

EXPLORE SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY CAREERS

WHAT IS SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY?

School psychologists are uniquely qualified members of school teams that support students' ability to learn and teachers' ability to teach. They apply expertise in mental health, learning, and behavior, to help children and youth succeed academically, socially, behaviorally, and emotionally. School psychologists partner with families, teachers, school administrators, and other professionals to create safe, healthy, and supportive learning environments that strengthen connections between home, school, and the community.

FREQUENT JOB TITLES

- School Psychologist
- Licensed Specialist in School Psychology
- Educational Specialist

KEY SKILLS

- Social Perceptiveness
- Active Listening
- Critical Thinking
- Written & Verbal Communication
- Complex Problem Solving
- Monitoring

RELATED STUDENT ORGS

- Psychology Club
- Kids at Heart
- Peer Learning Association-UW-Madison

QUALIFICATIONS

- Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)
5 years+, dissertation,
1 year pre-doctoral internship
(at least half of internship in a school)
- Education Specialist (EdS)
2 years graduate school,
plus 1 year full-time internship

COMMON EMPLOYERS

- Public and Private schools
- Preschools
- School district administration offices
- Universities
- Juvenile justice programs
- Independent private practice
- Pediatric Clinics and Hospitals

LICENSURE

- Follow state licensure requirements

ASSOCIATIONS

- National Association of School Psychologists
- American Psychological Association

SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES

- Gain on-campus research experience
- Volunteer with educational and community organizations serving children and youth
- Gain experience working 1:1 with populations of interest