



Internship & Career Services Industry Guide: Psychology

OVERVIEW

As one of the most popular and versatile undergraduate majors, those studying psychology enjoy the opportunity to enter into a wide variety of career paths, including criminal justice, business, education, medicine, research, social work, health care and beyond. Psychology is a rapidly growing industry, and the Bureau of Labor Statistics projects jobs for psychologists to increase by 14% by 2026. Depending on your career goals and the type of industry you might be interested in, you may consider pursuing a Master's or Doctorate degree, but career options are far from limited with an undergraduate in psychology!

WHAT NEXT STEPS TO TAKE TO PURSUE A CAREER IN PSYCHOLOGY

Join related organizations through Butler:

Butler has a variety of different clubs that you may want to look further into, depending on your future career interests. For example, if you want to potentially pursue a career in psychiatric pharmaceuticals, you can look into the College of Psychiatric and Neurological Pharmaceuticals club, or if you are potentially interested in law school, you could join Butler's Pre-Law Society. Overall, there are over 150 organizations on campus to get involved with - and not all of the organizations you join need to be psychology-related! Both graduate schools and future employers will want to see that you are well-rounded and have been actively developing critical thinking skills outside of the classroom.

Seek out job shadows, internships, and research opportunities:

Employers and graduate schools will want to see that you have a genuine motivation and interest in the field. No matter what kind of psychology field you want to pursue, job shadows, internships, and research opportunities all provide extra hands-on experience that will set you apart from other candidates pursuing the same position. Further, these experiences provide valuable insight on the psychology field that may help you determine what kind of career you may want to pursue.

Take related courses and maintain good grades:

Depending on what you might want to focus on and if you are considering going to graduate school, Butler offers a variety of psychology and related courses that you may want to consider enrolling in order to set yourself up for success. For example, if you want to pursue a career in law, you may want to consider taking Forensic Psychology or Psychology & Law. Graduate schools and employers alike will also want to see that you took challenging courses (and did well in them!), especially across math and science fields. The better your grades, the better you may be able to set yourself up for graduate school and desired careers.

WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH A PSYCHOLOGY DEGREE?

Beyond clinical settings, psychology plays a major role in a variety of industries and business sectors. With a broad array of professional applications, psychology majors are not limited to specific career paths. For more specialized career routes or opportunities in a clinical or research setting, you may consider pursuing a higher degree in psychology. However, there is no shortage of opportunities in psychology for those who enter the workforce with a Bachelor's degree!

ESSENTIAL SKILLS/QUALITIES FOR CAREERS IN PSYCHOLOGY

- Strong communication skills
- Interest in continual education
- Compassion
- Emotional stability
- Trustworthiness
- Open-mindedness
- Patience

CHOOSING BETWEEN PSY.D & PHD

- Psy.D. - Less emphasis on research, more focus on clinical work, takes 4-6 years to complete
- Ph.D. - More emphasis on research, less focus on clinical work, takes 5-7 years to complete

Level of Education:	Industry / Sector:	Potential Careers:
Bachelor's Degree (More limited in clinical/specialized career paths, but provides a great entry level degree into a wide variety of industries!)	Business	Human Resources Manager Advertising Agent Market Researcher Public Relations Representative Project Manager Sales Representative
	Criminal Justice / Law	Correctional Officer Police Officer Detective / Investigator
	Education & Counseling	Academic Advisor Guidance Counselor Career Counselor Academic Recruiter Teacher / Professor
Master's Degree (Most who obtain a Master's go on to pursue their Doctorate, but some do choose to enter the field with a Master's degree)	Clinical Psychology	Behavioral Counselor Rehabilitation Specialist Family Services Worker Child Protection Worker Child Care Supervisor
	Experimental Psychology	Research Assistant Lab Manager Market Researcher
	Counseling / Social Work	Vocational Rehabilitation Provider Self-Reliance Specialist Drug and Alcohol Specialist Employment Counselor Rehabilitation Counselor
Doctorate (Ph.D. / Psy.D.) (Only education level with ability to work under official "psychologist" title)	Variety of Specializations	Psychiatrist (requires M.D.) Neuropsychologist Sports Psychologist Clinical Psychologist Child Psychologist Forensic Psychologist

Online Resources:

- [American Psychological Association - Careers in Psychology \(apa.org\)](http://apa.org)
- [Choosing Between a PsyD and a PhD \(psychologytoday.com\)](http://psychologytoday.com)
- [Get Up and Start Preparing for a Career in Psychology \(careersinpsychology.org\)](http://careersinpsychology.org)
- [Internship & Career Services: Guide to Professional Success PDF](#)
- [Psychology Career Information and Outlook \(psychologydegree411.com\)](http://psychologydegree411.com)
- [Psychology Jobs in Indianapolis \(indeed.com\)](http://indeed.com)
- [What Can I Do With a Master's Degree in Psychology? \(verywellmind.com\)](http://verywellmind.com)
- [What Can You Do With a Psychology Degree? \(usnews.com\)](http://usnews.com)