

The background features a series of concentric circles in light gray, some solid and some dashed, creating a ripple effect. A large, solid blue oval is positioned in the center-right of the frame. A thick, dark gray curved line sweeps from the bottom left towards the blue oval.

**Psychology**

# Human Services

Counseling

Psychotherapy

Applied behavior analysis

Art therapy

Music therapy

Case management

Mental health services

Physical health and wellness

Crisis work

Rehabilitation services (e.g., speech, physical, vocational therapies)

Performance enhancement

Testing/Assessment

Law enforcement

**Administration:**

- Advocacy
- Programming
- Community relations
- Management
- Development/Fund raising
- Grant writing

# Human Services Employers

## Federal government:

- Health and Human Services
- Justice
- Veterans Affairs

## State government:

- Departments of Human Services
- Departments of Mental Health
- Departments of Justice
- Community mental health centers
- State psychiatric hospitals
- Facilities for individuals with intellectual impairments
- Boards of probation and parole

## Local government

Senior citizens' centers

Nursing homes

Social service/nonprofit organizations

Religiously-affiliated service organizations

Hospitals/healthcare providers

Private psychiatric facilities

Outpatient clinics

Employee Assistance Programs (EAP)

College and university counseling centers and career centers

Pain clinics

Rehabilitation facilities

Testing centers

Private practice

# Human Services Strategies

Obtain essential practical experience through part-time or summer jobs such as camp counselor, tutor, or resident hall advisor.

Complete an internship for academic credit.

Gain experience through volunteering with organizations such as crisis hotlines, Big Brother or Sister, Special Olympics, service groups, etc.

Many entry-level helping positions require one year of related experience. Volunteer experience and internships can typically fulfill this requirement.

Learn to work well with different types of people.

Develop strong communication skills.

Cultivate the desire to help others.

Earn a minor in a specialized field of interest (e.g., child & family studies, sociology, or political science)

Take courses to build valuable counseling-related skills (e.g., techniques of counseling).

Become fluent in a second language to serve clients who may not speak English.

Be willing to relocate for increased job opportunities.

Acquire knowledge of government and community resources available for those in need.

Earn graduate degrees in psychology, counseling, or social work for positions involving substantive counseling or psychotherapy or for advancement into administrative/supervisory positions.

# Research

Social research

Market research

Data analysis

Testing/Test development

Experimental psychology

Neuroscience

Industrial and organizational (I/O)  
psychology

# Research Employers

Federal, state and local government agencies (e.g., National Institute of Health)

National headquarters of non-profit organizations

Universities and colleges

Market research firms

Market research departments of consumer goods and manufacturing firms

Private research organizations

Consulting firms

# Research Strategies

Pursue research experience by working on faculty projects through independent study classes, as a student employee, as a volunteer in their lab, or through other departmental programs.

Take additional math and statistics courses to develop strong quantitative and statistical skills.

Take additional science courses or consider a minor in Neuroscience.

Obtain related experience through part-time or summer jobs or internships with a market research firm.

Get involved in the American Marketing Association.

Earn a graduate degree in experimental psychology, educational psychology, I/O psychology, statistics, or marketing.

# Education

## Teaching

Adult learning/Community instruction (e.g., GED classes, life skills, parenting, etc.)

## Information/Library science

## Higher education administration and student support services:

- Admissions
- Financial aid
- Academic advising
- Development
- Alumni affairs
- International education and study abroad
- Career services
- Residence life
- Student activities and Greek life
- Orientation
- Leadership
- Multicultural affairs
- Recreational sports



# Education Employers

Public and private K-12 schools

Colleges and universities

Government agencies

Federal Trio programs (e.g., Upward Bound, Talent Search)

Nonprofit organizations (e.g., Project Grad)

College prep programs

# Education Strategies

Obtain a teaching certificate for public school positions. Multiple certification will increase marketability. Seek guidance from the education department of your college.

Earn a doctoral degree in psychology for post-secondary teaching.

Pursue graduate training in information science for library positions.

Earn a master's in Counseling with a specialty in career development if interested in career services.

Seek a master's degree in college student personnel, higher education administration for student affairs or administrative positions.

Maintain a high GPA and secure strong personal recommendations.

Gain experience working with children, adolescents, or college students through tutoring or other volunteer positions.

Acquire related experience on campus as a resident hall advisor, orientation leader, admissions tour guide, or peer mentor.

Develop strong communication skills and learn to speak well in front of a group.

# Human Resources

Employment and recruitment

Selection

Labor relations

Compensation and benefits

Organizational development

Training

# Human Resources Employers

Large companies

Government agencies

Staffing and employment  
services

Large non-profit organizations

Hospitals

Educational institutions

# Human Resources Strategies

Gain relevant experience in human resources by completing an internship.

Earn a minor in business or supplement curriculum with business courses.

Seek leadership positions in student organizations.

Develop strong computer skills.

Earn an MBA or a graduate degree in human resources to attain higher level positions.

# Business

Sales

Customer service

Public relations

Marketing

Advertising

Insurance

- **Claims management**
- **Underwriting**

Product design

Management

Real estate

- **Sales**
- **Property management**

# Business Employers

Service providers

Wholesalers

Manufacturers

Retail stores:

- Department stores
- Specialty stores
- Discount stores
- Super retailers
- Online retailers

Call centers

Financial institutions

Insurance companies

Real estate companies

Property management firms

Apartment complexes

Public relations departments of large businesses or nonprofit organizations

# Business Strategies

Develop career goals and seek relevant experiences to prepare for those goals.

Earn a minor in business or supplement curriculum with business or communication courses.

Obtain relevant experience through internships or part-time jobs.

Work a part-time or summer job in a retail store. Demonstrate a willingness to take on additional responsibilities such as “assistant manager.”

Participate in student organizations and seek leadership roles.

Learn to work well with different types of people. Develop a strong commitment to customer satisfaction.

For sales, develop the ability to work well under pressure and be comfortable in a competitive environment.

Be willing to start in a management-trainee program or other entry-level positions.

When job searching, seek employers interested in hiring “any major.”

Understand the top skills employers desire and be prepared to demonstrate them, such as communication (oral and written), computer, interpersonal, leadership and teamwork, etc.



# General Psychology Information

Psychology provides a broad, liberal arts background.

Some students may choose to study psychology because they enjoy the subject but wish to pursue careers requiring “any major.” In this scenario, it is critical to develop desirable skills through internships, part-time or summer jobs, or volunteer experiences. Some skills valued most by employers include: communication, interpersonal, leadership, teamwork, and computer skills.

Other students may major in psychology because they want to work in a related field. Many entry-level helping positions are available; however the amount of direct client contact is limited for those who only have a bachelor’s degree. Students may wish to pursue graduate education in psychology, social work, counseling, college student personnel, or other related fields to increase opportunities and earning potential. Research career fields to learn what type of degree (master’s, educational specialist, doctoral) and subject area are most appropriate for your interests and desired population.

Many applied positions require licensure. This can take an additional one to three years of supervised experience after earning a graduate degree depending upon state requirements. Graduate programs in clinical work should be accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA) in order to ensure a smooth transition towards licensure. Graduate programs in counseling should be accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP).

Research the availability of certifications for specialties like the Board Certified Behavior Analyst if interested in working with people with disabilities.