Choosing the Degree for your Career
Finding your Focus

Discover the field that can help you best meet your goals.

Increased demand for psychological and counseling services in organizations and facilities such as schools, hospitals, social service agencies, and mental health centers has contributed to employment growth in the psychology and counseling fields.*

Since the psychology and counseling fields have many similarities, deciding which one is best for you is an important step in helping you choose the right degree program.

In this guide, you can explore some of the career options available to you in the psychology and counseling fields along with the corresponding degree programs that can help you enter these fields or advance in your existing role.

Once you have found a degree program that interests you, contact an enrollment advisor at 1-866-492-5336 to discuss your professional goals.

Walden’s College of Social and Behavioral Sciences has faculty members who are available if you have questions about program curriculum or specific topics that relate to the psychology and counseling fields. You can contact these faculty members directly:

- School of Counseling and Social Service
- School of Psychology

*SCHOOL OF COUNSELING AND SOCIAL SERVICE
Ph.D. in Counselor Education and Supervision
Ph.D. in Human Services
M.S. in Career Counseling
M.S. in Marriage, Couple, and Family Counseling
M.S. in Mental Health Counseling
B.S. in Human Services

SCHOOL OF PSYCHOLOGY
Ph.D. in Psychology
M.S. in Clinical Psychology
M.S. in Forensic Psychology
M.S. in Psychology
B.S. in Forensic Psychology
B.S. in Psychology

Ph.D. in Psychology

[ SPECIALIZATIONS ]
Clinical Psychology | Counseling Psychology | Educational Psychology
Forensic Psychology | General Psychology | Health Psychology
Organizational Psychology | Social Psychology

Clinical Careers (clinical and counseling specializations)
• Private practice psychologist (individual psychotherapy, consultations, assessments, group therapy, family therapy, marital/couples therapy, or child therapy)
• Mental health professional in a medical center, school, university, legal system, community counseling center, business, or governmental agency; researcher, consultant, or program development professional

Education Careers
• Faculty member or researcher
• Administrator, department chair, or dean
• Educational consultant for institutions of higher learning

Professional Careers
• Administrator in a hospital, clinic, community, or occupational setting
• Psychology researcher for research institutes, governmental agencies, medical centers, and corporations

See important licensure and accreditation information about this program.

ONE OF THE FEW COURSE-BASED, DISTANCE-LEARNING PROGRAMS OF ITS KIND.

Find information on costs, occupation types, completion rates, and median loan debt for this program at www.WaldenU.edu/programdata/phdpsych. Career options may require additional experience, training, or other factors beyond the successful completion of this degree program.

Connect & Collaborate
Attend virtual or face-to-face residencies where you can work directly with faculty and students.
Click here to learn more!
Ph.D. in Human Services

[SPECIALIZATIONS]
Clinical Social Work | Criminal Justice
Disaster, Crisis, and Intervention
Family Studies and Intervention Strategies
Human Services Administration | Public Health
Social Policy Analysis and Planning

Careers
• Medical and health services manager
• Social and community service manager
• Emergency management director
• Correctional treatment specialist
• Community and social service specialist
• Health teacher, postsecondary
• Criminal justice and law enforcement teacher, postsecondary

Connect & Collaborate
Attend virtual or face-to-face residencies where you can work directly with faculty and students.
Click here to learn more!

Find information on costs, occupation types, completion rates, and median loan debt for this program at www.WaldenU.edu/programdata/humansvcs.
Career options may require additional experience, training, or other factors beyond the successful completion of this degree program.
Ph.D. in Counselor Education and Supervision

[ SPECIALIZATIONS ]
Consultation | Counseling and Social Change
Forensic Mental Health Counseling
Nonprofit Management and Leadership | Trauma and Crisis

Education Careers

- Faculty member in the field of counselor education, mental health counseling, rehabilitation counseling, or school counseling
- Director of guidance or pupil personnel programs
- Consultant in K–12 guidance and counseling programs
- Developer of K–12 counseling programs

Professional Careers

- Research specialist
- Administrator of program development and evaluation in educational or community service settings
- Administrator for government agencies or hospitals and clinics
- Director of a mental health agency or center

Beyond the Classroom
Residencies and internships offer opportunities for face-to-face collaboration and hands-on learning.
Click here to learn more!

