

CAREER OUTLOOK

Employment opportunities for psychologists are expected to grow between 10%-20% through the year 2010. People holding doctoral degrees with emphasis in areas such as counseling, health, and educational psychology will find many job opportunities. Graduates with a master's degree will find the best possibility for employment in positions involving school and industrial-organizational psychology. This is due to the fact that schools and businesses are expected to increase counseling and mental health services. Many companies are beginning to offer employee assistance programs that help employees deal with personal problems. The fastest growth in the healthcare sector will be in outpatient mental health and substance abuse treatment programs.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Psychological Association
750 First Street NE
Washington, DC 20002-4242
Phone: (202) 336-5500
Phone: (800) 374-2721
Web: www.apa.org

National Institute of Mental Health
6001 Executive Boulevard, Room 8235
Bethesda, MD 20892-9669
Phone: (301) 443-3675
Web: www.nimh.nih.gov

Mississippi Psychological Association
PO Box 1120
Jackson, MS 39215-1120
Phone: (601) 353-1672
Web: www.mpassoc.org

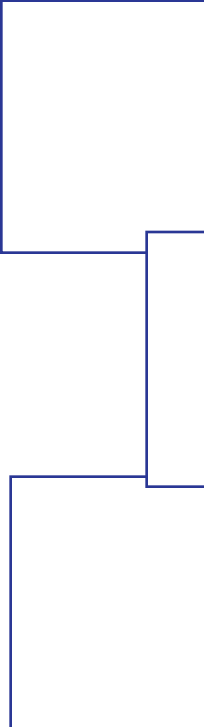


MHA HEALTH CAREERS CENTER

6425 LAKEOVER ROAD (39213)
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POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES

Psychologists study the human mind and human behavior in an effort to provide diagnosis and/or therapy for patients suffering from mental, emotional, or behavioral problems. Once a problem is identified, they determine the best treatment and monitor the patient's progress. Psychologists collect data through a variety of methods including interviews, medical and case histories, and other observational techniques. They often select, administer, and interpret psychological tests that help precisely identify mental health problems. They also consult with parents, teachers, counselors, and others that may have insight into a patient's mental health history. Another important function that psychologists perform is research. They develop and evaluate mental health programs, and then publish their findings in professional and trade journals. The American Psychological Association recognizes nearly 50 specialties in this field; among them are clinical, educational, developmental, cognitive, counseling, industrial-organizational, social, exercise and sports, personality, experimental, psychoanalysis, and neuropsychology. An individual interested in psychology should be emotionally stable and have excellent oral and written communication skills.

WORK ENVIRONMENT

Psychologists work in a variety of settings including hospitals, schools and universities, correctional facilities, government agencies, rehabilitation facilities, clinics, private offices, industries, community mental health facilities, and businesses.

They may work alone or in conjunction with other psychologists, psychiatrists, or other medical professionals.

HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Students interested in becoming a psychologist should concentrate on high school courses in biology, chemistry, algebra, English (literature and composition), history, psychology, sociology, computer skills, social studies, health occupations/medical professions education, and foreign languages.

COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Psychologists are generally required to obtain a Ph.D., a Psy.D. (Doctor of Psychology), or an Ed.S. (Educational Specialist) degree in order to practice psychology. A doctoral degree will qualify an individual to conduct research, conduct clinical counseling, and teach a variety of topics in schools and universities. In order to specialize, two years of post-doctoral study is required. Individuals with a master's degree or a bachelor's degree can work under the supervision of a psychologist as a psychological assistant. This allows them to conduct research, perform administrative duties, and conduct psychological evaluations. Students interested in psychology should contact schools for information on admission and course of study.

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Millsaps College
1701 N. State Street
Jackson, MS 39210
Phone: (601) 974-1001

University of Southern
MS (MA,MS, & PhD)
Box 5101
Hattiesburg, MS 39406
Phone: (601) 288-4201

Tougaloo College
500 County Line Road
Tougaloo, MS 39168
Phone: (601) 977-1000

Alcorn State University
PO Box 18399
Natchez, MS 39124
Phone: (601) 442-1000

Delta State University
PO Box 3154
Cleveland, MS 38902
Phone: (662) 844-1000

Mississippi University
for Women
PO Box W-161
Columbus, MS 39202
Phone: (662) 321-1000

The University of
Mississippi
Medical Center
(MA & PhD)
2500 North State Street
Jackson, MS 39216
Phone: (601) 977-1000

Jackson State
University--(PhD)
1325 J R Lynch
Jackson, MS 39201
Phone: (601) 977-1000

Average Annual
Salary Range
*varies greatly