What can I do with a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology?

AREAS	EMPLOYERS	STRATEGIES
HUMAN SERVICES Counseling, Advocacy, Human Health Services	 Federal Government Depts of Health & Human Services, Veterans' Administration, and Justice State Govt Depts of Human Services, Mental Health, and Mental Retardation, psychiatric hospitals, community mental health centers, facilities for the mentally retarded, and probation/parole depts Local Government: senior citizens' centers Non-Profit Organizations such as United Way, Goodwill Industries, Boys and Girls Clubs, and YWCA/YMCA 	Obtain essential practical experience such as residence hall adviser or camp counselor Enroll in an internship or practicum Perform volunteer services such as Special Olympics, Big Brother/Sister, or crisis hotline Learn foreign language for multi-cultural clients Become familiar with government hiring procedures Be willing to relocate Be prepared to obtain a masters degree for more substantive counseling work
ADMINISTRATION	 Federal, state, and local governments National headquarters and local branches of nonprofit organizations 	Consider a business double major or minor Gain experience in counseling, advocacy, or administration Need masters in health care administration for advancement
COMMUNITY RELATIONS	 Federal, state, or local government Local branches of national non-profit organizations 	Gain experience in counseling, advocacy, or administration Gain knowledge of community problems and govt resources
PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT	 Federal, state, or local government Headquarters and branches of non-profit organizations 	Gain experience in counseling, advocacy, or administration Obtain graduate degree for advancement
RESEARCH	 Federal government, especially Dept of Health & Human Services and National Institute of Education National headquarters of non-profit organizations 	Develop strong quantitative, statistical, and research skills Obtain graduate degree for advancement
HUMAN RESOURCES Employment & Recruitment, Labor Relations, Compensation & Benefits	 Human resources (personnel) departments of companies Government personnel agencies and departments Employment agencies 	Acquire related experiences such as a residence hall adviser, new student orientation leader, admissions office tour guide/recruiter, or member of committees that make policy, settle disputes, or adjudicate cases
PUBLIC RELATIONS Research, Programming, Fund-Raising, Writing & Editing, Special Events, Media Placement, Public Speaking	 Public relations and advertising firms Companies with in-house PR depts Trade associations Federal, state, and local government Colleges and universities Non-profit organizations 	 Develop strong writing and speaking skills Obtain related experiences with campus newspaper, TV, or radio, Admissions office tour guide or recruiter, Student activities office planning Serve as a fund raiser or political canvasser Find internship through Public Relations Society of America
ADVERTISING Creative, Media, Account Services, or Research	 Advertising agencies Companies with in-house advertising agencies or depts 	 Obtain experience with campus TV, radio, or newspaper Work with a student-run business Find an internship with a market research firm or a member of the American Advertising Federation Develop a portfolio for a creative position Business minor or double major for Account Services jobs
MARKET RESEARCH	 Market research firms Market research departments of consumer goods and manufacturing firms 	Develop strong math/statistics skills Become involved in the American Marketing Association Obtain a part-time or summer job with a market research firm (see Marketing Services in the yellow pages), perform a Business Dept practicum, become a reporter for campus newspaper, serve as a canvasser/phone interviewer for a charity or political campaign
TEACHING	Public and private schools	 Obtain a teaching certificate for public school positions Seek guidance from the Education Dept in your school Volunteer as a tutor
RETAIL / SALES	 All major retail firms including pharmaceuticals, specialty, variety, and department store chains Wholesalers, manufacturers, insurance companies, and real estate companies 	Obtain related sales experiences with part-time or summer retail job or work with campus newspaper or yearbook Secure leadership position in campus organization Perform an internship with a retail store