What did I do with my Psychology major?

What is your primary discipline/field?

Clinical psychologist

Was Psychology your undergraduate major?

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

What degree is required (or most typical) for your job?

Ph.D./Psy.D.

What is your primary work setting?

Gov't agency/VA/social services

In just a few words, how would you describe your job? What are the primary activities you engage in?

I'm a mental health administrator in a large, academically-affiliated VA Hospital. I work with a small team to oversee healthcare delivery for approximately 13,000 mental health outpatients annually, including staff supervision, program & process development, maintenance of clinical standards, etc.

Can you guesstimate about what percentage of your work time you spend engaged in each of the following activities?

Research?	Teaching	Practice: Assessment	Practice: Therapy	Consultation or Administration
	20			80

What makes your field most unique from some of the other fields on the list above?

What other non-psychology-related activities does your job entail that you did not expect? For instance, does your job include accounting, personnel management, business administration, clerical work, or other activities?

A significant number of my responsibilities are non-psychology-related that I would not have anticipated as a student or junior professional, including resource requests, staff evaluations, systems redesign, and responding to national directives.

What is the BEST thing about your field? What would you tell a college student to encourage them to enter your field?

Although I provide almost no direct clinical care, I have the opportunity to positively influence the mental health care of thousands of patients each year through program development and oversight, resource allocation, and training/education.

What is your LEAST FAVORITE thing about your field? What would you tell a college student to DISCOURAGE them to enter?

Although there is a lot of bureaucracy in any large medical and/or academic institution (including mine), I wouldn't let that discourage someone. Any job worth doing will have obstacles and challenges to overcome.

(Optional) What is your age?

42

(Optional) If you would like students to contact you with questions, please list your email below