

Understanding Psychologists

Queensland Child and Youth Clinical Network

Fact Sheet

Psychologists working with children training and registration requirements

All psychologists undergo a four-year undergraduate degree. If they want to work with families, they must complete one of the following pathways:

- 1) Two years on the job supervised practice program (sometimes called a '4+2')
- 2) Two-year Master's Degree in either Clinical Psychology, Neuropsychology or Educational and Developmental Psychology (practical course with placements, subjects and a thesis).

While enrolled in these pathways Psychologists are called 'Provisionally Registered Psychologists' and there are conditions on how they can work. Once the pathway is completed, Psychologists have 'General Registration' and can work with clients more independently.

Psychologists who only have a research PhD following a four year undergraduate course are not registered Psychologists unless they have also done a Masters degree outlined above.

Psychologists can choose to go on to do a Registrar Program (frequent supervision and evidence of achievement of core competencies) in an 'area of Practice Endorsement' to be able to use the titles:

- Clinical Psychologist *or*
- Neuropsychologist *or*
- Educational and Development Psychologist

Otherwise they are called a Generalist Psychologist or just 'Psychologist'.

The benefits of an 'area of practice endorsement' are:

- Higher Medicare Rebates
- Able to supervise Masters students on placement
- Able to supervise 'Registrars' achieving an 'area of Practice Endorsement'

Figure 1: Psychologist practice stream carer progression



Contact Us

Email: SCYCN_CDSN@health.qld.gov.au

Website: <https://www.childrens.health.qld.gov.au/chq/health-professionals/qcyc-network/>