See important licensure information about this program.

ONE OF THE FEW PH.D. IN COUNSELOR EDUCATION AND SUPERVISION PROGRAMS OFFERED ONLINE.

Walden University
A higher degree. A higher purpose.
M.S. in Psychology

[ SPECIALIZATIONS ]

- Applied Psychology | Crisis Management and Response
- Educational Psychology | General Psychology | Health Psychology
- Leadership Development and Coaching | Media Psychology
- Organizational Psychology
- Organizational Psychology and Nonprofit Management
- Program Evaluation and Research | Psychology of Culture
- Psychology, Public Administration, and Social Change
- Social Psychology | Terrorism and Security

Career Options

- Career, executive, or life coach
- Administrative position in healthcare or the private or public sectors as a program manager, project manager, project director, or field research coordinator
- Administrative position in governmental or nonprofit organizations
- Researcher as a data analyst, data manager, or program evaluator
- Technical writer for governmental and other organizations
- Consultant for lawmakers, attorneys, and/or the courts
- Teacher at a community college

See important licensure information about this program.
M.S. in Forensic Psychology

[SPECIALIZATIONS]
Forensic Psychology in the Community | Mental Health Applications
Program Planning and Evaluation in Forensic Settings
Psychology and Legal Systems

Career Options
- Case manager
- Clinical and program director
- Correctional officer
- Court liaison
- Expert witness
- Forensic treatment specialist
- Jury consultant
- Law enforcement advocate
- Researcher
- Victims’ advocate

Did you know?
The American Psychological Association recognizes forensic psychology as one of the fastest growing subfields in psychology today.*


See important licensure information about this program.
Career Options

- Administrator/manager
- Counselor (requires Counseling specialization)
- Psychiatric assistant
- Psychiatric technician
- Psychometrist

The M.S. in Clinical Psychology program with a specialization in Counseling offers an excellent foundation for doctoral study in psychology, which is generally required for licensure as a clinical psychologist. Upon completion of this program, you will be prepared to apply for licensure as a professional counselor or for limited practice in psychology in some states.

See further important licensure information about this program.
M.S. in Mental Health Counseling

[SPECIALIZATIONS]
Forensic Counseling | Trauma and Crisis Counseling

Clinical Careers
- Mental health counselor
- Private practice counselor
- Group counselor
- Outpatient counselor or therapist
- Outreach specialist
- Clinical therapist
- Marriage, couple, and family counselor
- Counselor in the criminal justice system

Real-World Knowledge
Throughout the program, you’ll take part in interactive simulations that allow you to experience relevant cases and discuss client scenarios. Additionally, residencies and internships offer opportunities for face-to-face collaboration and hands-on learning. Click here to learn more!

Education Careers
- University counselor
- Counselor in schools and Head Start centers
- Student services and support staff member in a college or university

Licensure Preparation
Depending on the state in which you intend to practice, you can pursue the appropriate credentials that could qualify you to become a licensed professional counselor.*

Professional Careers
- Consultant for a business or organization
- Administrator in a social services agency

*Licensing regulations vary from state to state. Walden University cannot guarantee professional licensure. See note on licensure.

Walden’s M.S. in Mental Health Counseling program is accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP). See important licensure information about this program.

