

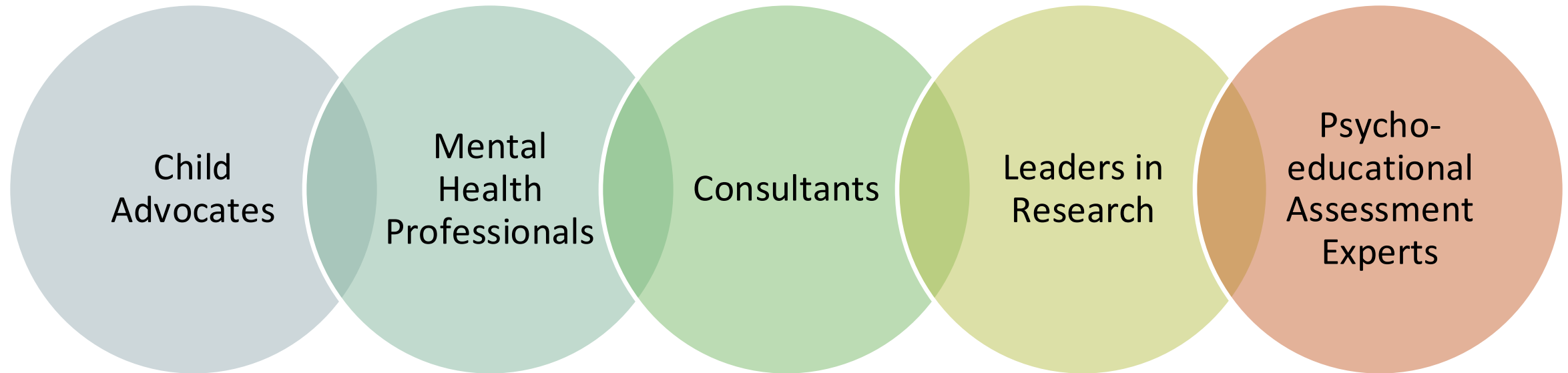
SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY INFORMATION NIGHT

By: School Psychology Association
California State University, Sacramento



- The mission of the California State University, Sacramento (CSUS), School Psychology Program is to promote school psychology practices that lead to positive learning and life outcomes for children and adolescents. The program engages in research, the dissemination of knowledge, the promotion of culturally competent practice, and professional and community services that advance school psychology practices in Sacramento, California, the United States, and internationally.

WHO ARE SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS?



ARE YOU INTERESTED IN A CAREER THAT GIVES
YOU THE OPPORTUNITY TO:

Make a positive
difference in children
and adolescent lives.

Provide mental health
support to students.

Collaborate with
educators, parents,
community members,
and mental health
professionals

Rely on research-
based evidence to
inform decisions

Assess students'
behavioral and
learning needs to
determine the best
ways to help them

CHILD ADVOCATES

Underlying Principles:

- All children can learn and be successful
- Decisions should be based on the best interests of the children
- Decisions should be based on proven best practices

MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

Mental Health Services:

- Administer social-emotional assessments
- Implement group and individual counseling services
- Provide professional development and education to staff and other educators
- Serve as a mental health advocate for students
- Provide education for parents
- Child Advocates

PSYCHO- EDUCATIONAL ASSESSMENT EXPERTS

Meeting students needs:

- Administer cognitive and psychoeducational assessments
- Interpret assessments and data to inform decisions as an IEP team member
- Consult and collaborate with school staff, district personnel, community members, mental health professionals, parents, and students.

CONSULTANTS

Provide recommendations and interpretations regarding:

- Instructional, behavioral, and mental health interventions and accommodations
- Best practices for school and district policies
- Special education eligibility criteria, codes, laws, and regulations

LEADERS IN RESEARCH

School psychologists conduct research, write publications, and participate as members of professional communities, including:

- National Association of School Psychologists (NASP)
- California Association of School Psychologists (CASP)
- International School Psychology Association (ISPA)

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN....

School Counselor

- At least 2 years of graduate school
- Trained in education and counseling
- Responsibilities include individual and group counseling, career planning, and course scheduling
- Employed in public schools and university advisement centers

School Psychologist

- At least 3 years of graduate school
- Trained in education and psychology
- Responsibilities include assessment, consultation, behavioral and academic intervention, individual/group counseling, and program evaluation
- Employed in public and private schools, private practice, mental health centers, and universities.

WHERE DO SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS WORK?

Public Schools (85.13%)

Colleges and universities (7.59%)

Private school (3.95%)

Private practice (4.70%)

Faith-based schools (2.5%)

Hospitals (1.06%)

State departments of education (0.30%)

Other settings (5.92%)



WHO ARE TODAY'S SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS?

- 73% are women
- The average age is 44 years old

Sac State Students

First Generation	Yes	No
	39%	61%

Underrepresented Minorities	Yes	No
	44%	56%

EDUCATION LEVEL OF SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS

9.4% have
a Masters
degree

*73.9% have
a Specialist
degree (Ed.S)

16.8%
have a
Doctorate
Degree

* Most Sac State School Psychology students get **both** a Master's degree and an Education Specialist degree

WHAT IS THE JOB OUTLOOK?

