Careers: Psychology

The University of Maryland Psychology major graduates have been successful in many different post-graduation fields.

Using information from the University of Maryland graduation survey, we have compiled information about PSYC majors, such as where they work or go to graduate school post-graduation. Check out the topics below to learn more about planning for your career! Review additional resources at BSOS’s Your Career.

Topics/Quick Links
- Sample Entry Level Jobs for PSYC Majors
- Explore Career Titles
- Career Planning Links
- Gain Experience
- Identify Skills Developed
- Job & Internship Search Links
- Employers of PSYC Graduates
- Connect & Grow Your Network

“Psychology is 90% or more of my current position. I tell my direct reports almost weekly that we need to find the "root cause" to the problem so that we can grow from it and the only way to get to the root cause is by asking the right questions (from my Helping Skills course).”

- Brandon Bowers ’12; Psychology
  Director of Human Resources, Macy's Inc.
Career Titles of Recent PSYC Undergraduates

Many subfields are available within psychology including clinical, counseling, and health psychology. But psychology majors also go into fields like law, market research, and consulting. Review a sample of the subfields that psychology majors pursue within the [Careers in Psychology- Subfields](#) handout.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Business/Marketing</th>
<th>Human Services</th>
<th>Research</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Account Development Manager</td>
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<td>Behavioral Data Specialist</td>
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<td>Clinic Coordinator</td>
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<td>Clinical Assistant/Research Assistant</td>
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<td>Associate District Manager</td>
<td>Behavior Therapist</td>
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<td>Brand Associate</td>
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<td>Licensed Personal Banker</td>
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<td>Quality Assurance Specialist</td>
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<td>Sales and Office Manager Store Management Executive</td>
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<td>Travel Specialist</td>
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<tr>
<th>Human Resources/IO</th>
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<th>Other</th>
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<tr>
<td>Corporate Recruiter</td>
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<td>Library Assistant/ Proctor</td>
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<td>Class Teacher/Aide</td>
<td>Personnel Security Specialist</td>
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<td>National Recruitment Coordinator Recruiter</td>
<td>Dance Teacher</td>
<td>Police Officer</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Intensive Early Intervention Technician</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Interpretive Aide</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lead Preschool Teacher</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Middle School Program Coordinator</td>
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<td>Minority Fellowship Intern</td>
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<td>Tutor</td>
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*Reported by University of Maryland undergraduate Psychology graduates. Obtained by the University Career Center & The President’s Promise Graduation Survey.*
Some career paths require an advanced degree. Start researching your career path of interest to identify the educational requirements. The resources below offer a brief overview of some of the more popular psychology graduate degrees.

Assessments Specialist  
Assistant Director for Student Services  
Assistant Professor of Psychology  
Career Center Counselor  
Certified Vocational Rehabilitation Consultant  
Clinic Coordinator  
Consumer Insights Planner  
Editorial Assistant  
Faculty Advisor  
Forensic Psychologist  
Industrial/Organizational Psychologist  
Manager- Professional Training & Coaching  
Marriage & Family Therapist  
Psychiatrist  
Psychologist  
Psychology Associate  
Quality Improvement Specialist  
Research Analyst Consultant  
Research Assistant and Interviewer  
Research Data Associate  
School: Counselor, Psychologist or Teacher  
Senior Market Research Analyst  
Vocational Consultant/ Expert Witness  

**Plus many more**

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**Graduate School Information**

