



Psychology Internship Program

Department of Family and Clinical Services

Program Accredited

The American Psychological Association

Commission on Accreditation

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For more than 70 years, AHRC-NYC has been offering services to people with developmental disabilities as well as to their families. The Department of Family and Clinical Services, of which Psychological Services forms an integral part, is one of the largest outpatient clinics in New York City focused on providing services to persons with developmental disabilities. As part of their training, psychology interns can expect to become involved in a number of service delivery programs including:

Outpatient mental health services

Interdisciplinary assessment services

Rehabilitation services in a day program setting

Crisis intervention services provided via a mobile team

As part of an interdisciplinary team, psychology interns will interact with a broad range of professionals including physicians, psychiatrists, social workers, nurses, speech and language pathologists, occupational therapists and physical therapists.

The Training Model

Over a twelve-month period, interns are provided with opportunities of graduated complexity to develop expertise and effective intervention skills in the areas of psychopathology and developmental disabilities via exposure to experiences of graduated complexity and quantity. The goal of training skilled independent professional psychologists is achieved via a program of individual mentoring, group supervision and exposure to case studies and formal clinical presentations by experts in the field.

Training Objectives

The psychology internship program at AHRC-NYC was established in 1995 with the goal of training professional psychologists in the field of developmental disabilities. Accreditation of the program by the American Psychological Association (APA) was granted in 1998. The program is currently accredited with the next site visit to be scheduled in 2033.

The program's mission, in accord with AHRC-NYC's overall mission, is to provide psychology graduate students with the opportunity to grow from a level of the mastery of basic concepts of evaluation and treatment of psychopathology to an awareness of, and eventually expertise in, those concepts and how they apply to individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. By the completion of internship, an intern is prepared to independently assess and treat these individuals as well as work effectively in concert with other treating professionals from medical, rehabilitative, educational and other mental health disciplines.

The model of the psychology internship program is best summarized in terms of a professional psychology training model. Interns are selected through the matching procedures of the Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC). Applicants must be approved by their graduate program as being ready for internship and are preferred to have completed 1000 hours of practicum experience, 500 hours of which involves face to face contact with clients. A minimum of five psychological evaluations which include assessment of cognitive functioning is recommended.

Emphasis is placed on the development of skills in assessment, intervention, interdisciplinary collaboration and consultation, relationship between science and practice (research), supervision, ethical and legal standards, individual and cultural diversity, professional values, attitudes, and behaviors, and communication and interpersonal skills. Finally, it is expected that over the course of the internship the intern will grow in self-knowledge and self-identification as a psychologist in a manner which will enable the individual to function effectively and experience personal gratification in the role of psychologist.

Interns are required to complete a year as a full-time member of the Department of Family and Clinical Services staff under the supervision of licensed psychologists. Positions for three interns are regular lines in the department's annual budget. Each intern will have assignments in outpatient clinics, day programs for individuals with developmental disabilities and in the crisis respite transition program. Telehealth and in-person services are currently provided. Interns receive evaluations at 4 months, six months, 9 months, and 12 months of the internship. Minimum competencies are established for each skill area and required for successful completion of the program.

Supervision

Supervision of interns will be provided on several levels:

Interns will be assigned one supervisor for the year who will each provide a minimum of two hours of individual supervision per week.

At least one hour per week of group supervision focused on review of evaluation and treatment cases as well as specialized treatment areas

A weekly one hour group supervision for long term treatment cases is provided.

Interns will participate in weekly departmental meetings devoted to presentations provided by multiple disciplinary in-house and outside staff.

Currently, supervision is being held both in-person and via Zoom. In addition, the weekly didactic takes place on Zoom.

The Population Served

AHRC-NYC's mission is to serve persons with developmental disabilities and their families. In carrying out this mandate, psychology interns can expect to work with an ethnically and socially diverse population of service recipients only some of whom have disabilities. These include:

Children, adolescents and adults with developmental disabilities

Non-disabled siblings and other family members

Individuals with traumatic brain injury

Various clinical and paraprofessional service providers

Remuneration

Psychology interns are paid as employees of AHRC-NYC and are eligible for all benefits available to full-time staff, including sick leave, paid holidays, vacation and health insurance. Currently, full-time interns are paid an annual salary of \$32,760. Three weeks of paid vacation are also offered as well as 5 personal days.

Application Procedure:

Prerequisites for application: Applicants are expected to have completed all required academic and practicum work prior to beginning the internship. Members of the Training Committee consider all applications for interviews, with special focus on applications that show that the applicant possess a strong interest in individuals with Developmental Disabilities. We consider applicants for all positions without regard to race, religion, creed, color, gender, national origin, citizenship status, age, disability, marital or veteran status, sexual orientation, or any other legally protected status.

How to apply: A complete application should contain the following documents:

Current curriculum vitae (CV), Latest academic transcript, APPIC Application for Psychology Internship (AAPI), three letters of recommendation and a de-identified psychological report.

Applications should be sent to:

Director of Training
Department of Family and Clinical Services
AHRC-NYC
83 Maiden Lane 10th Floor
New York, NY 10038

Match Process

APPIC standards with regard to Match procedures are strictly followed. Match applicants are required to undergo finger printing, TB testing and background checks before appointment.

Internship Handbook

For more detailed information regarding the program's training objectives competency goals, performance evaluations, due process and grievance and administrative policies and procedures please see the program's Internship Handbook.

To obtain further information, please contact:

Hillary Goldstein, PsyD 212-780-2676 hillary.goldstein@ahrcnyc.org
Or visit our website at <https://www.ahrcnyc.org/involved/apa-internships/>

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