

## SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC

**“Find a Psychologist”** - Referral information online at our website [www.suffolkpsych.org](http://www.suffolkpsych.org)

**Allows the public community to conduct a search for a Psychologist in their area, who takes their insurance, and has expertise in the area of concern.**

SCPA provides information on how to obtain lower cost services for those who are financially disadvantaged.

SCPA produces Podcasts which can be found on our website ([www.suffolkpsych.org](http://www.suffolkpsych.org)) that provide brief overviews of treatment and therapeutic advice on various psychological issues.

SCPA provides important information to the public regarding access to mental health services; helps disseminate information regarding best practices and how to advocate for better/more comprehensive services.

SCPA coordinates with other mental health associations and patient advocacy groups to ensure the greatest access to health care and highest quality of service and support to the Suffolk County Community.

## HOW TO JOIN OUR PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION

If you are a Psychologist or Graduate Student in Psychology and interested in joining SCPA, please go to our website [www.suffolkpsych.org](http://www.suffolkpsych.org) to download an application or call the SCPA Administrator at (631) 423-2409.

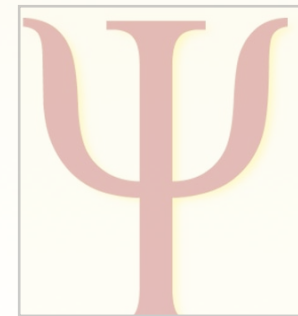
Membership is affordable and includes:

- An active and highly informative **Listserv** which provides timely and practical information to help one manage his/her practice and connect with other psychologists across Suffolk County. It is a great source to find and receive referrals.
- Inclusion in SCPA’s **“Find a Psychologist”** website database that can be accessed by the general public.
- Free monthly presentations** on psychological topics. Continuing education credits are available for a low fee as SCPA is an APA approved sponsor.
- School Psychology, Psychology and Law, Insurance/Managed Care, Public Education, Legal/Legislative, and Independent Practice Committees**
- A **mentoring program** pairing early career psychologists with more experienced colleagues who volunteer their time.
- An informative **newsletter** available both online and in print three times per year.
- Networking social events** around the holidays and in June.

**SUFFOLK COUNTY  
PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION  
P.O. Box 397  
COMMACK, NY 11725**

# SUFFOLK COUNTY PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

A NOT-FOR-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION



## THE HISTORY OF SUFFOLK COUNTY PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

Established in 1955, The Suffolk County Psychological Association (SCPA) is a professional association of licensed psychologists and certified school psychologists.

### MISSION STATEMENT

SCPA's mission is to promote the profession of psychology in Suffolk County through fellowship, education and advocacy. Our members provide a **wide variety of psychological services** to individuals, couples, and families in their private practices, schools, hospitals, clinics and universities.

### WHAT IS A PSYCHOLOGIST?

A Psychologist is a doctoral level professional who is licensed by the state to provide psychological services independently.

A Psychologist completes a doctoral degree program, typically five to seven years post-college that includes coursework, clinical and research experiences, an internship and a dissertation.

In order to be licensed and practice independently in New York State, Psychologists must also complete an additional year of supervised experience and pass a licensing exam.

### TYPES OF DEGREES PSYCHOLOGISTS ACHIEVE

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)

Many Psychologists have earned this degree that encourages research oriented methods in addition to clinical training. Ph.D.s comprise the bulk of degrees authorized prior to 1980.

Doctor of Psychology (Psy.D.)

Psychologists who have earned this degree have attended graduate programs that emphasized the clinical aspect of training more so than the research aspect. This degree has become more popular in recent years.

Master's Degree in Psychology (M.A. or M.S.)

These are practitioners who have completed a two year post-college master's degree program in psychology. They work in exempt settings such as schools, hospitals and clinics. They are not licensed to practice independently.

### WHAT DO PSYCHOLOGISTS DO?

Engage in clinical practice that typically involves "talk therapy" as a means of helping others better understand their emotional life and foster healthy relationships.

Conduct psychological evaluations in an effort to obtain a comprehensive understanding of one's intellectual, emotional, neuropsychological, and academic functioning.

Provide consultation, evaluation, and counseling services in schools and participate on Committees on Special Education in an effort to ensure the emotional and educational needs of children are being met.

Perform psychological research to provide scientific data to support psychological techniques and treatment modalities.

Teach others in colleges and universities how to be analytical thinkers, adapt to their environment, and understand the nuances behind behavior.

Help businesses identify more efficient methods to motivate employees, increase productivity, and promote psychologically healthy work environments.