

School Psychologists...

- *Understand how schools work and how children learn*
- *Provide easily accessible, cost-effective mental health services to children*
- *Promote positive mental health and a safe and effective learning environment*

Issues that impact the educational and psychosocial needs of children include...

- *Learning styles and disabilities*
- *School violence*
- *Divorce*
- *Bullying*
- *Mental Health Issues*
- *Motivational issues*
- *Suicide prevention*
- *Attention Deficit Disorder*

Coursework includes...

- *Normal and abnormal child and adolescent development*
- *School organizational systems*
- *Learning theory*
- *Counseling theories*
- *Statistics*
- *Applied Behavior Analysis*
- *Psychological and psychoeducational assessment*

What do School Psychologists do?

Consultation

- *give healthy and effective alternatives to teachers, parents, and administrators about problems in learning and behavior*
- *help others understand child development and how it affects learning and behavior*
- *strengthen working relationships between educators, parents and community services*
- *design and develop procedures for preventing disorders, promoting mental health and learning, and improving educational systems*
- *provide inservice and other skill enhancement activities to school personnel, parents, and others in the community regarding issues of human learning, development, and behavior*

Assessment – *use a wide variety of techniques at an individual, group, and systems level to evaluate:*

- *academic skills*
- *learning aptitudes*
- *personality and emotional development*
- *social skills*
- *behavioral analysis*
- *learning environments and school climate*
- *eligibility for special education*

Intervention

- *work face-to-face with children and families*
- *help solve conflicts and problems in learning and adjustment*
- *help enhance learning opportunities and experiences for all children*
- *provide psychological counseling for children and families*
- *help families and schools deal with immediate crises as well as ongoing issues such as grief and loss*
- *provide information to enhance parenting skills and techniques*

Prevention...

- *identify potential learning difficulties*
- *design programs for children at risk of failure*
- *provide parents and teachers with the skills to cope with disruptive behavior*
- *help foster tolerance, understanding, and appreciation of diversity in school community*
- *develop school-wide initiatives to make schools safer and more effective*

Education...

Develop programs on topics such as:

- *teaching and learning strategies*
- *classroom management techniques*
- *working with students who have disabilities or unusual talents*
- *substance abuse*
- *crisis management*

Research and Planning...

- *evaluate the effectiveness of academic programs, behavior management systems, and other services*
- *generate new knowledge about learning and behavior*
- *contribute to planning and evaluating school-wide reform and restructuring*
- *stay abreast of current trends in psychology and education and share with educators and parents*

Health Care Provision...

- *collaborate with school and community-based personnel to provide a comprehensive model of school-linked health services*
- *work with children and families to provide integrated community services focusing on psychosocial wellness and health-related issues*
- *developing partnerships with parents and teachers to create healthy school environments*

Advocacy...

- *Appropriate education placements*
- *Ensuring that the needs and rights of students are appropriately addressed*
- *FASP- www.fasp.org*
- *NASP- www.nasponline.org*
- *Other community services/programs*
- *Legislative involvement*

***School Psychologists are employed
in...***

- *public school settings*
- *private practice*
- *private schools*
- *college or university*
- *hospitals*
- *clinics*
- *institutional/residential settings*

Florida's Training Programs in School Psychology

Barry University (Miami)

www.Barry.edu/psychology/ssp

Florida A & M University (Tallahassee)

www.famu.edu.acad/colleges

Florida International University (Miami)

www.fiu.edu/~edpsy/sch_psychhome.htm

Florida State University (Tallahassee)

www.fsu.edu/~coe/departments/hss/schoolpsy.html

Nova Southeastern University (Ft. Lauderdale)

www.cps.nova.edu

University of Central Florida (Orlando)

www.graduate.ucf.edu

University of Florida (Gainesville)

<http://nersp.nerdc.ufl.edu/~founded/handbk2.htm>

University of South Florida (Tampa)

www.coedu.usf.edu/deptpsysoc/psych/

Financial Aid Resource Handbook for School Psychology is available for download on the Florida Association of School Psychology website. Visit www.fasp.org and connect to Training and Credentialing through the "Contacts and Committees" link on our homepage. You can also directly link to School Psychology training programs through the Training and Credentialing page on the FASP web site.