Mental Health Counselor

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The division related to my career interest I would consider joining is Division 17: Society of Counseling Psychology. One career chose related to that division is a Mental Health Counselor. According to O\* Net Online, a mental health counselor works with individuals and groups to promote the best mental and emotional health, with emphasis on prevention. The educational requirement for a mental health counselor is a master’s degree, some places require a doctoral degree. Duties include maintain records relating to clients’ treatment, encourage clients to express their feelings, collect information, assess patients, and fill-out and maintain client- related paperwork. The outlook for this position is promising with projected growth of 15% or higher in the next ten years, according to [www.onetonline.org](http://www.onetonline.org). Lastly, a mental health counselor can make anywhere from $42,000 to $70,000 a year.

As I researched positions as a mental health counselor in Philadelphia, not many job opportunities were found to treat adults. I did, however, find many jobs to treat children. One job site I used was [www.indeed.com](http://www.indeed.com), which was consist with O\*Net Online with requiring a master’s degree or doctoral degree. Most places require one to two years’ experience. The job duties are very similar as described in O\*Net Online. No salary was listed with none of the job listings.

A mental health counselor requires a license to practice. To obtain a license in the State of Pennsylvania, the State Board of Professional Psychology requires a master’s degree, examinations, and supervised practice. Examinations include any of the following exams, National Counselor Examination (NCE) or Examination for Master Addicitions Counselors (EMAC), Certified Rehabilitation Counselor Examination (CRC), Art Therapy Credentials Board Certification Examination, Practice Examination of Psychology Knowledge, and Advanced Alcohol and other Drug Abuse Counselor Examination (AAODA). A professional with a master’s degree requires 3000 hours of supervised practice (Counselor License, 2011-2018).

Psychology as profession helps society balance their work and personal lives. Having someone help people with their mental and emotional health makes it easy to manage. The role of APA helps professional communicate properly and maintain professional practice guidelines. It maintains different divisions of psychology, ethical guidelines, and guides psychologist in their practice.

References

American Psychological Association. (2014). Divisions. Retrieved from

<https://www.apa.org/about/division/index.aspx>

Counselor License. (2011-2018). Licensed Professional Counselor Requirements in PA.

Retrieved from <https://counselor-license.com/states/pennsylvania-counselor->license#section3

Indeed (http://www.indeed.com)

O\*Net Online (http://www.onetonline.org)