Find information on costs, occupation types, completion rates, and median loan debt for this program at www.WaldenU.edu/programdata/mhc. Career options may require additional experience, training, or other factors beyond the successful completion of this degree program.
M.S. in Marriage, Couple, and Family Counseling

[ SPECIALIZATIONS ]
Forensic Counseling | Trauma and Crisis Counseling

Clinical Careers
- Marriage, couple, and family counselor
- Private practice counselor
- Group counselor
- Outpatient counselor or therapist
- Mental health counselor
- Outreach specialist
- Clinical therapist
- Counselor in the criminal justice system

Real-World Knowledge
Throughout the program, you’ll take part in interactive simulations that allow you to discuss relevant cases and client scenarios. Additionally, residencies and internships offer opportunities for face-to-face collaboration and hands-on learning.

Education Careers
- University counselor
- Counselor in schools and Head Start centers
- Student services and support staff member in a college or university

Licensure Preparation
Depending on the state in which you intend to practice, you can pursue the appropriate credentials that could qualify you to become a licensed professional counselor.*

* Licensing regulations vary from state to state. Walden University cannot guarantee professional licensure. See note on licensure.

Professional Careers
- Consultant in a business or organization
- Administrator in a social services agency

Which counseling option is right for you?
This program may be right for you if you want to gain an understanding of family structures and life-cycle dynamics and want to work with families to address issues such as divorce, schooling, and parenting.

Click here to learn more about each counseling degree option.

See important licensure and accreditation information about this program.

Walden University
A higher degree. A higher purpose.
M.S. in Career Counseling

Professional Careers
• Academic advisor
• Career counselor
• Career placement professional
• Co-op/internship director
• Trainer and staff development professional
• Career information specialist in libraries and information centers

Education Careers
• University counselor
• Counselor in schools
• Student services and support staff member in a college or university

Real-World Knowledge
Throughout the program, you’ll take part in interactive simulations that allow you to discuss relevant cases and client scenarios. Additionally, residencies and internships offer opportunities for face-to-face collaboration and hands-on learning.

Exclusive Career Counseling Services for Students
As a student in the M.S. in Career Counseling program, you can visit Walden’s Career Services Center to consult with a professional about your own career goals. By taking advantage of this support service, you can begin to understand career counseling from both the client and the counselor perspective.

See important licensure and accreditation information about this program.
B.S. in Psychology

Concentrations

• Addictions
• Applied Psychology
• Child and Adolescent Development
• Criminal Justice
• General Psychology
• Human Services
• Infant and Toddler Development
• Preparation for Graduate Studies
• Preschool Child Development
• Workplace Psychology

Career Options

• Administrator
• Case manager
• Child care worker
• Community relations officer
• Correctional officer
• Health educator
• Human resource specialist
• Psychiatric assistant
• Residential care staff
• Victims’ advocate
• Vocational rehabilitation

Interested in specific coursework?
You can watch brief videos about the topics you will explore in each course.

Click here to learn more!

Go further faster with Walden’s Accelerate Into Master’s (AIM) option. Designed for dedicated undergraduate students who plan to continue their education and pursue a master’s degree online, the AIM option offers high-achieving students the opportunity to earn graduate credits while completing their bachelor’s degree online.

Find information on costs, occupation types, completion rates, and median loan debt for this program at www.WaldenU.edu/programdata/bpspsych.

Career options may require additional experience, training, or other factors beyond the successful completion of this degree program.
Introduction

Doctoral Degrees

Master's Degrees

Bachelor's Degrees

Walden Advantage

Licensure Statements

Concentrations

• Forensics and the Law
• Leadership and Management
• Self-Designed
• Victims and Justice

Career Options

• Case manager
• Correctional officer
• Court liaison
• Crime analyst
• Forensic case manager
• Investigative researcher
• Law enforcement advocate
• Probation or parole officer
• Psychological assistant
• Victims’ advocate

Go further faster with Walden’s Accelerate Into Master’s (AIM) option. Designed for dedicated undergraduate students who plan to continue their education and pursue a master’s degree online, the AIM option offers high-achieving students the opportunity to earn graduate credits while completing their bachelor’s degree online.

