

CAREER QUICK FACTS: SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY



UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA
Career Center

School psychologists work within schools and educational settings to support children's learning, emotional, social, and developmental well being. They diagnose and help address learning difficulties, behavioral challenges, or developmental delays that may interfere with a child's academic success. They counsel students, collaborate with teachers, parents, and other school staff, design interventions, and often help plan school-wide supports.

Important Skills/Knowledge:

- Knowledge of child development, learning theory, and educational psychology
- Assessment and diagnostic skills
- Counseling and communication skills
- Intervention planning and implementation
- Collaboration / consulting skills
- Understanding of special education, behavioral supports, and educational law/policy

Source: American Psychological Association

How do I become a School Psychologist?

Most school psychologists hold at least a specialist-level degree (e.g., Ed.S., M.A./M.S. in School Psychology) or a related advanced degree in psychology or education. Training includes coursework in psychological and educational assessment, counseling, child development, intervention strategies, and often practicum / internship experiences in school settings. Licensing or certification (depending on state/region) may be required to work in schools. Many programs prepare graduates for such credentialing.

Source: William James College

Career Outlook*

Projected Job Growth 2024-2034: 6%

- Average job growth for all occupations is 3%

Median Annual Salary: \$84,940

- Median salaries represent the exact middle point of salaries for this career (half are higher, half are lower).
- This data applies specifically to the field of school psychology.
- Related fields such as educational support services or health-practitioner offices where many school psychologists find work may have different median salaries.

*Job Outcome Data (<https://www.bls.gov>)

Possible Job Titles

- School Psychologist
- School Counselor (not always the same, but sometimes)
- Educational or Behavioral Specialist
- Child & Adolescent Counselor
- Educational Program Coordinator
- Psychological/Diagnostic Assessment Specialist
- Intervention Specialist



The following minors and undergraduate certificates may be helpful in pursuit of this career field.

Minors to Consider

Communications Studies – Sociology
Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages

Birth through Kindergarten Education
Educational Psychology –
Human Development and Family Science
Social Work

Certificates to Consider

Disability Studies – Teaching English to
Speakers of Other Languages – Learning,
Design, & Technology

Courses to Consider

PSYC 4100 Cognitive Psychology
PSYC 4200 Social Psychology
PSYC 4220 Developmental Psychology
EDIT 2000 Teaching and Learning with
Technology
EDIT 4100S Mentoring K12 Kids through
Technology
EPSY 3010 Child and Adolescent
Development for Education
EPSY 4240 Abnormal Child Psychology
HDFS courses

Want to talk to a School Psychologist?
Check out the UGA Mentor Program!

