

Counsellors

Counsellors provide information on vocational, relationship, social and educational difficulties and issues, and work with people to help them to identify and define their emotional issues through therapies such as cognitive behaviour therapy, interpersonal therapy and other talking therapies.

Job title examples



- Careers Counsellor / Careers Adviser
- Drug and Alcohol Counsellor
- Family and Marriage Counsellor
- Rehabilitation Counsellor
- Student Counsellor / School Counsellor
- Counsellors (Gambling Counsellor/Grief Counsellor/Life Coach/Rape Crisis Counsellor/ Trauma Counsellor)

Other jobs in this field of work

What counsellors do



- work with clients on career, study and employment options by obtaining and examining information relevant to their abilities and needs
- provide information and resources to assist clients with job-seeking skills
- assess client needs in relation to treatment for drug and alcohol abuse
- conduct counselling interviews with individuals, couples and family groups
- assist the understanding and adjustment of attitudes, expectations and behaviour to develop more effective interpersonal and marital relationships
- present alternative approaches and discuss potential for attitude and behaviour change
- consult with clients to develop rehabilitation plans taking account of vocational and social needs
- contribute information, understand and advice on the learning and behaviour of students, especially those with special needs, and assist parents and teachers in dealing with these needs
- may work in a call centre

Main employing industries



- Health care and social assistance
- Education and training

Qualifications



The following government subsidised qualifications are available in NSW:

Certificate IV in Employment Services available as a traineeship or qualification

Diploma of Alcohol and Other Drugs available as qualification

Diploma of Counselling available as qualification

Course fees: You may be eligible for government subsidised training under Smart and Skilled. Go to the [Course Finder](#) to find training in your area, estimate your fee and find a training provider.

Job prospects and pay



- There are around 7,200 counsellors working in NSW.
- Over the next four years, employment in this occupation is expected to grow in NSW.

Average weekly full time earnings (before tax):

- Counsellors: \$1,153
- All occupations: \$1,200

Related jobs



- Welfare, recreation and community arts worker
- Welfare support worker

To find out more about other jobs, visit the [Job Guides Homepage](#).

Information sources

Occupations: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations, 1220.0

Employment: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly, 6291.0.55.003

Skills shortages: Department of Employment, Skill Shortage List NSW 2015-16

Job prospects: Centre of Policy Studies (CoPS), Victoria University, Employment Forecast Data for NSW 2015/16 to 2022/23

Earnings: Department of Employment, joboutlook.gov.au, based on ABS Characteristics of Employment Survey, August 2014