

NATURE OF WORK

The study of the human mind and human behavior is done by a psychologist. The investigation of the physical, cognitive, emotional, or social aspects of human behavior is done by a research psychologist. In the health services field a psychologist provides mental health care in hospitals, clinics, schools, or private settings. Psychologists employed in settings such as business, industry or government may conduct research, design systems, and act as advocates for psychology.

WORKING CONDITIONS

The working conditions for a psychologist are determined by the subfield and place of employment. Psychologists in private practice have their own office and set their own hours. They may offer evening and weekend hours to accommodate their clients. Psychologists employed in hospitals, nursing homes, and other health facilities may work shifts including evenings and weekends.

TRAINING & QUALIFICATIONS

A bachelor's degree in psychology qualifies a person to assist psychologists and other professionals in community mental health centers, vocational rehabilitation offices, and correctional programs. With a master's degree in psychology a person may work as an industrial-organizational psychologist or school psychologist. To work as an independent licensed clinical or counseling psychologist you may need a doctoral degree.

JOB OUTLOOK

Due to an increasing demand for psychological services in schools, hospitals, social service agencies, mental health centers, substance abuse treatment clinics, consulting firms, and private companies employment of psychologists is expected to grow faster than the average for all occupations through 2012. While industrial-organizational psychologists will have average growth, clinical, counseling, and school psychologists will grow faster than the average.

CAREER OPTIONS

Psychologist

ESTIMATED SALARY RANGE

(depending on skill, experience and responsibility)

New Mexico—\$42,100-\$86,600

Nationally— \$51, 760-\$119,080

RELATED OCCUPATIONS

Clergy, counselors, physicians and surgeons, social workers and sociologists.

SJC Basic Program Information

The Associate of Arts degree in Psychology is intended for transfer to a four-year baccalaureate granting institution. Those wishing to transfer to a baccalaureate granting institution and pursue a degree program in Psychology are strongly encouraged to check with their advisor and carefully coordinate their coursework and requirements with the transfer institution. Students must receive a "C" or better in all courses to count toward a degree.

For further information go to:

www.sanjuancollege.edu/pages/158.asp

Click on AS link under Transfer Programs

www.bls.gov/oco/ocos056.htm

www.careers-nm.org



*Most of this information is from the Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2008-2009