



WILLIAM JAMES
COLLEGE



south cove
community health center
華人醫務中心

Mental Health Careers

Psychologist:

Psychologists are people who study human behavior, thinking, behaving, feeling, communicating and perceiving the world around them. Psychologists are tasked with examining human behavior to determine the cause and helping patients solve the problem.

What do psychologists do?

- Psychological diagnosis of the patient to evaluate the clinical condition
- Clinical interview with patient to learn their history
- Plan treatment for patients, monitor progress, and adjust treatment when necessary
- Design a behavior modification program for patients
- Teach patients coping strategies to solve problems
- Develop psychological education programs
- Conduct psychological research and reports
- Prepare technical reports and presentations
- Patient record keeping is accurate and complete

Psychiatrist:

A psychiatrist is a medical doctor (an M.D. or D.O.) who specializes in mental health, including substance use disorders. Psychiatrists are qualified to assess both the mental and physical aspects of psychological problems. Psychiatrists use a variety of treatments – including various forms of talk therapy, medications, psychosocial interventions and other treatments (such as electroconvulsive therapy or ECT), depending on the needs of each patient.

Social Worker:

The job of a "Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker" (LICSW) involves providing psychological and social services in the field of independent clinical social work. Their duties include:

1. **Assessment and Diagnosis:** LICSWs conduct interviews and psychological assessments for patients to identify psychological and social issues.
2. **Treatment Planning:** Based on the assessment, they develop customized treatment plans, including providing psychological support, counseling, and social treatment planning.

3. Counseling: LICSWs often provide counseling to individuals, families, or groups to help them address psychological and social issues.
4. Community Support: They may work in the community, providing social support services to individuals in need, such as at non-profit organizations.
5. Psychological Care: LICSWs frequently work with patients dealing with psychological issues like stress, anxiety, or depression, offering support and monitoring during treatment.
6. Reporting and Documentation: They review, document, and report on treatment progress and patient status to track improvement and ensure compliance with regulations.
7. Compliance with Regulations: LICSWs must adhere to regulations and laws related to providing psychological and social services, safeguarding the rights and safety of patients.

The LICSW position requires a high level of education, psychological and social thinking skills, and the ability to work with a diverse range of individuals in need of psychological and social support.

Nurse Practitioner:

Nurse practitioners, also known as advanced practice registered nurses, are people with specialized ethics and more advanced clinical training than regular nursing staff and nurses. Depending on the specialty, practicing nurses can work in a variety of pediatrics, geriatrics, mental health or general practice areas.

Case Manager/Interpreter:

Case managers are front line staff members helping patients with their needs and helping to maintain the relationship between patients and their providers. This will include scheduling appointments for patients, delegate questions/comments/concerns to appropriate providers, help providers coordinate with other organizations/providers and with patients and help interpret/translate for psychiatric and therapy appointments using culturally and linguistically appropriate terminologies. When appropriate case managers will also help de-escalate/triage situations for providers. College degree required.

PsyD:

PsyD stands for Doctor of Psychology. It is a doctoral-level degree that is typically awarded in clinical psychology, counseling psychology, school psychology, or other applied psychology disciplines. The PsyD degree emphasizes practical clinical training and the application of psychological principles to real-world settings, with a focus on assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of individuals.

PhD:

PhD stands for Doctor of Philosophy, it is a doctoral-level degree that is typically awarded in clinical psychology, counseling psychology, school psychology, or other applied psychology disciplines. It is the most common degree that individuals choose within the psychology field. The PhD degree has an emphasis in research, training individuals to accurately conduct research, gather data, produce new scientific knowledge and apply knowledge to clinical work.

MD:

MD stands for Doctor of Medicine. It is a graduate-level professional degree awarded to individuals who have completed medical school and met the requirements for medical licensure. The MD degree signifies that the holder is a medical doctor who is qualified to practice medicine and provide healthcare services to patients.

Master's Degree:

Master's degree is a two-three year program that individuals will enroll in after completing their Bachelor's degree. A Master's degree is when an individual will enroll in a more specialized program that focuses on a specific field.

Bachelor's Degree:

An individual can get a Bachelor's degree in either sciences or arts. This is a four year program that occurs at the undergraduate level. Once completed Individuals can work in an entry level position depending on the field that they choose.