

NORTHEAST FLORIDA STATE HOSPITAL

Macclenny, Florida

Doctoral Internship Program

APA Accredited Est. 2001

Updated August 2023 for candidates
applying for the 2024/2025
internship year



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Greetings From Northeast Florida State Hospital

Thank you for your interest in Northeast Florida State Hospital's Doctoral Psychology Internship. This brochure serves to provide an overview of the internship program, psychology department, and mental health treatment facility. Please feel free to contact us directly with any questions regarding the internship program. We hope you enjoy reading and learning more about what Northeast Florida State Hospital has to offer prospective interns.

About NEFSH: The Setting

Since 1959 Northeast Florida State Hospital (NEFSH) has provided continuous service to people with serious mental illness who require a residential treatment environment. NEFSH is the largest provider of inpatient, civil mental health services in the state of Florida, providing services to over 600 residents at any given time. One of three state mental health treatment facilities in Florida operated by the Department of Children and Families, NEFSH provides treatment for chronic and persistent severe mental illness (SMI). The facility encompasses 310 acres with 44 major buildings. The individuals served at NEFSH reside on "living areas" located across campus. Living area censuses ranges from 25 to 35 residents, and **all living areas are occupied by civil, forensic, and geriatric residents, ensuring that interns are exposed to these specialty populations during their training year.** During designated times, residents can be seen moving freely about campus and frequenting the "Mirage Mall," a common area on campus that includes a cafe, hair salon, bank, gift shop, library, music room, and craft room. The campus also includes a chapel, gym, game room, and a plant nursery. Recreational events designed to increase positive social interactions and promote stress reduction are also provided. Additional services include a community re-entry vocational work program and training available in carpentry, horticulture, retail, and facility/grounds maintenance.

About NEFSH: The Population

Residents with civil commitment court orders under Florida's Baker Act statute occupy most of the facility, while approximately 25% to 45% of the residents are forensically committed as either Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity or Incompetent to Proceed. Individuals served at this facility include a diverse group of adults spanning all age groups. Common psychiatric diagnoses include schizophrenia spectrum disorders, mood disorders, anxiety disorders, neurocognitive disorders secondary to another major mental illness, and personality disorders.

About NEFSH: Mission, Vision, & Values



NEFSH Internship Program Overview

The NEFSH Doctoral Psychology Internship Program was inaugurated in September 1993 and was first accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA) in July 2001. The internship program has consistently maintained APA accreditation for over 20 years. As a result of the program's last site visit, the Commission on Accreditation (CoA) voted to reaffirm accreditation of the program, with the program's next site visit scheduled in 2032. The Internship Program is also a member of the Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC).

The internship program is a flexible, individualized training experience focused on public service to underserved adults diagnosed with serious mental illness. An intern's training year consists of two, six-month emphasis rotations. Optional focus rotations are available and they may run concurrently with emphasis rotations. Rotation matches are based on an intern's training goals, previous experiences, and supervisor availability.

Internship faculty guide interns in the transitional process from student to entry level practice professional. Internship faculty are committed to helping interns become competent in clinical skills and confident professionals. Interns are encouraged to integrate the contributions of science with the realities of everyday clinical practice in a defined setting while using a practitioner-scholar model. Interns are supported as they adopt an attitude of critical thinking, tempered by curiosity and flexibility. For example, interns are encouraged to consider a range of ways to view clinical challenges, assess possible approaches, plan therapeutic interventions, and maintain or change strategies based on an analysis of outcome measures.

Focused experience and supervised practice throughout the training year provide interns with opportunities to increase their attainment of profession-wide competencies (PWC) as articulated and defined by APA's Standards of Accreditation (SoA) for Health Service Psychology. The internship program's aim and curriculum are designed to promote knowledge and proficiency in the following profession-wide competencies: Research, Ethical and Legal Standards, Individual and Cultural Diversity, Professional Values and Attitudes, Communication and Interpersonal Skills, Assessment, Intervention, Supervision, Consultation and Interprofessional/Interdisciplinary Skills.

NEFSH Internship Program Overview– Continued

Profession-wide competencies are achieved through a variety of supervised experiences in an inpatient hospital environment while delivering services to persons with severe and persistent mental illness. Over the course of the training year, all interns refine their clinical skills by receiving experiences in consultation, evidence-based group and individual therapies, brief counseling, supervision, diagnosis, case conceptualization, report writing, clinical interviewing, and formal psychological assessment. Interns are members and consultants to recovery focused multidisciplinary treatment teams. In addition, interns have the opportunity to develop skills in the APA-recognized specialties of clinical psychology, forensic psychology, professional geropsychology, and clinical health psychology. Interns are also provided observation and shadowing opportunities, individual supervision, group supervision, and weekly didactic seminars that contribute to the attainment of relevant competencies.

