

## Who we are

The Washington County Behavioral Health Board is the local authority for planning, monitoring, evaluating, and financing publicly funded treatment and prevention services for mental illness and alcohol and drug addiction in Washington County.

The following three principals are at the forefront of our plan:

- Improve Board Operations
- Enhance public knowledge and develop a strategy to reduce stigma with Mental Health and Addiction
- Improve the Continuum of Care

## Contact Us

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Facebook: Recovery Is Beautiful

# Pathways to Behavioral Health Careers



## WASHINGTON COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD

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# Behavioral Health Matters Scholarship

This scholarship opportunity is set in place to promote workforce development and capacity of mental health and addiction services in Washington County. This scholarship is to encourage Washington County residents to pursue and/or advance education in the fields of Social Work, Counseling, and/or Addiction.

The Washington County Behavioral Health Board will award (3) \$2,500.00 scholarships annually. Applications will be available April 1<sup>st</sup> through May 31<sup>st</sup>. Award notifications will occur by the end June, and sub-recipients will be announced at the June monthly Washington County Behavioral Health Board meeting. This year notification will occur June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021 via Zoom.

## Application Criteria

- Must be a resident of Washington County
- Resume
- Online application
- One letter of recommendation
- Must be pursuing associate's, bachelor's, or master's degree in Social Work, Counseling, or Addiction
- Preference will be given to applicants pursuing their educational goals at a local Washington County Educational Institution

For more information, please email [info@wcbhb.org](mailto:info@wcbhb.org)

# Education and Certificates

## Where to start?

If you are considering a career in behavioral health, here are a few local educational opportunities.

## Local Educational Opportunities:

- **Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services:** Peer Recovery Support Specialist Certificate
- **Ohio Chemical Dependency Professionals Board:** Chemical Dependency Counselor Assistant (level I & II) Licenses, Chemical Dependency Counselor License
- **Washington State Community College:** Associate or Transfer Degree in Social Work
- **Ohio University:** Bachelor's or Master's Degrees in Social Work, Bachelor's or Master's Degree in Psychology, Master's or Doctorate Degree of Education in Counselor Education, Master's Degree of Physician Assistant Practice, Master's Degree of Nursing (Mental Health Nurse Practitioner *Online*)
- **Marietta College:** Master's Degree of Clinical Mental Health Counseling, Master's Degree of Physician Assistant Practice

Opportunities exist outside of our local area; if you plan to attend college outside of the above opportunities, ask your admission's counselor about available behavioral health program opportunities.

# Behavioral Health Overview

When distinguishing between behavioral health and mental health, it is important to remember that behavioral health is a blanket term that includes mental health.

Behavioral health describes the connection between behaviors and the health and well-being of the body, mind and spirit. This would include how behaviors like eating habits, drinking or exercising impact physical or mental health.

## Do you want to pursue a career in behavioral health?

To properly care for or diagnose and treat people who have mental illnesses, emotional difficulties, and behavioral problems it is essential to have strengths in:

- ✓ Listening (Receptive Communication Skills)
- ✓ Communication (Verbal Communication Skills)
- ✓ Building Interpersonal Relationship
- ✓ Executing Critical Thinking and Decision Making Skills

These soft skills will help facilitate your interactions with individuals who are in distress.

The behavioral health field encompasses a variety of professions, each of which has a number of different career avenues. The intention of this guide is to lead individuals interested in seeking a behavioral health profession to local opportunities.

# Behavioral Health Careers

## Peer Recovery Support Specialist

Use their own personal experience in recovery to motivate others striving to attain sobriety.

Median Yearly Salary: \$22,000.00

## Chemical Dependency Counselor Assistant

Assists behavioral health provider in gathering patients for activities to include meals, physical fitness, group activities, outings, and supervise patients.

Median Yearly Salary: \$32,000.00

## Clinical Social Worker

Focuses on the assessment, treatment and prevention of mental illness and emotional or behavioral disturbances.

Median Yearly Salary: \$42,000.00

## Marriage & Family Therapist

Work with couples, families, or individuals to bring a family-centered approach and perspective to treatment.

Median Yearly Salary: \$43,000.00

## Mental Health Counselor

Creates purposeful relationships that empower individuals, couples, families, children or adolescents to accomplish mental health, wellness, or career goals. They also diagnose and treat mental and emotional disorders

Median Yearly Salary: \$46,000.00

# Behavioral Health Careers

## Physician Assistant (Prescriber)

Perform psychiatric evaluations and assessments, order diagnostic tests, and establish/manage treatment plans which includes prescribing medication to patients.

Median Yearly Salary: \$95,000.00

## Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner (Prescriber)

Advanced practice registered nurses who can diagnose and treat mental illnesses and disorders

Median Yearly Salary: \$120,000.00

## Licensed Psychologist

Independently licensed behavioral health professional who performs psychological assessments, provides therapy, and conducts research on mental health disorders.

Median Yearly Salary: \$72,000.00

## Psychiatrist (Prescriber)

Licensed physicians who specialize in mental health. They can diagnose mental disorders or illnesses and develop treatment plans. Psychiatrists prescribe medications, provide therapy and care for patients.

Median Yearly Salary: \$190,000.00