

# I want to be a.....

## Neuropsychologist

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The clinical side of neuropsychology overlaps with academic neuropsychology, which provides a scientific understanding of the relationship between brain and neuropsychological function. This in turn helps form the basis for assessment and rehabilitation of people with brain injury, or other neurological disease. Neuropsychologists may be employed within the NHS, and also in the independent sector within both private and not-for-profit charitable organisations. Neuropsychologists work with people of all ages with neurological problems, which might include traumatic brain injury, stroke, toxic and metabolic disorders, tumors and neuro-degenerative diseases.

Neuropsychologists most commonly work in:

- **Acute settings:** working alongside neurosurgeons and neurologists and the allied disciplines, usually in a regional neurosciences centre.
- **Rehabilitation centres:** providing post-acute assessment, training and support for people who have sustained brain injury, or who have other neurological problems.
- **Community services:** performing a similar role as above but support those who have returned to community living

Experienced neuropsychologists also commonly act as expert witnesses for the Courts, and research is an important aspect of neuropsychological practice. Many senior neuropsychologists can supplement their income by undertaking private medico-legal consultancy as expert witnesses in personal injury cases.

### Qualifications and training

To become a Neuropsychologist you need:

- A degree (Usually a 2:1 or equivalent) in Psychology from a BPS approved course.
- Professional training/ post-qualification experience that gives you eligibility to register as a Chartered Psychologist. (This would normally be as a qualified clinical or educational psychologist)
- An additional Society accredited qualification in Clinical Neuropsychology afterwards.

### Work experience

This is not an entry point graduate profession. To become a neuropsychologist you need to have already qualified as a chartered clinical or educational psychologist.

You may find these alternative career help sheets useful:

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## Neuropsychology: Useful websites

- **The Division of Neuropsychology – the BPS**

Provides access to publications, conferences, and special interest groups and chat rooms with membership.

[www.bps.org.uk/member-microsites/division-neuropsychology](http://www.bps.org.uk/member-microsites/division-neuropsychology)

## Find Manchester graduates doing this role

### LinkedIn

Use LinkedIn to see and connect with other psychology graduates from UoM who have gone into this and other roles. You can filter for “Psychology” graduates on the second page of the alumni tab, or just search for the job title you are looking for.

[www.linkedin.com/school/university-of-manchester/](http://www.linkedin.com/school/university-of-manchester/)

Join the **Psychology Graduate Network** just for Manchester students & graduates on LinkedIn and view members here too: [www.bit.ly/psychologynetwork](http://www.bit.ly/psychologynetwork)

NB) You can also use LinkedIn to click through to the organisations where people work in this role, connect with other people who work there and view any job vacancies.

The alumni office run **The Manchester Network** which is a similar platform for all Manchester alumni. You can also use this tool to send alumni any questions about their work. [www.network.manchester.ac.uk](http://www.network.manchester.ac.uk)