Aspiring psychologists who complete internships at NEFSH have found employment in a variety of settings, such as prisons, Veteran Affairs clinics, medical hospitals, secure forensic hospitals, private hospitals, private practice, and academic settings. A list of interns and their post-internship employment is included on the final pages of the brochure. The reader will note that many interns elect to stay for postdoctoral supervision and staff jobs at NEFSH when available.



These wooden benches and many other pieces of furniture are crafted by residents employed at the NEFSH wood shop. Benches and swings are featured throughout campus for the enjoyment of staff, residents, and visitors.

Internship Aim & Philosophy

The overall aim of the Doctoral Psychology Internship Program at NEFSH is to provide quality training necessary to facilitate the transitional process from student to entry level practice professional while working with adults and a severely mentally ill population. Additionally, the internship program strives to produce generalist adult health service psychology practitioners who demonstrate the capacity to function autonomously and responsibly, and are prepared for public service.

The internship program is designed to encourage trainees to build a professional identity which enhances their capabilities and personal style. Interns take part in the diverse diagnostic and therapeutic challenges of an inpatient psychiatric hospital setting. They are encouraged to test skills and reappraise theoretical constructs in a supervised training environment, and to evolve their own identity as a vital member of an interdisciplinary mental health recovery team. The training program embraces experiential learning through guided exposure, mentoring, opportunities for self-reflection, and supervised practice with clinical populations.

NEFSH Psychology Department

The internship program is housed among a diverse group of clinicians within the Psychology Department. Currently, the Psychology Department includes four full-time licensed psychologists, four licensed mental health counselors, three master's level clinicians, one social worker dedicated to forensic discharge services, three doctoral psychology interns, three behavior program specialists, and one full time administrative assistant. Master's level interns and practicum students also join the Psychology Department throughout the year in accordance with their academic schedule.

The Psychology Department provides a variety of services for the facility. These services include performing psychological evaluations, violence risk assessments, suicide risk assessments, admission evaluations, individual and group therapies, behavior planning, and crisis intervention. Members of the psychology department also facilitate staff trainings, participate in recovery team meetings, serve as consultants, and provide the court system with forensic updates as required by Florida Statute.

Emphasis Rotations

All interns complete two adult inpatient emphasis rotations, each lasting six months. All emphasis rotations meet guidelines for an APA recognized specialty within health service psychology and provide a focus on the assessment and treatment of severe mental illness. Experience in group therapy, individual therapy, diagnosis, consultation, case conceptualization, supervision, crisis intervention, and formal psychological assessment are offered on all emphasis rotations. While the internship program has consistently offered interns their top choice of rotations, supervisor and intern matches are made based on facility resources, supervisor availability, and intern interests. Further, decisions about rotation matches are collaboratively made in a process that involves interns, supervisors, the Director of Internship Training, and the Director of Psychology.

Regardless of rotation matches, all interns provide group treatment for residents. Current group therapy experiences include the facilitation of evidence-based treatments such as *Recovery Oriented Cognitive Therapy*, *Acceptance and Commitment Therapy*, *Dialectical Behavioral Therapy-Skills Only*, *CBT for Psychosis* and *Incompetent to Proceed Psychoeducation*.

To clarify diagnostic issues, interns administer, score, and interpret psychological assessments. Over the course of the training year, interns complete a minimum of five psychological testing assessment reports (2-3 reports per emphasis rotation), addressing a variety of referral questions and concluding with a comprehensive, integrated report. Interns also have the opportunity to complete additional integrated reports. The psychology department has a wide range of psychological tests and screeners available. Some of the most frequently used assessments include the following: WAIS-IV, WRAT5, WMS-IV, MMPI-3, PAI, MCMI-IV, TAT, Rorschach, HCR-20v3, SIRS-2, PCL-R, TOMM, and RBANS.

Emphasis Rotations –Continued

Female/Male Inpatient Emphasis Rotation

An intern completing an inpatient emphasis rotation with the provision of services to male and/or female living areas serves as a fully integrated member of a multidisciplinary recovery treatment team. The recovery team is made up of psychology, psychiatry, nursing, social work, rehabilitation, community members, family members, and other disciplines. Recovery team meetings are held for all residents on the intern's living area on a regular, weekly schedule. Interns participate in these meetings and develop skills on how to present relevant clinical information to a diverse professional audience, including information on a resident's progress towards discharge into the community. Interns maintain a reasonable caseload of residents for whom they are responsible for providing mental health services, such as admission and annual evaluations, suicide risk assessments, and monthly progress notes. This arrangement offers unique opportunities for the development of behavioral plans, application of crisis management techniques, and experience treating a full range of diagnoses.

