

# School Psychology Career Information

*As a School Psychologist, you can make a positive and lasting difference within families, schools, and communities by helping them create a supportive learning environment where children succeed academically, socially, and emotionally.*

## School Psychology Roles

School psychologists work with students individually and in groups. They also develop programs to train teachers and parents regarding effective teaching and learning strategies, effective techniques to manage behavior at home and in the classroom, working with students with disabilities or with special talents, abuse of drugs and other substances, and preventing and managing crises. In addition, school psychologists provide the following services.

### Prevention

- Design programs for children at risk of failing at school.
- Promote tolerance, understanding, and appreciation of diversity within the school community.
- Develop programs to make schools safer and more effective learning environments.
- Develop partnerships with parents and teachers to promote healthy school environments.

### Consultation & Supervision

- Collaborate with teachers, parents, and administrators to find effective solutions to learning and behavior problems.
- Clinically supervise trainees and interns to ensure competent practice.

### Evaluation

- Evaluate eligibility for special services.
- Assess academic skills and aptitude for learning.
- Determine social-emotional development and mental health status.
- Evaluate learning environments.

### Intervention

- Provide psychological counseling to help resolve interpersonal or family problems that interfere with school performance.
- Work directly with children and their families to help resolve problems in adjustment and learning.
- Help families and schools manage crises, such as death, illness, or community trauma.

### Research and Planning

- Evaluate the effectiveness of academic and behavior management programs.
- Identify and implement programs and strategies to improve schools.
- Use evidence-based research to develop and/or recommend effective interventions.
- Conduct research to contribute to the knowledge base in education and psychology.

## **Employment Opportunities**

Demand for school psychologists is exceptionally strong and on the rise. School psychology was listed in “Best Careers 2009” by *U. S. News & World Report* and is one of the five fastest growing doctoral-level occupations (Bureau of Labor Statistics). Schools and communities have come under increasing pressure to provide mental health and instructional support for children and youth. Furthermore, the profession currently faces large-scale retirements and subsequent shortages of school psychologists in both field and university settings. School psychology provides a stable career with exceptional growth opportunities and good health and retirement benefits. Graduates of the School Psychology Program at ASU are fully employed.

## **Degree Program Requirements**

School psychologists are highly trained in both psychology and education. Doctoral training in school psychology typically requires 5 to 6 years and includes extensive coursework as well as research and clinical experiences and a year-long internship.

## **Additional Information**

[National Association of School Psychologists](#)

[American Psychological Association](#)

[School Psychology Division of APA](#)

[Arizona Association of School Psychologists](#)

[International School Psychology Association](#)

[American Board of School Psychology](#)

[American Academy of School Psychology](#)