

FAQ's

What is the difference between a Psychologist and a Psychiatrist?

- **Psychologists** focus on talk therapy, diagnostic testing, and behavioural intervention. They are not medical doctors and generally do not prescribe medication.
- **Psychiatrists** are medical doctors who have specialised in mental health. They can prescribe medication and focus on the biological causes of mental illness.

Do I need a high ATAR to get in?

Entry into undergraduate psychology degrees is generally competitive (often an **ATAR of 75–90+** depending on the uni).

Is it a stressful job?

It can be, because you are helping people through their hardest days. However, part of your training is learning "self-care" and how to leave work at the office. Finding a supportive clinic that follows a burn out prevention model will support you.

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Contact Information



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Ready to start your career? Reach out to us today to arrange a visit to our wonderful Award Winning Clinic.

Let's Take the First Step Together!

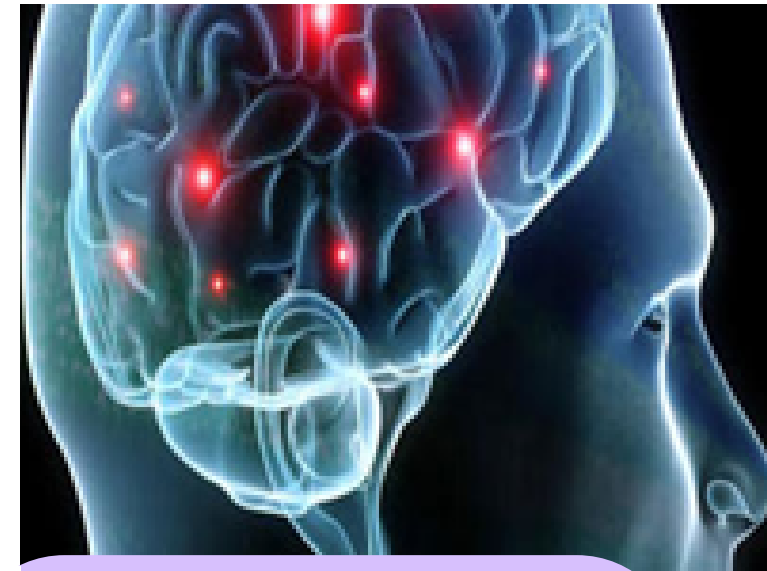


Learn more about CQ Psych Services and the current career positions available.



CQ Psych Services

Supporting Your Career in Mental Health



Psychology: Your Career Path Explained

Help Shape Lives. Make a Difference.

Are you looking to make a difference in people's lives by addressing mental health conditions and improving wellbeing?

A career in Psychology offers rewarding and stimulating opportunities in private practice, hospitals, schools, community services, or corporations.

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Becoming a psychologist in Australia is a rewarding career path that requires a minimum of six years of education and training. It is a regulated profession, meaning you must be registered with the Psychology Board of Australia (PsyBA) to practice.

Here is the step-by-step pathway tailored for high school students looking ahead to a career in psychology.

- **High School (Yrs 10-12):** Focus on subjects that develop critical thinking, communication, and research skills. English, Biology, and Psychology (if offered) are helpful, along with Maths. Do some research at your preferred Universities to find out the ATAR required for entry.
- **Three Year Undergraduate Program:** Complete an APAC-accredited three-year Bachelor's degree in Psychology, Psychological Science, or a Bachelor of Arts/Science with a major in Psychology.
- **4th Year (Honours or Grad Dip):** You must complete an accredited 4th year, such as a Bachelor of Psychological Science (Honours) or a Graduate Diploma of Advanced Psychology. High grades are needed to secure a spot in Honours.



Registration as a Provisional Psychologist: After your 4th year, you can apply for Provisional Registration with AHPRA.

The Final 2 Years (Internship or Post Graduate Study).

5+1 Pathway (5th Year Study + 6th Year Internship): This is made up of one year of a Master of Professional Psychology, followed by a one-year supervised internship in a workplace. This final year requires the intern to demonstrate a list of competencies necessary to gain General Registration as a Psychologist.

- The intern must also study for, and pass the National Psychology Exam (NPE).

OR

Higher Degree Pathway: Completion of a two-year Master's degree (e.g., Master of Psychology in Clinical, Forensic, or Organisational) or a PhD. A two year program meets the 5th and 6th year requirement.



What Work Can A Psychologist Do?



Individual Support
Tailored therapy to meet clients unique mental health needs.



Family & Couples Therapy
Working with couples to strengthen relationships through communication and conflict resolution.



Assessments
Comprehensive assessments to guide diagnosis and treatment.



NDIS Capacity Building
Support NDIS participants to develop practical skills that increase independence, functional ability & community participation.



Schools and Industry
Collaborative services for schools, workplaces and organisations.

CQ Psych Services Supports Students

- ✓ Board Approved Supervisor
- ✓ Paid Internships and University Placements
- ✓ Structured case load
- ✓ Burn out prevention model