- Excellent both at present and long-term!
- Not enough graduates to meet demand.
- One of the groups with the best job prospects will be those with a specialist (Ed.S) or doctoral degree in psychology.
- The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects 10.4% **employment growth** between 2020 and 2030 for school psychologists.
- School Psychology was named:
 - One of the **100 Best Jobs** in 2022
 - #5 in **Best Social Service** Jobs in 2022

SALARY INFORMATION

75th Percentile: **\$104,860**

Median: **\$79,820**

25th Percentile: **\$60,750**

NASP: Mean salaries of School
Psychologists:


Practitioner (200 Days contract):
\$71,320

University Faculty: **\$77,801**

Administration: **\$93,258**

State Department: **\$75,000**

Salaries for school psychologists vary by district, state, and region.



**CSUS
SCHOOL
PSYCHOLOGY
GRADUATE
PROGRAM**

Join Us!

WHY CHOOSE CSUS SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY GRADUATE PROGRAM?

NASP approved

Accredited training program—
CA Commission on Teacher
Credentialing (CCTC)

In 3 years (6 semesters) earn
your Master's and Education
Specialist degree (Ed.S.) in
School Psychology, and Pupil
Personnel Services Credential
(PPS)

Optional –Licensed Professional
Clinical Counselor (LPCC) with
additional coursework and
supervised hours which allows
you to practice independent
clinical counseling.

Optional – Licensed Educational
Psychologist (LEP) with additional
supervised hours, allows you to
provide psychoeducational
services in an independent private
practice.

EXCELLENT TEACHING

- **Dr. Melissa Holland**, Professor and Program Coordinator, and Fieldwork-Internship Coordinator
 - Expertise: Counseling, Clinical Psychologist, Mindfulness and Cognitive Therapy
- **Dr. Meagan O'Malley**, Professor
 - Expertise: Data, Psychoeducational Assessments, School Mental Health
- **Dr. Tiara Bland**, Assistant Professor and Clinic Coordinator
 - Expertise: Co-Founder of The Black School Psychologists Network Inc, Recruitment and Retention of Black School Psychologists
- **Dr. Sruthi Swami**, Assistant Professor
 - Expertise: Asian & Asian Pacific Islander co-chair for NASP, Ethnic and racial disparities in schools
- **Dr. Stephen Brock**, Professor Emeritus
 - Expertise: Crisis & Suicide Prevention, ADHD, Former NASP president



1ST YEAR, YOU WILL....

- Take courses in group and individual counseling, psycho-educational assessment, ethics and law, and child development.
- Begin individual counseling and psycho-educational assessment (Cognitive testing) with direct supervision, instruction, and guidance from highly qualified, practicing school psychologists and clinical psychologists



2ND YEAR, YOU WILL....

- Take courses in psycho-educational assessment, behavioral assessment and intervention, academic interventions, and much more.
- Work in the field with supervision by practicing school psychologists and participate in IEP and SST meetings, observe in classrooms, and run individual and group counseling sessions.
- Conduct psycho-educational assessments (Diagnostics) in the CSUS Center for Counseling and Diagnostics Services (CCDS) with direct supervision, instruction, and guidance
- Finish your 4th (full-time) semester with a Master's in Education, School Psychology.



3RD YEAR, YOU WILL....

- Work as an Intern (usually paid) in a local school district with guidance and supervision from practicing school psychologists and your professors.
- Work on your Ed.S thesis or project
- Complete units and coursework to further prepare you for your future career
- ***Graduate with an Education Specialist Degree in School Psychology (Ed.S.) and your Pupil Personnel Services Credential (PPS)***



ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

A baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution

A minimum of 3.0-grade point average and previous transcripts

Graduate Record Exam (GRE) scores are recommended but not required (no minimum score; however, strong GRE scores will counterbalance a low GPA)

Experience working with diverse learners in a K-12 school setting (30 hours minimum, which includes work with special needs students)

Letters of recommendation from two sources (ideally one a former professor)

PREREQUISITE REQUIREMENTS

1. A basic understanding of abnormal psychology (e.g., PSY 168)
2. Knowledge of special education and the education of exceptional learners (e.g., EDUC 100A)
3. Experience with exceptional learners in a special education setting (e.g., EDUC 100B)
4. Knowledge of descriptive statistics (e.g., STAT 1)
5. An introduction to counseling profession (e.g., EDUC 155)
6. Instruction regarding issues of diversity (e.g., EDUC 156)
7. Instruction and/or experiences teaching school aged youth (e.g., EDUC 125A and EDUC 125B)

* Similar coursework covering topics from the above courses may be used with department approval. Provide evidence that the coursework taken meets the requirements of the courses listed and discuss with your advisor/program coordinator once you have been admitted to the program.

APPLICATION & INTERVIEW TIPS

- **Demonstrate :**

- High performance in demanding programs or employment (GPA, strong references from professors and employers)
- Progress toward prerequisites (enroll for upcoming semesters)
- Your knowledge of what school psychologists do
- Prepare questions to ask your interviewers
- Interview concludes with a spontaneous writing sample.
- ***Show your excitement!***



Applications
due February
1, 2025

ACCEPTANCE AND GRADUATION RATES

25%
acceptance
rate

3-year
graduate
rate: 90%

***Employment
rate after
graduation:
100%!***

CONTACT INFORMATION

- For any general admission questions, please contact the Graduate Student Assistant at: schoolpsychologyinformation@csus.edu
- Please feel free to contact us with any additional questions you have about the application process, the program, or the field from a student's perspective.

STAY CONNECTED



National Association of School
Psychologists
<https://www.nasponline.org/>



Sacstate_schoolpsych



California Association of School
Psychologists <https://casponline.org/>

SACRAMENTO

QUESTIONS?