Find information on costs, occupation types, completion rates, and median loan debt for this program at www.WaldenU.edu/programdata/bsfp. Career options may require additional experience, training, or other factors beyond the successful completion of this degree program.
B.S. in Human Services

Concentrations
- Child and Adolescent Development
- Courts and the Legal System
- Criminal Justice
- Cultural Studies
- Global Social Justice and Civic Engagement
- Leadership and Administration
- Psychology
- Self-Designed

Career Options
- Administrator
- Affirmative action officer
- Case manager
- Child advocate
- Community relations officer
- Correctional officer
- Customs inspector
- Group home worker
- Health educator
- Jury consultant
- Probation or parole officer
- Victims' advocate

Go further faster with Walden’s Accelerate Into Master’s (AIM) option. Designed for dedicated undergraduate students who plan to continue their education and pursue a master’s degree online, the AIM option offers high-achieving students the opportunity to earn graduate credits while completing their bachelor’s degree online.

Find information on costs, occupation types, completion rates, and median loan debt for this program at www.WaldenU.edu/programdata/bshumansvcs. Career options may require additional experience, training, or other factors beyond the successful completion of this degree program.
For more than 40 years, Walden University, an accredited institution, has been serving the higher education needs of working professionals by providing quality distance-learning education. Today, more than 48,500 students from all 50 states and more than 140 countries are pursuing bachelor’s, master’s, or doctoral degrees at Walden.

As a Walden student, you can benefit from:

- Programs that incorporate Walden’s mission of social change so you can make an impact while earning your degree.
- Relevant, high-quality programs that provide knowledge and skills you can use immediately to excel in your field.
- Access to 24/7 student support services, including financial aid, course registration, and technical support.
- The flexibility to balance your educational goals with your personal and professional commitments.
- Expert faculty members who are active professionals in their fields and who bring their industry expertise into the classroom.

**Experience MobileLearn℠**
Walden’s MobileLearn allows you to download coursework to your handheld mobile device so you have the flexibility to choose where, when, and even how you learn.

**Pursue Your Interests**
Walden’s programs offer numerous concentrations and specializations so you can focus your course of study in the area that will best help you achieve your career goals.

**Did you know?**
More than 60% of Walden graduates who responded to our 2010 survey said that they received a pay raise within one year of earning their degrees.

**A Commitment to Social Change**
Almost 80% of Walden alumni who responded to our 2010 survey said that their program helped them to advance positive social change.

**Discover the personal stories of students and graduates making a difference. Watch now.**
Licensure Statements

Ph.D. in Psychology

**Note on Licensure:**
The Clinical Psychology and Counseling Psychology specializations in the Ph.D. in Psychology program are designed to prepare graduates to qualify to sit for psychology licensing exams. These specializations are designed to meet the academic licensure requirements of some state psychology boards. However, Walden University’s professional specializations in Clinical Psychology and Counseling Psychology are not accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA) and have not received designation by the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards/National Register, which are requirements for licensure in some states. Walden enrollment advisors can provide guidance on licensure issues, state-by-state educational requirements, and internship and practicum requirements; however, it remains the student’s responsibility to evaluate and understand the licensure requirements for the state or international location in which he or she intends to work as requirements vary widely. Walden University makes no representation or guarantee that the completion of a degree or coursework for graduate credit will permit the student to obtain licensure.

Ph.D. in Counselor Education and Supervision

**Note on Licensure:**
The Ph.D. in Counselor Education and Supervision is not a licensure program and does not prepare an individual to become a licensed counseling professional.

**Professional Accreditation:**
The Ph.D. in Counselor Education and Supervision is not accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP). Walden University is not yet able to apply for CACREP accreditation. Students will be notified at such time if the program becomes accredited in the future.

