

# A.S. in Mental Health & Human Services

## DESCRIPTION OF THE MENTAL HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES PROGRAM

The Mental Health and Human Services Program is designed for students who wish to pursue careers in human service fields such as: social work, psychology, counseling, mental health, rehabilitation, and special education. Our faculty is drawn from the fields of psychology, counseling and social work.

Courses are offered in counseling, social policy, group leadership, gerontology. Students also gain hands-on experience in a two-semester internship in a human service placement. The emphasis is on learning ways of helping people lead satisfying, productive lives and/or preventing the onset of serious emotional or psychological problems.

Upon completion of the program, students have been accepted to human service, social work and psychology programs at a wide range of four-year colleges, including Adelphi University, Brooklyn College, Hunter College, John Jay College, Lehman College, Mount Holyoke College, New York City Technical College, New York University, York College, and many others.

## SKILLS

**Communication skills.** Clients talk to social workers about challenges in their lives. To provide effective help, social workers must be able to listen to and understand their clients' needs.

**Interpersonal skills.** Substance abuse, behavioral disorder, and mental health counselors must be able to work with different types of people. They spend most of their time working directly with clients or other professionals and must be able to develop and nurture good relationships.

**Analytical skills.** Psychologists must examine the information they collect and draw logical conclusions.

## CAREER INFORMATION

Social workers help people solve and cope with problems in their everyday lives. Clinical social workers also diagnose and treat mental, behavioral, and emotional issues.

Substance abuse, behavioral disorder, and mental health counselors advise people who suffer from alcoholism, drug addiction, eating disorders, mental health issues, or other mental or behavioral problems. They provide treatment and support to help clients recover from addiction or modify problem behaviors.

KINGSBOROUGH  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

★ DREAMS BEGIN HERE ★

CU  
NY

Career Development Center  
Monday - Friday | 9:30am - 5pm  
Room C-102 | 718-368-5115

Psychologists study cognitive, emotional, and social processes and behavior by observing, interpreting, and recording how people relate to one another and to their environments. They use their findings to help improve processes and behaviors.

## **EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK**

Overall employment of social workers is projected to grow 11 percent from 2018 to 2028, much faster than the average for all occupations. Increased demand for healthcare and social services will drive demand for social workers, but growth will vary by specialization.

Employment of substance abuse, behavioral disorder, and mental health counselors is projected to grow 22 percent from 2018 to 2028, much faster than the average for all occupations. Employment growth is expected as people continue to seek addiction and mental health counseling services.

Overall employment of psychologists is projected to grow 14 percent from 2018 to 2028, much faster than the average for all occupations. Employment growth will vary by occupation.

## **CAREER PATH**

Although some social workers only need a bachelor's degree in social work, clinical social workers must have a master's degree and 2 years of experience in a supervised clinical setting after they've completed their degree. Clinical social workers must also be licensed by their state. The median annual wage for social workers was \$49,470 in May 2018.

Most positions require at least a bachelor's degree. Although educational requirements can vary from a high school diploma and certification to a master's degree for substance abuse and behavioral disorder counselors, a master's degree and an internship is typically required to become a mental health counselor. The median annual wage for substance abuse, behavioral disorder, and mental health counselors was \$44,630 in May 2018.

Although psychologists typically need a doctoral degree in psychology, a master's degree may be sufficient for school and industrial organizational positions. Psychologists in clinical practice need a license. The median annual wage for psychologists was \$79,010 in May 2018.

## **CAREER COACH – SEARCH CAREER INFORMATION & CURRENT LOCAL WAGE DATA**

<https://kingsborough.emsicc.com/programs/mental-health-and-human-services-as/190619>

**INFORMATION ON HOW TO APPLY: [www.cuny.edu/apply](http://www.cuny.edu/apply) or 718-368-4600**

**KINGSBOROUGH**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

— ★ DREAMS BEGIN HERE ★ —

**CU  
NY**