

# Mental Health Allied Health Professional Practice Program 2023 – FAQs for Psychologists

Applications for the Mental Health Allied Health Professional Practice Program (AHPPP) 2023 will be open for applications from 23 September 2022.

Below are some frequently asked questions about this Program.

## Welcome to Mental Health

Mental health services focus on providing the best possible mental health care to supporting individuals with a mental illness and recovery. The expectation of the mental health system is to promote hope, resilience, and protection of consumer rights.

It is essential for mental health services to be delivered by multidisciplinary teams across both inpatient and the community settings. Allied health staff therefore work alongside nursing, psychiatry, consumer, and carer colleagues.

To learn more about Mental Health visit:

<https://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/public+content/sa+health+internet/services/mental+health+and+drug+and+alcohol+services/mental+health+services/mental+health+services>

The Mental Health Allied Health Professional Practice Program (the Program) is open to Psychology (Clinical) graduates. For rural mental health internships only, the program is open to general Psychology graduates who will complete their academic courses in 2022.

## What are the benefits of being in the program?

The Mental Health Allied Health Professional Practice Program offers up to one year of contract employment. It provides working opportunities and development that enables participants to build their knowledge and skills in mental health. Participants will experience working within multidisciplinary team environments and with different consumer groups.

Community and inpatient services encompass the full range of acute, sub-acute, community and rehabilitation programs. Past work opportunities have included mental health teams in metropolitan and country locations, across adult, youth and older persons' age groups. The AHPPP offers:

- > Employment in a paid clinical position to consolidate clinical practice abilities and confidence
- > A 5-day orientation program
- > Regular learning and development days throughout the year
- > Structured professional clinical supervision
- > Opportunities to develop new skills
- > Access to internal employment opportunities that exist across the service

## How should I apply to the Allied Health Professional Practice Program 2023?

Apply using the online application system at [www.sahealthcareers.com.au](http://www.sahealthcareers.com.au). Setup a 'Job Alert' using the identifying words 'Allied Health Professional Practice Program' and/or 'Psychologist', which will alert you when applications open – 23 September 2022 and closing on 28 October 2022. You can do this by clicking on the 'Receive Job Alert' icon and following the instructions. You can also search for job number **807399**

### What will I need when applying?

You will need to have:

- > A current resume/curriculum vitae to assist in populating the application
- > A maximum 2 page covering letter outlining how you meet the key selection criteria of the Role Description
- > Contact details (email and telephone) of three referees
- > Visa/passport details and evidence of residency if not an Australian citizen
- > Evidence of having satisfactorily completed your course requirements or evidence of plan to complete your course requirements by the start of 2023 should be provided at interview if available; otherwise, it must be provided to facilitate employment if you are offered a position

### What are the eligibility requirements?

You need to have completed your post graduate degree coursework and placements in Psychology (Clinical) prior to the start of 2023. In order to be employed as a psychologist in SA Health, applicants must have completed an AHPRA recognised course equivalent to a Master's Degree in Psychology (Clinical) and have general (or provisional) registration with the Psychology Board of Australia. Psychologists who have recently gained, or are about to obtain, general registration as a Psychologist via other pathways may also apply and will be considered for positions in regional Local Health Networks.

### How will my application be assessed?

All applications will be subject to a merit-based selection process. It is anticipated that referees will be contacted so please ensure you maintain up to date details of relevant referees and that you have sought their permission to act as your referees.

### I am due to finish my studies in late 2022 or in Jan 2023, can I still apply?

Yes. If you are successful in being offered a position you will be required to submit a certified copy of your academic transcript prior to your commencement. You are not required to provide a certified copy of your academic transcript until such time as you are offered a position. However please upload a copy of your most recent academic results.

Applications for psychology graduates who have completed their coursework but are waiting for their thesis to be marked may be accepted for interview. If successful, such applicants will need to apply to AHPRA to work in addition to placements. Please see the AHPRA website for more details.

## If successful in gaining employment with the Allied Health Professional Practice Program, what will be my conditions of employment?

You will be directly employed by the Local Health Network where the position/s is/are located. You will be employed and paid in accordance with the South Australian Modern Public Sector Enterprise Agreement: Salaried 2021.

You are fully responsible for all aspects pertaining to your pre-employment leading to employment, including Criminal History Checks and immunisation requirements. Further information is available [here](#).

You must also be credentialed by the Principal Discipline Lead or Senior Clinician consistent with SA Health's Allied Health credentialing process. This will involve the provision of evidence of qualifications and/or registration (as appropriate).

You may also be required to undertake a Pre-employment Health Assessment.

## What do I do if I change my address or email details during the process?

If you change your address or email details at any time following the submission of your application you are required to visit the SA Health website [www.sahealthcareers.com.au](http://www.sahealthcareers.com.au) and log in using your profile, select Edit Profile, click on *Personal Details*, update your details and then save. This is a live system so you can go in and update personal details at any time.

## How will I receive further communication?

All correspondence will be via email, so please check your email inbox and spam on a regular basis. It is your responsibility to ensure you check your emails so you do not miss any information.

## Do you have a question we haven't answered here?

Please go to the following website for more information [www.sahealthcareers.com.au](http://www.sahealthcareers.com.au)

For more information contact the relevant Central Adelaide Local Health Network Principal Clinical Psychologist:

Jemma Bray, [Jemma.Bray@sa.gov.au](mailto:Jemma.Bray@sa.gov.au)