



## ABOUT

*Serving Psychologists in the Public Sector*

### **DIVISION OF PSYCHOLOGISTS IN PUBLIC SERVICE**

Division 18 serves psychologists in the public sector. Established in 1946 as a founding division of APA, Division 18 was created to address public service needs and promote psychological practice, research, training, program development and outcome evaluation in government funded and other public sector settings. Division 18 has seven specialty sections: community and state hospitals, criminal justice, police and public safety, psychologists in Indian country, serious mental illness and emotional disturbance, students, and Veterans Affairs. The goals of Division 18 are to advance the profession in the public sector, foster ethical practice, advocate for persons with mental and physical illnesses, and promote quality care.

Public service psychologists include practitioners, researchers, professors, legislators, administrators, policy makers and elected officials. They work in hospitals, community mental health systems, medical centers, police and public safety settings, legislatures, executive and judicial branches of the government, academic institutions and other sites. Division 18 members help train more than half of all Clinical and Counseling Psychologists in the U.S.



## MEMBERSHIP

*Join Division 18 Today*

### **ELIGIBILITY**

To join Division 18, you must qualify for membership in APA, but APA membership is not required to belong to the Division.

Annual dues for Full Members, Associate Members and Affiliate Members are \$49 US, and \$25 US for Student Members. Membership includes: a subscription to the journal, *Psychological Services*; the Division 18 newsletter, *Public Service Psychology*; membership in Division section/s; access to Pubserv and Pubserv Direct email lists; guidance on submissions to the APA annual convention; and free or low cost continuing education credits for Division sponsored trainings and webinars.

### **ADDITIONAL BENEFITS**

- Find a place to network with other like-minded psychologists
- Find a source of information about what is happening nationally in public service organizations
- Find a forum to hear about and discuss research in the public sector
- Find new ways to enhance professional development through training and consultation
- Find a forum for special initiatives within the public sector
- Affiliate with a division that focuses on the unique needs of the public and public service psychologists
- Find a place to advocate for persons served in the public sector
- Establish "a home" in APA
- Find a vehicle to disseminate best practices



### **APPLY FOR MEMBERSHIP**

To apply for membership, you may apply online at:

**<http://www.apadivisions.org/division-18/membership/index.aspx>**

Additional information may be obtained by contacting the Division's Membership Chair, Ameer Patel, at [ameepatel@yahoo.com](mailto:ameepatel@yahoo.com).



**THE AMERICAN  
PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION**

**DIVISION OF  
PSYCHOLOGISTS  
IN PUBLIC SERVICE**

*Advancing the  
Science and Practice  
of Psychology in  
Public Service Settings  
to Promote  
Health and Wellbeing*



**[www.apadivisions.org/division-18](http://www.apadivisions.org/division-18)**



# DIVISION SPECIALTY SECTIONS

Members of Division 18 are strongly encouraged to join the specialty section or sections that match their interests.

## COMMUNITY AND STATE HOSPITALS

Members are employed in public mental health settings such as community mental health clinics and state hospitals. They typically provide direct clinical services to those with major psychiatric conditions, engage in research, training and teaching and assume leadership roles within their organizations.

## SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS/SEVERE EMOTIONAL DISTURBANCE

Members share a common interest in promoting recovery and resilience, and advocate for social justice for adults living with serious psychiatric/mental disorders and children living with severe emotional disturbance. Members work in a variety of settings including hospitals, community agencies, residential programs, academia, and private practice and participate in mental health administration, direct clinical care, research, teaching, public policy development and advocacy.

## CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Members work primarily with incarcerated individuals and with administrators who operate local, state or federal correctional facilities and detention centers. Members provide professional support to one another through an exchange of information concerning the administration, assessment, and treatment of persons in criminal justice settings and training and ethical issues encountered by providers.

## POLICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

Members work with law enforcement, fire departments, nuclear regulatory agencies, emergency medical services, and other public safety entities. They participate in employee selection, fitness for duty evaluations, critical incident stress debriefings, management of mental health programs, criminal investigative analysis (profiling) and hostage negotiations.

## PSYCHOLOGISTS IN INDIAN COUNTRY

Members share an interest in services to Native people and communities in the U.S. and Canada. Members are typically mental health professionals who work on reservations or reserves and are employed by tribes, urban programs, the Indian Health service or other health and human service organizations that serve Native populations.

## VETERANS AFFAIRS

Members work for the Department of Veterans Affairs and serve our Veterans in a national network of health care facilities. Members promote the Department's mission through patient care, research, training and consumer activities and form a national network/group to share ideas and concerns.

## STUDENTS

Members are students who are interested in a career in public service psychology.

## PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES DIVISION 18 JOURNAL

*Psychological Services* is the official publication of the Division of Psychologists in Public Service. The journal publishes high quality clinical practice and data-based articles related to the wide range of psychological services delivered by members of the Division.



## HOW TO GET INVOLVED IN DIVISION 18?

Division 18 is entirely volunteer driven. We are always looking for individuals to participate in Division activities and Division leadership. Members are invited to get involved in the following committees and activities. We particularly encourage students and early career members to join.

- Advocacy & Policy
- Communication
- Continuing Education
- Convention Program
- Diversity
- Early Career Development
- Membership
- Mentoring Program
- Newsletter
- Section Activities
- Social Media
- Student Activities
- Web Site Development & Maintenance