- [Accredited Graduate Programs in Counseling](#) (from CACREP)
- [Choosing Between the PsyD and PhD Psychology Graduate Degree](#)
- [Non-Academic Careers for PhDs](#)
- [Psychology degree specialties](#)
- [Types of Psychology Degrees](#)
- [Types of Counseling Licensure in Maryland & Requirements](#)
- [Licensure information by state](#)
- [UMD Reed-Yorke Health Professions Advising](#), offers guidance on health related graduate school
- [UMD Pre-Law Advising](#), offers guidance on law related graduate school
- [Questions to consider](#) before applying to graduate school (plus a timeline for applying)
- [Financial Aid](#) resources for PSYC students
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INSTITUTIONS PSYC UNDERGRADUATES ARE ATTENDING</th>
<th>GRADUATE PROGRAMS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Catholic University of America</td>
<td>Social Work</td>
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<tr>
<td>Columbia University</td>
<td>Social Work</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drexel University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duke University</td>
<td>Physician Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>George Washington University</td>
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<td>George Washington University</td>
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<td>George Washington University</td>
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<td>Georgetown University</td>
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<td>Georgia State University</td>
<td>Clinical Psychology</td>
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<td>Howard University</td>
<td>Social Work</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Jay College of Criminal Justice</td>
<td>Forensic Psychology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Johns Hopkins University</td>
<td>In Pathobiology, Education, Engineering, Clinical Mental Health Counseling</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine</td>
<td>Medicine</td>
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<td>Loyola University Maryland</td>
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<td>Loyola University, Maryland</td>
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<td>New York University</td>
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<tr>
<td>New York University</td>
<td>Mental Health and Counseling</td>
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<tr>
<td>Penn State University</td>
<td>Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert Morris University</td>
<td>Human Resources Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rutgers University</td>
<td>School Counseling</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teachers College, Columbia University</td>
<td>Socio-Organizational Psychology and Counseling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temple University</td>
<td>Podiatry</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Commonwealth Medical College</td>
<td>Biomedical Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thomas Jefferson University</td>
<td>Occupational Therapy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Towson University</td>
<td>School Psychology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Maryland</td>
<td>In: Psychology, Education, Speech-Language Pathology, Public Health, Public Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law</td>
<td>Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Maryland School of Medicine</td>
<td>Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Maryland, Baltimore</td>
<td>In Social Work, Counseling</td>
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<td>University of Minnesota</td>
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<td>University of Pittsburgh</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Southern California</td>
<td>Public Policy</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Southern California</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of the District of Columbia</td>
<td>Counseling</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Virginia</td>
<td>Medicine</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Reported by University of Maryland undergraduate Psychology graduates. Sample list only.*
Explore Career Titles

Use the sample job titles (mentioned above) to start exploring career paths. The links below provide a short overview of the career titles.

- **Occupational Outlook Handbook**
- **O*NET Online**
- Use **FOCUS2** to explore career paths using self-assessment questionnaires
- Talk with professionals working in the field through the **Terrapins Connect**
- **Candid Career**, informational career videos
- **Vault Guides**, download 100’s of industry guides (Click the book below to read more. Note- users who are not logged in to UMD Vault Campus when they click below will first be prompted to log in. Use your Careers4Terps account for easiest access.)

Career Planning Links

Not sure where to start in planning your post-graduation activities? Review these resources.

- **Careers in Psychology**, APA
- **Careers in Psych**, Psychology Today
- **Encyclopedia of Psychology**, provides information on career paths, job boards, and graduate school
- **Federal positions by major**, research career titles with the federal government related to your major
- **Interesting careers in psychological science, APA**, career options for psychological scientists
- **Non-Academic careers in psychology**, career options outside of teaching for PhD candidates
- **Psychology careers**, overview of options
- **Non-PSYCH jobs** that interest psychology majors
- **Social Psychology Network**, all areas of PSYC
- **Psychology vs. Psychiatry: Do You Know the Difference?**

Develop a Career Plan: [go.umd.edu/BSOSactionplan](http://go.umd.edu/BSOSactionplan)
Gain Experience – Sample Internships for PSYC Majors

Psychology majors pursue a variety of internships. Review the sample list below. Internships are a great way to try out an interest, regardless if it is directly related to your major. Employers tend to favor job seekers who have had an internship in the field they are hiring for. Review additional site options here.

