

Category: 180  
Exc. Qual. Std. 25B  
Approved: May 27, 1987  
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## COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGIST

### CATEGORICAL PAY LEVELS:

Minimum Level: 05  
Mid Level: 06  
Maximum Level: 07

### DESCRIPTION OF WORK:

Counseling Psychologists are involved in professional work relating to the behavior, capacities, traits, interests, activities, and vocational programs of individuals and groups. Counseling Psychologists are responsible for the educational, vocational, and rehabilitation counseling of the physically handicapped, mentally handicapped, clients involved in substance abuse or others in need of vocational guidance. Counseling Psychologists assist substance abusers in (a) learning about his abilities, capabilities, interests, goals, and personality needs, (b) identifying and exploring educational and vocational possibilities, and (c) selecting from among them the goals that are appropriate to his personal needs, characteristics and circumstances. They also help clients develop realistic education, training, and career plans for achieving these goals. As necessary, counseling psychologists help clients modify attitudes, feelings, or behavior patterns that interfere with their making progress in educational, vocational or rehabilitation planning.

Counseling Psychologists assist the client in arriving at considered decisions and choices regarding the educational, vocational or rehabilitation problems he currently faces. They also help him learn the bases for making valid decision when he is confronted later by other educational and vocational choice situations. Counseling Psychologists commonly participate in a patient-care team, which may include a physician, social worker, counselor, and others. This team determines the course and nature of patient's program of substance abuse rehabilitation.

### LEVEL OF RESPONSIBILITIES:

A. **05 Level** - The Counseling Psychologist has full professional responsibility in the work area assigned, but typically works under the guidance and review of more experienced psychologists. Assignments include the following:

- Provides complete psychological assessment, analysis, and interpretation of data regarding a client.
- Assess factors of personality structures and dynamics as they affect education and vocational goals.
- Provides directed guidance to the client for a realistic appraisal of his/her problems and to an understanding and acceptance of his/her limitations and capabilities.
- Provides limited therapeutic and personal adjustment counseling subject to review and guidance of higher grade level psychologists.

- Serve as member of the patient-care team involving diagnosis, treatment, and progress of the client.

**B. 06 Level** - The Counseling Psychologist is responsible for the full range of work in a specialized area and are professionally responsible for the soundness and validity of their recommendations, reports, and services with less need for consultation with superiors. Assignments, in addition to A above, include:

- Provide psychological services to clients/students presenting many combinations of emotional, physical, education, vocation, and substance abuse problems.
- Manage clients/students requiring special rehabilitation techniques and resources especially those who have a long history of chronic mental disability including substance abuse and inability to adjust to educational, social, and occupational requirements.
- May be required to supervise the work of a lower grade school counselor or social worker.
- Participates in training of psychology graduate students as required or requested.

**C. 07 Level** – The Counseling Psychologist is responsible for providing highly skilled professional services to clients with difficulty and complex problems relating to substance abuse as well as serving as a resource person to other professionals, staff members, and administrative officials.

Assignments in addition to those in A and B include:

- Provides services to students/clients with difficulty and complex problems resulting from substance abuse or other emotional, family disorders.
- Provides services to the chronic substance abusers or the mentally disturbed student/patient.
- Provides services to students/clients with an extensive history of unsatisfactory educational, social, or emotional adjustments.
- Establish and maintain effective working relationships with other professionals and other organizational entities.

**BASIC EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS:**

Pay Level	05	06	07
Education	MA	Ph. D.	Ph. D.
Experience	1 year	3 years	5 years

**PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:**

Good distance vision in one eye and ability to read without strain printed material the size of typewritten characters are required, glasses permitted. Ability to hear the conversational voice, with or without a hearing aid, is required; except that some positions may be suitable for persons who are blind or deaf. In most instances, an amputation of arm, hand, leg or foot will not disqualify an applicant for appointment, although it may be necessary that this condition be compensated by use of satisfactory prosthesis. In addition, applicants must possess emotional and mental stability.