance Abuse Counselor	Specialize in treating clients who have a chemical dependency on drugs or alcohol.	Master's degree in related field; Licensure as a Clinical Alcohol and Drug Counselor (LCACD) CADC also an option
Rehabilitation Counselor	Help people overcome obstacles to live more independently	Master's degree in rehabilitation counseling; Licensure (LRC)
Applied Behavior Analysis Therapist	Use reward systems and other behavior management techniques as a means to modify behavior	Master's degree in behavioral analysis, education, or psychology; Certification (BCBA)
Expressive Arts Therapist	Combines psychology and the creative process (art, drama, dance, or music) to promote emotional growth and healing	Master's degree in specific field and certification or licensure; encouraged to earn in LPC as well
Recreational Therapist	Uses recreation and activity-based interventions to enhance psychological and physical health	Bachelor's degree in field or master's with alternative BA; Certification (CRTS)
Psychiatrist	Deals with the prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and research of mental disorders from a medical/psychopharmacological perspective	M.D., residency in psychiatry; Board Certification

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