



# BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CAREER ROADMAP

## 1 LIVED EXPERIENCE

It is gained through experience with a mental health condition either firsthand or through a loved one.



## 2 HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA/ BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TECHNICIAN (BHT) CERTIFICATE

A diploma is received after successful completion of high school. A BHT certificate may be received after meeting the specific criteria for the certificate (refer to Florida Certification Board website).



## 3 UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE

A degree received from a college or university that provides foundational knowledge in a specific field. Typically completed in 4 years.



## 4 GRADUATE DEGREE

A degree received after earning an undergraduate degree that provides more specialized knowledge in a specific field. Typically completed in 2 years.



## 5 POST-GRADUATE DEGREE

A degree received after earning a graduate degree that provides the highest level of academic qualification, focused on original research, advanced knowledge, and expertise in a specific field.

1

2

3

4

5

# 1 LIVED EXPERIENCE



## CAREERS

Youth advocate peer specialist  
Peer specialist  
Parent/family advocate

## YOUTH ADVOCATE PEER SPECIALIST

A young person with personal experience in mental health or substance use challenges who has the training to support young people facing similar struggles, guiding them through recovery and helping them take control of their own lives.



## PEER SPECIALIST

A trained professional who uses their personal experience with mental health and substance use challenges to support and guide others facing similar struggles.



## PARENT/FAMILY ADVOCATE

Someone who is trained to use their personal experience with having a child or family member with mental health and substance use challenges to support and guide other parents and families facing similar struggles.





## 2 HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA/ BHT CERTIFICATE

### CAREERS

Behavioral health technician  
Psychiatric aide  
Crisis services specialist  
Community health worker



### BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TECH /PSYCHIATRIC AIDE



Behavioral health technicians and psychiatric aides help people dealing with mental health or substance use issues in hospitals, clinics, rehab centers, or mental health facilities. They assist with daily activities, treatment plans, track progress, and provide support.

### COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER

A community mental health worker helps people access mental health services, offers support, and promotes recovery within the community.



### CERTIFICATIONS

Offered by Florida Certification Board (FCB)

Certified BHT Credential

Certified Community Health Worker

Certified Recovery Peer Specialist



All FCB certifications require a high school diploma or General Equivalence Degree (GED), training, work experience, on-the-job supervision, letters of recommendation, and a certification exam.





# 3 UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE



## CERTIFICATES

- Applied Mental Health Services
- Addiction Studies
- Counseling in School Settings
- Crisis & Trauma Counseling
- Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
- Peer Support Specialist (online, towards Certified Recovery Peer Specialist)
- Child Welfare
- Youth Development
- Registered Behavior Technician (online towards Board Certified Behavior Analyst)
- Mental Health Technician (online, towards BHT certificate)
- Healthy Aging
- Social Justice



## CAREERS

- Behavioral health technician
- Child welfare case worker
- Case manager or care coordinator
- Vocational rehabilitation counselor
- Psychiatric technician
- Social worker
- Community outreach worker
- Mental health navigator
- Crisis line worker
- Intake coordinator
- Research assistant
- Group facilitator
- Substance abuse counselor
- Prevention specialist



## DEGREE OPTIONS

Behavioral & Mental Health  
Psychology  
Neuroscience & Behavior  
Social Work  
Community Psychology  
Human Services

## SCHOOLS

Florida Atlantic University  
Lynn University<sup>+</sup>  
Nova Southeastern University<sup>^</sup>  
Palm Beach Atlantic University<sup>+</sup>  
Palm Beach State College<sup>+</sup>  
South University<sup>+</sup>  
Keiser University<sup>+</sup>

<sup>+</sup>ALSO ONLINE    <sup>^</sup>ONLINE ONLY



# 4 GRADUATE DEGREE

## DEGREE OPTIONS

- Clinical Mental Health Counseling
- Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling
- Mental Health Counseling
- School Counseling
- Psychology
- Forensic Psychology
- Educational Psychology
- Developmental Disabilities

- General Psychology
- Social Work
- Industrial & Organizational Psychology
- Christian Studies + Clinical Mental
- Health Counseling
- Master of Divinity + Clinical Mental Health Counseling



## CERTIFICATES

Child Welfare  
Healthy Aging  
Social Justice

## SCHOOLS

[Florida Atlantic University](#)  
[Lynn University](#)<sup>+</sup>  
[Nova Southeastern University](#)<sup>^</sup>  
[Palm Beach Atlantic University](#)  
[South University](#)  
[Keiser University](#)<sup>+</sup>



## CAREERS

Clinician/therapist  
Program administrator  
Data and evaluation analyst  
School behavioral health professional  
Psychologist  
College professor  
Researcher  
Clinical case manager



<sup>+</sup>ALSO ONLINE    <sup>^</sup>ONLINE ONLY



# 5 POST-GRADUATE DEGREE



## DEGREE OPTIONS

Counselor Education  
Experimental Psychology  
Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner  
Social Work  
Medicine

## CERTIFICATES

Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner



## SCHOOLS

[Florida Atlantic University](#)

## CAREERS

Psychologist  
Professor  
Field researcher/research scientist  
Psychiatrist  
Public policy advisor or consultant



**Note: The information contained within this document is subject to change.  
Please refer to each school's website for the most up-to-date information.**



[www.bewellpbc.org](http://www.bewellpbc.org)

CREATED IN COLLABORATION WITH [KATIE CLARK CONSULTING](#)