



AMERICAN  
PSYCHOLOGICAL  
ASSOCIATION



# Rehabilitation Neuropsychologist

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Please describe the area of psychology you practice. For example, what does your day-to-day schedule look like?

I am a rehabilitation neuropsychologist. In essence, I assess and treat cognitive, behavioral, emotional, and social disturbances in individuals following neurological injuries, such as stroke, traumatic brain injury, and spinal cord injury. My schedule is quite unique as I divide my time between an acute inpatient rehabilitation unit and an outpatient clinic.

Were there specific factors that led you to choose this area of psychology? Was there a critical moment that changed your career trajectory?

My initial background is in special education, which provided a solid foundation for working with individuals who have behavioral and affective needs following central nervous system injuries or illnesses. Typically, professionals choose to specialize in either the cognitive and psychiatric evaluation of these individuals (neuropsychology) or support their adjustment to injury (rehabilitation psychology). However, I felt that providing only one aspect of care was insufficient. The pivotal moment in my career occurred when I decided to pursue both specialties, allowing me to offer an integrated model of care. This decision enabled me to continue engaging with research literature, learn about new medical conditions and treatments, and provide holistic, individualized care that combines objective data with clinical impressions and creativity.



**What advice would you give to an Early Career Psychologist (ECP) who wants to pursue a position or additional training opportunities in this area of psychology?**

Rehabilitation neuropsychology is an emerging field, which can be both exciting and challenging depending on your goals and personality. To be board eligible, I completed a post-doctoral fellowship. Most existing programs require you to meet criteria for boarding in either neuropsychology or rehabilitation psychology. However, with some creativity, it is possible to achieve board certification in both specialties. I have found this work to be extraordinarily rewarding and meaningful, and I can genuinely say I am working in my dream role.

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