M.S. in Mental Health Counseling

**Professional Accreditation:**
Walden’s M.S. in Mental Health Counseling program is accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP). CACREP accreditation attests to the quality and relevancy of our program – a program that helps provide you with the skills and credibility to maximize your impact on your profession. In addition, earning a degree that is CACREP-accredited helps to streamline the licensing application process and provides you with an advantage when applying to doctoral programs.

**Note on Licensure:**
Walden University’s M.S. in Mental Health Counseling is accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP), a specialized accrediting body recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA), which is a requirement for licensure in many states. The M.S. in Mental Health Counseling program is designed to prepare graduates to qualify to sit for licensing exams and to meet the academic licensure requirements of many state counseling boards. Walden enrollment advisors can provide guidance on licensure issues, state-by-state educational requirements, and internship and practicum requirements; however, it remains the student’s responsibility to evaluate and understand the licensure requirements for the state or international location in which he or she intends to work as requirements vary widely. Walden University makes no representation or guarantee that the completion of a degree or coursework for graduate credit will permit the student to obtain licensure.

Continue ➤
Licensure Statements

M.S. in Marriage, Couple, and Family Counseling

**Note on Licensure:**
Walden University’s M.S. in Marriage, Couple, and Family Counseling is not accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) or the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE), specialized accrediting bodies recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA), which is a requirement for licensure in some states. The M.S. in Marriage, Couple, and Family Counseling program is designed to prepare graduates to qualify to sit for licensing exams and to meet the academic licensure requirements of many state counseling boards. Because no graduate program can guarantee licensure upon graduation, we encourage students to consult the appropriate agency to determine specific requirements. Walden enrollment advisors can provide guidance on licensure issues; however, it remains the individual’s responsibility to understand and comply with all state counseling licensure board requirements. Walden makes no representations or guarantee that completion of Walden coursework or programs will permit an individual to obtain state licensure or endorsement. For more information about licensure, students should visit the National Board for Certified Counselors at www.nbcc.org/StateLicensure and contact the appropriate licensing body. International students are encouraged to identify and contact their appropriate licensing body.

**Professional Accreditation:**
The M.S. in Marriage, Couple, and Family Counseling is not accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) or the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE). Walden University is not yet able to apply for CACREP accreditation. Students will be notified if the program becomes accredited in the future.

M.S. in Career Counseling

**Note on Licensure:**
The M.S. in Career Counseling is not a licensure program and does not prepare an individual to become a licensed counseling professional.

**Professional Accreditation:**
The M.S. in Career Counseling is not accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP). Walden University is not yet able to apply for CACREP accreditation. Students will be notified if the program becomes accredited in the future.

M.S. in Psychology

**Note on Licensure:**
The M.S. in Psychology is not a licensure program and does not prepare an individual to become a licensed psychology professional.

M.S. in Forensic Psychology

**Note on Licensure:**
The M.S. in Forensic Psychology is not a licensure program and does not prepare a student to become a licensed psychology professional.
Licensure Statements

M.S. in Clinical Psychology

Note on Licensure:
The M.S. in Clinical Psychology degree is not designed to prepare a student to become a licensed psychology professional.

The M.S. in Clinical Psychology with a specialization in Counseling is designed to prepare graduates for professional practice at the master's level. Graduates completing the Counseling specialization may also qualify to sit for licensing exams and meet the academic licensure requirements of some state counselor licensing boards. However, the Walden University M.S. in Clinical Psychology program is not accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP), a specialized accrediting body, which is a requirement for licensure in some states. Walden enrollment advisors can provide guidance on licensure issues, state-by-state educational requirements, and internship and practicum requirements; however, it remains the student's responsibility to evaluate and understand the licensure requirements for the state or international location in which he/she intends to work as requirements vary widely. Walden University makes no representation or guarantee that the completion of a degree or coursework for graduate credit will permit the learner to obtain licensure.

B.S. in Forensic Psychology

Note on Licensure:
The B.S. in Forensic Psychology is not designed to prepare a student to become a licensed psychology professional.