

# Counseling Psychologist



## What do they do?

Counseling Psychologists work with patients to help them manage and overcome mental or emotional problems. A Psychologist will observe and assess their patients through counseling, how to deal with their problems, identify their strengths and find other sources of support and help.

## Where do they work?

Some Counseling Psychologists work alone in their own practice, while some work as part of a healthcare team. Others work in colleges and universities, for the government or perform research.

## Pay:

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the average yearly income for Counseling Psychologists is \$79,010.



## Education:

A doctorate degree is required to be a Counseling Psychologist, while some areas of care only require a master's degree.

Those interested in becoming school counselors will pursue a Ph.D. in Educational Psychology.

## Counseling Psychology training in Madison:

UW-Madison:

[www.counselingpsych.education.wisc.edu](http://www.counselingpsych.education.wisc.edu)

\*UW-Madison offers a master's degree (M.S.) specializing in community counseling, and a Ph.D. in counseling psychology.

Educational Psychology at UW-Madison:

[www.edpsych.education.wisc.edu](http://www.edpsych.education.wisc.edu)

## Accreditation:

Education programs for Counseling Therapists are accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA):

[www.apa.org](http://www.apa.org).



## Professional Associations:

Counseling Psychologists can choose to join any of the following professional associations.

Society of Counseling Psychology:

[www.apa.org](http://www.apa.org)

Wisconsin Psychological Association:

[www.wipsychology.org](http://www.wipsychology.org)



## License:

Graduates of an accredited Counseling Psychology program must become licensed through their state licensing agency. In Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services is the assigned agency.

The state board determines eligibility to sit for the Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology (EPPP), which is administered by the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards.

[www.asppb.net](http://www.asppb.net)

Wisconsin licensure also includes a state written examination on the "elements of practice essential to the public health, safety or welfare." Information on the WI exam and license can be found here:

[www.dsps.wi.gov](http://www.dsps.wi.gov)



## Specializations:

The American Board of Professional Psychology offers exams in the following specialties:

- Counseling Psychology
- School Psychology
- Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology
- Cognitive and Behavioral Psychology
- Couple and Family Psychology



## Job Outlook:

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment for Psychologists is expected to grow 14 percent between 2016-2026, which is faster than average across all occupations.

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2017-18 Edition*, Psychologists, [www.bls.gov/ooh/life-physical-and-social-science/psychologists.htm](http://www.bls.gov/ooh/life-physical-and-social-science/psychologists.htm)

