

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Department of Community and Family Health
College of Public Health, University of South Florida, Tampa



The most common academic/professional backgrounds of individuals entering a graduate program in Behavioral Health are:

Psychology Nursing Educational Psychology Mental Health/Substance Abuse Counseling
Medicine Social Work Rehabilitation Counseling Other Social/Behavioral Sciences School Psychology

Job Trends:

- Expanding role for mental health and substance abuse in large-scale, multidisciplinary research
- Increased opportunities for international mental health and substance abuse employment
- Increased interest in community based mental health and substance abuse worksite intervention programs
- Increased demand in the following work settings: Private industry, Hospitals, Managed Care, Community mental health and substance abuse settings
- Increased demand for mental health and substance abuse educators in government funded programs related to HIV/AIDS
- Rising costs of health insurance is causing corporations to sponsor EAPs for employees in mental health and substance abuse
- Increased demand for individuals who have fluency in a foreign language, especially for international mental health and substance abuse settings

Salary Ranges: Salary ranges will vary depending on professional experience and qualifications along with geographic location and work setting.

Principal Responsibilities	Key Issues	Job Titles	Job Settings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Design and conduct community-based mental health and substance abuse research ▪ Design and conduct mental health needs assessment studies ▪ Provide technical assistance to mental health and substance abuse programs, organizations and agencies ▪ Design, analyze and manage mental health and substance abuse research studies ▪ Coordinate multicenter mental health and substance abuse research studies ▪ Manage mental health and substance abuse information systems ▪ Conduct qualitative analysis and evaluation in mental health and substance abuse agencies ▪ Mental health and substance abuse policy development and analysis ▪ Conduct Planning, Evaluation, and Accountability in mental health and substance abuse agencies ▪ Conduct basic and applied mental health and substance abuse research ▪ Coordinate provision of mental health and substance abuse educational services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Special populations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ethnic groups - Children & Adolescents - The elderly - The disadvantaged - Women ▪ International mental health ▪ Workplace mental health and substance abuse ▪ Managed mental health and substance abuse care ▪ Entitlement programs & mental health and substance abuse services ▪ Mental health and substance abuse prevention/education ▪ Mental health promotion/disease prevention ▪ Co-morbidity of mental and physical disorders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mental Health Research Scientist ▪ Mental Health Evaluation Specialist ▪ Mental Health Research Analyst ▪ Mental Health and Substance Abuse Program Planner/Director ▪ Behavioral Health Scientist ▪ Mental Health and Substance Abuse Community Outreach Director ▪ Mental Health Education Consultant ▪ Mental Health and Substance Abuse Program Coordinator ▪ Manager, Worksite Mental Health and Substance Abuse Promotion Program ▪ Mental Health and Substance Abuse Education Specialist 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Local, State and Federal government mental health and substance abuse agencies ▪ Private mental health and substance abuse organizations ▪ Colleges and Universities ▪ Mental health and substance abuse Research and development agencies ▪ Non-profit mental health and substance abuse organizations ▪ International mental health and substance abuse organizations ▪ Consultant in mental health and substance abuse firms ▪ Managed Care and Managed mental health and substance abuse organizations