



SOCIETY for
INDUSTRIAL and
ORGANIZATIONAL
PSYCHOLOGY

What is Industrial-Organizational (I-O) Psychology?

The SIOP Visibility Committee
February 2017

What undergraduate students should know about I-O Psychology

- Industrial-organizational (I-O) psychology applies **scientific principles** to **improve the workplace**
 - Hiring employees, performance evaluation, employee motivation, training and development, teamwork, organizational development and change, and leadership
- I-O psychology is the **highest-paying field** within psychology
 - Median wage \$77,350 ¹
- I-O psychologist is one of the **fastest-growing occupations** in the U.S.
 - 19% job growth (2012-2024) ²
- I-O psychologists work in a **variety of settings**
 - Businesses, government, universities, consulting firms, and research organizations



1 U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (May, 2015)

2 U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (December 17, 2015)

How to Become an I-O Psychologist

- Most professionals working in the field of I-O psychology hold a **Master's** or **Doctoral** degree.*
- Hundreds of universities offer graduate degrees in I-O psychology
 - Some universities have undergraduate I-O psychology concentrations
- For information about I-O psychology programs and how to apply, visit:
<http://www.siop.org/studentdefault.aspx>

*In most states, the use of the title “psychologist” is regulated by law and may be restricted to persons who have completed doctoral training and/or have been licensed.



Additional Resources

- **Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology:** www.siop.org
- **Short video** describing the field of I-O psychology: <https://youtu.be/1fLCmoxCdRc>
- **General brochure** about I-O psychology: <http://www.siop.org/userfiles/file/siopgeneralbrochure.pdf>
- **Student brochure** about careers in I-O psychology:
<http://www.siop.org/visibilitybrochure/student%20brochureWeb.pdf>
- **What's in a Name?** (a document describing the types of career and job titles I-O psychologists have):
<http://www.siop.org/userfiles/file/What's%20In%20A%20Name.pdf>
- **Psychology at Work: What do I-O Psychologists Really Do?** (a series of profiles of SIOP members and/or I-O psychologists about their careers): <http://www.siop.org/psychatwork.aspx>
- **Recorded webinar:** “Everything You Want to Know About Graduate School in I-O Psychology but Are Too Afraid to Ask!”: <https://youtu.be/ON4xTFbFrwk>
- **Information** about I-O psychology programs and how to apply: <http://www.siop.org/studentdefault.aspx>