Advocacy Intern, Consumers Union
Call Specialist, Mental Health Association
Case Manager Intern, Westchester County Dept. of Community Mental Health
Clinical Assistant, Kennedy Krieger Institute
Clinical Experience Intern, KidsPeace
Family Justice Intern, Montgomery County Family Justice Center
Forensic Psychology Intern, Court Appointed Special Advocates of Washington, DC
HR Intern, Human Genome Sciences
HR Management Intern, Discovery Communications
HR Project Assistant, The Educational Alliance
Intern, CoFED
Intern, Cornerstone
Intern, Montgomery County State Attorney’s Office
Intern, National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism
Intern, National Institutes of Health
Intern, Superior Court of the District of Columbia
Investigative Intern, DC Public Defender Service
Laboratory Technician, United States Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases
Media Researcher, Vocus
MFP Intern, American Psychological Association
Recruitment Intern, Discovery Communications
Research Assistant, MD Psychotherapy Clinic & Research Lab
Research Assistant, University of Maryland Child Development Lab
Research Intern, Ocean Mammal Institute
Research Intern, The National Aquarium
Therapeutic Riding Intern, MD Therapeutic Riding
Volunteer Clinician, UMD, Child Development Center
White House Intern, The White House
Wilderness Therapy, Potomac Pathways

Ways PSYC Majors Gain Experience

The links below will be a helpful start in locating internship openings. Sample list of opportunities:

- BSOS Engagement Opportunities, offers links on many other out of the classroom experiences
- Help Center Hotline - Counselor. Train to help people dealing with roommate issues, relationship dilemmas, rape, thoughts of suicide, confusion, and other life issues. Freshman and sophomores preferred. For more information please call 301.314.4357 or stop by 3105 South Campus Dining Hall
- UMD Department of Psychology Blog, list opportunities posted by alumni and employers targeted PSYC majors
- UMD Careers4Terps, UMD maintains a job and internship database for off-campus positions for students
- UMD National Scholarships Office, opportunities for all levels of undergraduates

Research Links

- APA Undergraduate Research & Internships opportunities
- Dr. Lynn Friedman, Clinical Research Internships for Undergraduates
- UMD Research Centers (potential RA positions)
- Research Opportunities, advice and links for undergraduate students pursuing research experiences
- PSYC E-News Blog, lists current research position openings

University Career Center @ BSOS
Skills Developed as a PSYC Major

Skills lead to jobs. Which skills do you possess?

- Communication skills
- Content in psychology
- Critical thinking
- Data analysis
- Interpretation
- Research methods
- Scientific approach to solving problems

Sample list of skills developed in class by Psychology majors.

Many students develop skills through out of classroom experiences (i.e. internships, part-time positions, etc.). Review the Skills Inventory list to examine soft skills to highlight on your resume and within interviews.

“Must Have” Career Readiness Competencies, according to employers - NACE Finding.
Applying for an advertised position on a large board is an ineffective job/internship strategy, but it can be helpful in researching what the typical qualifications are for a field or positions. Psychology undergraduates work in many different fields so the list below is only a sample of resources for you to utilize.

Counseling (research the skills and education required for areas within counseling)
- American Counseling Association, list academic and clinical positions
- American Psychological Association, list positions in academic, advocacy, counseling, etc. fields
- Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers
- Society for I/O Psychology, search for undergraduate internship and job opportunities

Federal, State, & Local Government (preparation tips)
- Federal Government Jobs, list of federal government agencies and their hiring websites
- Federal Job Search, search for federal positions by profession or location
- Job bank, DC Jobs & Internships, DC opportunities listed as global, U.S., business, and society categories
- State and Local Government on the Net, directory provides websites of state agencies, city & county governments
- State of Maryland, position openings in Maryland
- Student jobs, with the federal government

Nonprofit
- AmeriCorps, post-graduation service based positions at nonprofits, schools, public agencies, and community and faith-based groups across the country
- Corporation for National and Community Service, federal agency that engages more than 5 million Americans in service through its core programs -- Senior Corps, AmeriCorps, and the Social Innovation Fund
- Idealist Job Board, lists volunteer, internship, and job opportunities across the country in the nonprofit field
- Riley Guide: Nonprofits, Associations, Foundations

Social Services/Mental Health
- I Hire Social Services, niche job board dedicated to the social service industry
- Jobs in the Social Science Fields, list links to more job boards and tips for breaking into the social science field
- Jobs in the Social Science Fields, list links to more job boards and tips for breaking into the social science field
- Peace Corps, 2-year commitment to volunteer abroad
- Social Service, lists positions in mental health, case management, domestic violence, community development, youth development, child welfare, developmental disabilities and all other areas of social services

