

AUGUST 2020

FACT SHEET

I Want to be a Psychologist in North Dakota



Licensed psychologists have the skills and knowledge base to observe, describe, evaluate, interpret, or modify human behavior for the purpose of reducing or eliminating behavioral health symptoms associated with a mental illness or cognitive disability. These professionals have one of the highest-levels of broad-based, comprehensive training and capacity to practice independently in the field of behavioral health.

Education

Psychologists must have a doctoral degree in clinical or counseling psychology from an American Psychological Association (APA) or Canadian Psychological Association (CPA) accredited degree program, in North Dakota these programs are located at the University of North Dakota.

Their education also includes clinical/practicum requirements. They must have one year of internship with a total of 1,500 training hours before they finish their doctoral degree.

Licensure

Psychologists must possess a doctoral degree in psychology from an APA/CPA accredited program, have at least two years of supervised training, apply for licensure, have the application approved by the Board of Psychological Examiners, and then pass a written and oral exam.

Barriers

There are several barriers that are identified in the North Dakota Century Code that would prevent someone from entering into practice as a psychologist, or cause them to be removed from practice. They are listed below.

- The North Dakota State Board of Psychological Examiners (NDSBPE) requires the degree be from an APA/CPA accredited program. No other accreditation bodies are accepted.
- Conviction of an offense determined to have a direct bearing upon upon an individual's ability to practice as a psychologist.
- Addicted to the habitual use of alcoholic beverages, narcotics, or stimulants.
- Violation of one or more of the rules and regulations of the board.

Day-to-Day Practice

Psychologists can work in a variety of settings including hospitals, schools, universities, prisons, veterans' medical centers, community health clinics, in a private practice, or other settings. They treat individuals with both long-term, chronic conditions as well as help individuals through short-term stressful life events. They can administer psychological tests or assessments, diagnose behavioral health conditions, and treat those conditions using different types of therapy. Some psychologists may only use one type of therapy in their practice but others use more than one.

Data

North Dakota Hospital Assessment: 2017 Flex Chartbook