Behavioral Support Specialist

Behavioral health support specialists are certified to deliver brief, evidence-based interventions at the bachelor level under the ongoing supervision of a Washington state credentialed provider. A behavioral health and treatment centers tracks and monitors treatment response and outcomes using measurement-based care where mental and behavioral health services are offered.

About DSHS

The Department of Social and Health Services' Behavioral Health and Habilitation Administration provides information about careers in forensic behavioral health which play an important role in improving the lives of people with behavioral health conditions involved in the criminal court system. For more information about positions open within DSHS, please visit www.careers.wa.gov.

Forensic Behavioral Health

Forensic behavioral health is the intersection of behavioral health and the law. The system itself involves various entities that have a touchpoint to people who are involved with the criminal court system and may have a behavioral health condition.

Choosing a career as a practitioner in this human services field offers many diverse work environments. Examples include working with law enforcement in co-responder roles or in a corrections setting; in inpatient settings such as state psychiatric facilities and behavioral health support specialist; and in community settings such as outpatient competency restoration programs, or community behavioral health agencies. Service providers in this field often interact with legal partners such as lawyers and judges, corrections officers, and first responders.

For more information

Behavioral Health and Habilitation Administration, OFMHS
www.dshs.wa.gov/bha/office-forensic-mental-health-services

Workforce Development Administrator
Leah Henley | Leah.henley1@dshs.wa.gov
https://www.dshs.wa.gov/bha/office-forensic-mental-health-services/workforce-development

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Behavioral Support Specialist

Forensic Behavioral Health Career Path

Behavioral Health and Habilitation Administration
Office of Forensic Mental Health Services

DSHS
WASHINGTON STATE
Department of Social and Health Services

Examples of Work Environments

Examples of work environments include community behavioral health services, crisis services, college counseling centers and adult corrections.

Schools in Washington

Bachelors

University of Washington

Edmonds College

Centralia College* - BAS in Behavioral Healthcare

Eastern Washington University

Lake Washington Institute of Technology – BAS in Behavioral Healthcare

Evergreen State College

Begin

Bachelor's degree graduates must complete an approved BHSS education program or apprenticeship program.

Experience Needed: Supervised practicum of at least 240 hours over at least five months

Pass Jurisprudence Examination with a minimum score of 95%

Behavioral Support Specialist

New Opportunities

This document is for illustrative purposes only for detailed information see: RCW 18.225.090, Chapter 246-809-220 WAC