Youth/Education
- Association of Independent Maryland Schools, list teaching and administrative positions in Maryland
- Baltimore County, MD, provides a list of youth programs
- Jobs at Camp, list country-wide summer youth camp positions
- K-12 Jobs, postings for administrative and teaching positions at public and private institutions
- Nem Net, the National Employment Minority Network
- School-Job, lists country-wide positions within education

Aggregate search engines yield more advertised opportunities because of the algorithm used to search the entire web.
Examples: Indeed.com, Linkup, Simplyhired. Learn more about search strategies at http://go.umd.edu/internsearch.
Employers of PSYC Undergraduates

The sample list below includes employers who have recruited UMD Psychology undergraduates.

Adobe
AlphaSights
American Institutes for Research
American Psychological Association
American University
Anne Arundel County’s Performing & Visual Arts
Aramark
Asian American LEAD
Bowman Educational Services
Center for Therapy and Counseling
Champion Boxing and Fitness
Chesapeake Bay Trust
Children’s National Medical Center
Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center
Columbia Academy
Community Services for Autistic Adults and Children
Congressional Country Club
Cornerstone Montgomery
CREATE Arts Center
Deloitte
Discovery Communications, Inc.
Dolce International
Dr. Eric A. Oristian, M.D. Surgery Practice
Ernst & Young
F. C. E. Consultants
Fannie Mae
Frank, Frank, and Scherr, L.L.C.
GEICO
Georgetown University
Infinity Consulting Solutions
Jinfonet Software
John Hopkins University
Johns Hopkins Medicine
Keller Foundation
Kennedy Krieger Institute
Kensington Volunteer Fire Department
Little Leaves Behavioral Services
Lockheed Martin Corporation
Maryland Emergency Services
Maryland State Juvenile Council
Maryland Therapeutic Riding
McCollum & Associates, LLC.
MedStar Health
Microsoft Corporation
Montgomery County Movement Center
Montgomery County Police Department
Montgomery Housing Partnership
Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC
National Institutes of Health
New Day USA
New York State Psychiatric Institute
Nigel Frank International
NY State Dept. of Health
NYC Civilian Complaint Review Board
PSI Services LLC
Rockville Dental
Rockville Volunteer Fire Department
Scribe America
Slatkin and Lupo Law Office
Smithsonian Institution
Teach for America
TEK Systems
Terra Momo LLC, Teresa Caffe
The Henry M. Jackson Foundation
The White House
U.S. Census Bureau
U.S. Department of Defense
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Tennis Association
UBS
UMD Crustacean Lab
Unicorp Home Energy Services
Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences
United Food and Commercial Workers
University of Maryland, College Park
Walter Reed Army Institute of Research
Washington County Community Mediation Center
Washington Orthopedic and Sports Medicine
Will Cornell Medical College
Yale University
Yelp, Inc.
Connect and Grow Your Network

Use these sample opportunities to meet professionals in your field of interest to learn about the field, establish new networking contacts, and conduct informational interviews.

Sample Engagement Opportunities

- **Career Shuttles** - a half day, group experience to visit an organization of interest
- **Employer networking events** - attend to meet professionals and gain knowledge of openings
- **Intern** - make the most of your internship by requesting informational interviews
- **Intern for a Day** - one day shadowing experience that allows students to forge connections
- **Meetup** - locate people in your area with similar interests or within your industry of interest
- **Online Events Calendar** - for the state of Maryland
- **Terrapins Connect** - connects students with UMD alumni
- **UMD University Career Center Event Calendar** of employers and panelist visiting campus

Social Media

- Join LinkedIn groups
- Connect with other BSOS alumni in the **UMD College of Behavioral and Social Sciences** LinkedIn group
- **Tips for using LinkedIn** to make industry specific connections

Need help starting your career exploration or job search? Schedule a career consultation appointment with the University Career Center & The President’s Promise. Get started mapping your career action plan today!

@UMDCareerCenter | www.careers.umd.edu | http://go.umd.edu/UCCBSOS

CAREER the Turtle...because SUCCESS starts here.