

What Can I do with a major in **Health Psychology?**

Psychology is a core social science; yet, it is rooted to the biological sciences and is the foundation for the cognitive sciences. As a psychologist, you will study behavior, perception, motivation, learning, emotions, physiological processes, thinking, and, problem solving, and abnormalities in these systems of human functioning. Health psychology is an applied branch of psychology that uses the scientific, educational, and professional contributions of the discipline of psychology to identify the behavioral aspects of physical and mental health and illness, promote and maintain physical and mental health, prevent and treat physical and mental illness and analyze health policy to improve the physical and mental health care systems. Health Psychology majors are able to find career opportunities in medical and hospital clinics, mental health clinics, behavioral health clinics, substance abuse centers, rehabilitation facilities, and health maintenance organizations. In addition, many psychologists hold faculty positions at colleges and universities, and as high school psychology teachers.

A Sample of Related Career Opportunities:

Mental Health Counselor
Rehabilitation Counselor
Advisor

Therapeutic Support Specialist
Substance Abuse Counselor
Social Worker

Psychologist
Researcher

Types of Employers:

Private and Non-profit Organizations

medical and hospital clinics
behavioral health clinics
rehabilitation facilities

mental health clinics
substance abuse centers
health maintenance organizations

Government Agencies

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Public Health Service
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Occupational Safety and Health Administration
National Institutes for Mental Health
World Health Organization

Links for Health Psychology Majors

American Psychological Association, Health Psychology Website: <http://www.health-psych.org/>

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services: <http://www.os.dhhs.gov/>

American Psychological Association Main Page: <http://www.apa.org/#APA>

World Health Organization: <http://www.who.int/en/>

Health Psych: <http://www.healthpsych.com/index.shtml>

MonsterTRAK: <http://www.monstertrak.com>