

PSYCHOLOGISTS ARE ACCOUNTABLE TO THE PUBLIC

In Alberta, psychologists are regulated by the Health Professions Act and must follow standards established by the College of Alberta Psychologists.

To ensure public trust of the profession psychologists must work within their areas of competence.

Psychologists also must follow a Code of Ethics that ensures the dignity of the individual and fair treatment of those that use their services.

PSYCHOLOGISTS ARE EXPERTS

Psychologists spend their extensive university training learning the science and practice of psychology.

They are trained as experts, not only in psychological assessments and therapeutic modalities, but also in the foundations of human behaviour including development, learning theory, neuroscience, personality and motivation.

Psychologists also have extensive training in cognition, emotion, relationships, evaluation, research, ethics, and how to effect behavioural change.

PSYCHOLOGISTS ARE ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC

Psychologists work in public and privately funded settings.

These include primary health care, community mental health clinics, schools, hospitals, correctional facilities, universities, private practice, non-profits, and rehabilitation settings.

As a regulated health profession, services provided privately by a psychologist may be tax deductible, covered by insurance, or available through third party billing.

The Psychologists' Association of Alberta provides a free service to help you locate qualified psychologists in your community.

Online referral service:
www.psychologistsassociation.ab.ca

Telephone referral service:
Edmonton: (780) 424-0294
Calgary: (403) 246-8255
Toll free in Alberta: 1-888-424-0297

Psychologists' Association of Alberta
Unit 103, 1207 – 91st Street SW
Edmonton, AB T6X 1E9

Email: paa@paa-ab.ca

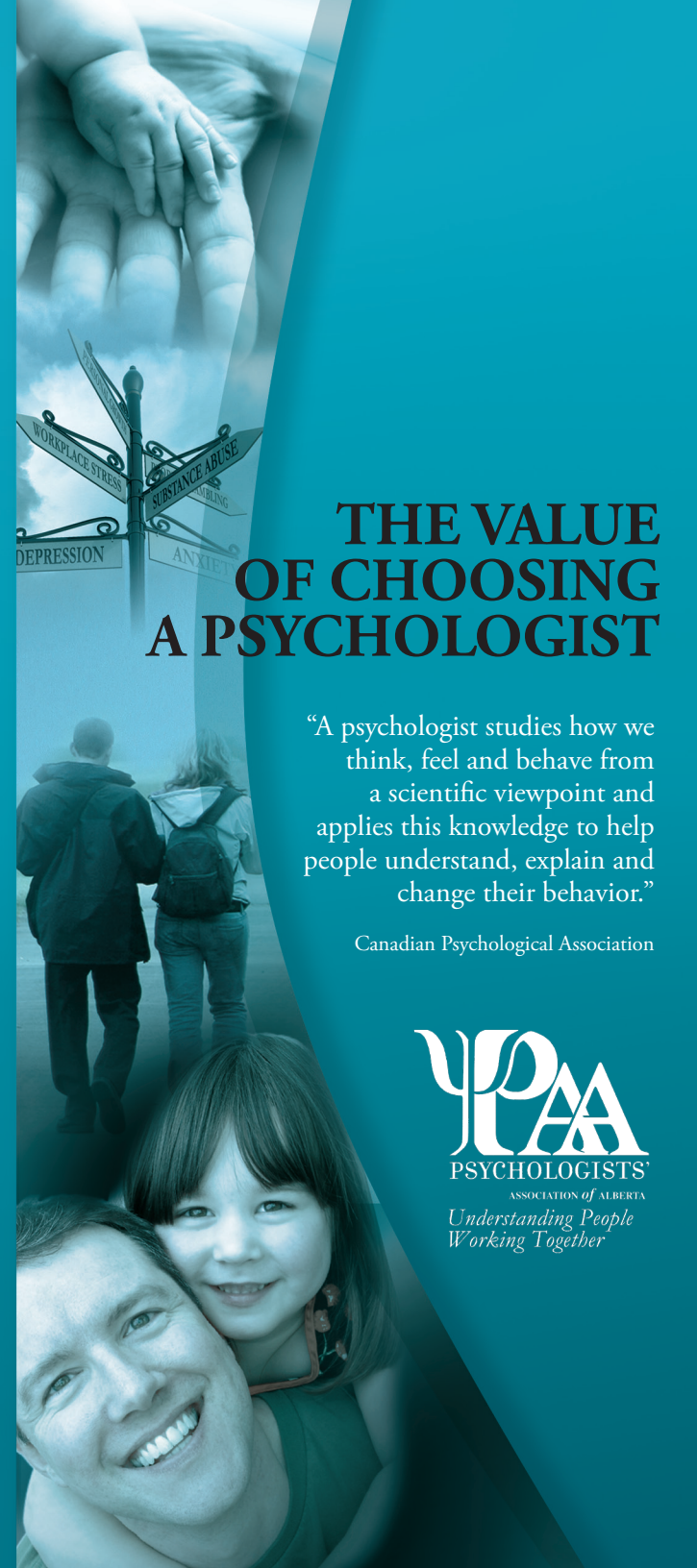
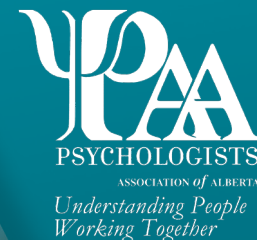
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THE VALUE OF CHOOSING A PSYCHOLOGIST

"A psychologist studies how we think, feel and behave from a scientific viewpoint and applies this knowledge to help people understand, explain and change their behavior."

Canadian Psychological Association



PSYCHOLOGISTS ARE TRUSTED BY THE PUBLIC

Psychologists, psychiatrists and family physicians are the professionals most trusted by the public to deal with mental health problems*.

A psychologist holds a master's and/or doctoral degree that involves from 7 to 11 years of university study and residency / internship on the science and evidence-based practice of psychology.

It is the extent of this education and training in cognition, emotion and behavior, and how to effect behavioral change, that makes psychologists unique.

Practicing psychologists help people overcome or manage their problems using a variety of treatments or psychotherapies and may also use psychological tests to help with assessment and diagnosis**.

*EKOS Research Report, 2011

**Psychologist description adapted from Canadian Psychological Association

PSYCHOLOGISTS ARE UNIQUELY TRAINED

Educational/School Psychology is the application of psychological knowledge, skills and judgment about human behaviour and development to the understanding of the social, emotional and learning needs of children, adolescents and adults, and to the creation of learning environments that facilitate learning and mental health.

Clinical/Counseling Psychology is the application of psychological knowledge, skills and judgment to alleviate maladjustment, disability and discomfort as well as to promote human adaptation, adjustment and personal development.

Neuropsychology is the application of psychological knowledge, skills and judgment about brain behaviour relationships to the assessment, diagnosis and treatment of individuals with known or suspected central nervous system dysfunction.

Forensic Psychology is the application of psychological knowledge, skills and judgment about human behaviour to the understanding, assessment, diagnosis and/or treatment of individuals within the context of criminal and/or legal matters.

Industrial/Organizational Psychology is the application of psychological knowledge, skills and judgment to further the welfare of people and the effectiveness of organizations by: understanding the behaviour of individuals and organizations in the workplace; helping individuals pursue meaningful and enriching work and; assisting organizations in the effective management of their human resources.

Health Psychology is the application of psychological knowledge, skills and judgment to the promotion and maintenance of health, the prevention and treatment of illness, and the identification of determinants of health and illness.

Rehabilitation Psychology is the application of psychological knowledge, skills and judgment to the assessment and treatment of individuals with impairments in their physical, emotional, cognitive, social, or occupational abilities in order to promote maximum functioning and minimize disability.