

**AFSC 42P4\*, Staff**  
**AFSC 42P3\*, Qualified**  
**AFSC 42P1\*, Entry**

**CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST**  
**(Changed 31 Oct 21)**

**1. Specialty Summary.** Applies psychological principles and techniques to problems of human and organizational effectiveness and performance, maladjustment, and psychological disturbances. Evaluates, diagnoses, and treats psychological and neuropsychological disorders. Teaches, supervises, and directs clinical psychology and related mental health programs. Related DoD Occupational Group: 260807.

**2. Duties and Responsibilities:**

- 2.1. Administers clinical psychology programs. Plans, organizes, and directs mental health service or department. Supervises mental health personnel and recommends policies pertaining to their training and management. Implements mental health programs through consulting with other agencies on such problems as individual and group effectiveness, interpersonal relations, health improvement, psychopathology, and maladaptive behavior.
- 2.2. Performs mental health evaluations and therapy. Applies and supervises application of psychological procedures and techniques in evaluating, diagnosing, and treating psychological and neuropsychological disorders. Provides individual and group therapy, behavior modification paradigms, and biofeedback procedures in treating psychological disorders, and in assisting individuals to achieve more effective personal and interpersonal adjustment.
- 2.3. Performs research and training. Plans and conducts clinical psychological research. Determines methods to be used in investigation, assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of mental health problems. Provides education and training in psychological theory, diagnostic techniques, treatment modalities, and related mental health programs to psychologists, allied disciplines, and personnel in medical, educational, managerial, social, and community programs.

**3. Specialty Qualifications:**

- 3.1. Knowledge. Knowledge of psychological theories, principles, and techniques is mandatory.
- 3.2. Education. The following are mandatory as indicated:
  - 3.2.1. For entry into this specialty (AFSC 42P1), completion of all requirements for award of a doctorate in clinical or counseling psychology (except dissertation/equivalent or clinical internship or both). If not completed prior to entry into the Air Force, successful completion of a clinical internship accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA) within 15 months of entry into the specialty is required for retention in this specialty.
  - 3.2.2. For award of AFSC 42P3, a doctorate in clinical psychology, or equivalent.
- 3.3. Training. A psychologist who has completed all requirements for a doctoral degree in clinical psychology, including dissertation (or equivalent) and an APA-accredited internship but is unlicensed may be accessed into the specialty through an Air Force clinical psychology fellowship. Successful completion of the fellowship is required for retention in this specialty. Psychologists accessed through this route must meet the requirements for award and retention of the 42P3/42P3X AFSC within 18 months of accession.
- 3.4. Experience. The following are mandatory as indicated:
  - 3.4.1. For award of 42P3, completion of doctorate including a clinical internship that meets the requirements for credentialing and privileging of clinical psychologists as outlined in DHAPM 6025.13, volume 4.
  - 3.4.2. For award and retention of AFSC 42P3/42P3X, a current, valid, active, and unrestricted state issued license to practice clinical or counseling psychology in a state, U.S. territory, or the District of Columbia within 3 years from the date the clinical internship is completed.
  - 3.4.3. See specialty shredouts for additional requirements.
- 3.5. Must obtain and maintain clinical privileges IAW DHAPM 6025.13, Volume 4 (or be immediately eligible for said privileges if assigned to a non-clinical position.)

#### 4. \*Specialty Shredouts:

*Suffix    Portion of AFS to Which Related*

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| A      Clinical Neuropsychologist      | Performs and supervises neuropsychological evaluations, conducts research, and provides education and training in the field of neuropsychology. For award of AFSC 42P3A, a doctorate plus successful completion of 2 years post-doctoral training in a neuropsychology fellowship training program approved by the Air Force Associate Corps Chief of Clinical Psychology, or board certification in Clinical Neuropsychology by the American Board of Professional Psychology.  |
| B      Clinical Health Psychologist    | Performs and supervises health psychology evaluations, conducts research, and provides education and training in the field of health psychology. For award of AFSC 42P3B, a doctorate plus successful completion of 2 year post-doctoral training in a health psychology fellowship training program approved by the Air Force Associated Corps Chief for Clinical Psychology, or board certification in Clinical Health Psychology by the American Board of Professional Psychology.  |
| C      Child & Adolescent Psychologist | Performs and supervises child, adolescent, and pediatric psychology evaluations, conducts research, and provides education and training in the field of child, adolescent, and pediatric psychology. For award of AFSC 42P3C, a doctorate plus successful completion of 2-year post-doctoral training in a child and adolescent psychology or a pediatric psychology fellowship training program, 3 years' experience and completion of specified training requirements approved by the Air Force Associate Corps Chief for Clinical Psychology in a setting where the primary duty was in child and adolescent and/or pediatric psychology, or board certification in Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology by the American Board of Professional Psychology. Approval of the Air Force Associate Corps Chief for Clinical Psychology is required before award of the specialty shredout if not obtained by completing the fellowship. |
| D      Aviation Psychologist           | Performs and supervises aviation psychology evaluations, conducts research, and provides education and training in the field of aviation psychology. For award of AFSC 42P3D, a doctorate plus 1 year post-doctoral training in an aviation psychology fellowship training program acceptable to the Air Force Surgeon General, or 3 years' experience acceptable to the Air Force Surgeon General in a setting where the primary duty was in aviation psychology.   |

- E. Operational Psychologist
- Performs and supervises operational psychology evaluations, conducts research and provides education and training in the field of operational psychology. For award of AFSC 42P3E, a doctorate plus successful completion of 1- year post-doctoral training in operational psychology fellowship training program approved by the Air Force Associate Corps Chief for Clinical Psychology, or 3 years' experience and completion of specific training requirements approved by the Air Force Associate Corps chief for Clinical Psychology in a setting where the primary duty was aviation psychology. Approval of the Air Force Associate Corps Chief for clinical Psychology is required before award of specialty shredout if not obtained by completing the fellowship.
- F. Investigative Psychologist
- Performs specialized evaluations, operational support, consultation, and education regarding criminal investigations, legal proceedings, special access programs, counterintelligence/counterterrorism investigations and military investigative operations. For award of AFSC 422P3F, a doctorate plus, successful completion of 2- year post-doctoral training in an Investigative/Forensic psychology fellowship training program approved by the Air Force Associate Corps Chief for Clinical Psychology. Additional requirement to qualify for and retain F shredout is obtaining and retaining a TS/SCI security clearance. Loss of a TS/SCI security clearance will result in the member losing the F shredout.