

# Who Are School Psychologists In Colorado?



School psychologists provide **direct support** and **interventions** to students; **consult** with teachers, families, and other school-employed mental health professionals (i.e., school counselors, school social workers) to **improve support strategies**; work with school administrators to **improve school-wide practices** and **policies**; and **collaborate** with community providers to **coordinate needed services**.

## What do school psychologists do?

School psychologists apply their expertise in mental health, learning, and behavior to help children and youth succeed **academically, socially, and behaviorally**, and **emotionally**.

## How do school psychologists support all students?

All children and youth can face problems from time to time related to learning; social relationships' making difficult decisions' or managing emotions. School psychologists are a highly skilled resource that when staffed at an appropriate ratio (**1:700**) are able to provide

## What training do school psychologists receive?

School psychologists receive specialized advanced graduate preparation that include coursework and practical experiences relevant to both psychology and education. School psychologist typically complete either a specialist-level degree program (at least 60 graduate semester hours) or a doctoral degree (at least 90 semester hours), both of which include a year-long supervised internship. Areas of training include:

- Data collection and analysis
- Progress monitoring
- School-wide practices to promote learning
- Consultation and collaboration
- Academic/learning interventions
- Diversity in development and learning
- Research and program evaluation
- Professional ethics, school law, and systems
- Assessment
- Mental health interventions
- Behavioral interventions
- Instructional support
- Prevention and intervention services
- Special education services
- Crisis preparedness, response, and recovery
- Family-school-community collaboration
- Resilience and risk factors

# Colorado Society of School Psychologists



The **Colorado Society of School Psychologists (CSSP)** is a state affiliate of the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP). CSSP serves the needs of children in Colorado by:

- Providing school psychologists the opportunities for both personal and professional fellowship
- Advancing school psychologists through professional development
- Representing its members' professional interests in psychology, education, and other related disciplines
- Promoting and maintaining high standards of professional preparation, service, and ethical conduct among its members
- Advocating for all students and for the field of school psychology in Colorado
- Provide relevant research and information through the quarterly Newsletter
- Provide scholarships, grants, and resources
- Recognize excellence in the field of school psychology
- Represent the state at the national level (NASP)

## Mission Statement

The mission of CSSP is to strengthen the effectiveness of school psychologists in addressing the academic, social, and emotional needs of children and youth in Colorado.

## Belief Statement

We believe that school psychologists have a unique niche in the educational process. We are grounded in research-based educational and psychological practice and collaboration skills that allow us to provide the leadership necessary for the educational change process.

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**School psychologists can make a positive, lasting difference in children's lives. They are a vital part of the effort to unlock each child's potential for success.**

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## Colorado Graduate Programs

**University of Northern Colorado**

<https://www.unco.edu/cebs/school-psychology/>

**University of Colorado Denver**

<http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/SchoolOfEducation/Academics/Doctorate/Pages/PsyD.aspx>

**University of Denver**

<https://morgridge.du.edu/programs/child-family-school-psychology/>

## Helpful Links

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/cde/sped/RS-Psych>

<http://www.nasponline.org/>

<https://cssponline.org/>