Forensic Inpatient Emphasis Rotation

An inpatient emphasis rotation with a concentration on forensic assessment (hereafter referred to as the forensic rotation) is typically available for those interns with an interest in forensic evaluations. An intern completing the forensic rotation provides services to residents who have been found Incompetent to Proceed (ITP) or Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity (NGI). The forensic emphasis rotation primarily consists of completing court evaluations on residents committed to NEFSH as either ITP or NGI. Interns on the forensic rotation learn how to conduct and write ITP evaluations and make recommendations regarding residents' abilities to meet Florida competency criteria. Further, interns complete evaluations and make recommendations regarding continued involuntary hospitalization for residents committed to the hospital as NGI. Formal psychological assessment is conducted to assist in answering forensic related questions such as malingering, violence risk, assessment of response style, and competency restoration. The forensic rotation offers unique experiences that demonstrate the intricacies and nuances present between the law and mental health treatment. Additionally, if an intern is interested, there are ample opportunities to focus on the provision of therapeutic services to a forensic population.

Emphasis Rotations –Continued

Geriatric Inpatient Emphasis Rotation

An intern completing a geriatric inpatient emphasis rotation provides services in a specialized setting to residents 65 years or older. Residents served on the geriatric living areas typically have co-occurring diagnoses of neurocognitive disorders (e.g., Alzheimer’s disease, vascular dementias, substance abuse-related dementias, or mixed etiologies), chronic and progressive schizophrenia, and depression. In addition to having severe mental illnesses, the residents served on a geriatric rotation typically have complex medical needs that complicate their psychiatric and neurological presentations. Interns are exposed to training opportunities unique to the geriatric population, including issues related to aging and mortality. The recovery team is made up of psychology, psychiatry, nursing, social work, rehabilitation, community members, family members, and other disciplines. Interns completing a Geriatric rotation maintain a reasonable caseload of residents with a full range of diagnoses and presenting problems. Additionally, if an intern is interested, there are opportunities to participate in the formal screening and treatment of neurocognitive disorders.

Medically Complex Inpatient Emphasis Rotation

An intern completing a medically complex inpatient emphasis rotation provides services to residents that have comorbid chronic medical and psychiatric diagnoses. Residents served on the medical units frequently present with traumatic brain injuries, complex wound care, falling risks, terminal illnesses, total care needs, oxygen tubes, nasogastric tubes, and limited mobility. In addition to having severe mental illnesses, the residents’ medical needs and physical ailments complicate their psychiatric and neurological presentations. Interns are exposed to training opportunities unique to this setting, such as frequent consultation with primary care physicians, decisions regarding hospice and palliative care, and treatment adherence challenges. The recovery team is made up of psychology, psychiatry, nursing, social work, rehabilitation, community members, family members, and other disciplines. Interns completing a medically complex inpatient emphasis rotation maintain a reasonable caseload of residents with a full range of diagnoses and presenting problems.

Forensic/Civil Hybrid Inpatient Rotation

The forensic/civil hybrid inpatient rotation is only offered during the second half of the internship year. Interns completing the inpatient forensic/civil hybrid rotation provide forensic services (i.e., forensic evaluations and treatment), and serve as the psychology clinician on a designated living area. Interns who choose to complete a hybrid rotation typically complete a forensic emphasis rotation or forensic focus rotation during the first part of the internship year.

Elective Focus Rotations

Optional focus rotations provide an opportunity for interns to develop, pursue, and explore specialized interests. Activities and experiences offered on focus rotations are designed to enhance interns' professional development and to fit within their overall training goals. Focus rotations average four to six hours per week. Available focus rotations have included assessment of those with SMI, neuropsychological screening, substance abuse treatment, DBT informed treatment, hospital administration, behavior modification, Seeking Safety group co-facilitation, forensic assessment, and internship program development. If an intern has a specific area of interest, every effort will be made to accommodate training in that area. Focus rotation supervisors offer training and provide supervision in the chosen area of interest.

Licensure Preparation

The internship program is designed to help qualified trainees prepare for licensure as a psychologist. The requirements for licensure as a psychologist in Florida are among the most rigorous in the country. The impressive number of supervision hours provided to interns, as well as opportunities for direct client contact prepare interns for licensure in Florida and other states. The internship program broadly, and supervisors specifically are dedicated to working with interns to meet the licensure requirements for states other than Florida. Further, interns are offered optional group study sessions to assist with licensure exam preparation during the second half of their internship year. Previous interns have become licensed across the United States, including the states of Hawaii, Louisiana, California, Maryland, New York, Texas, Idaho, Indiana, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, and Georgia.

Onboarding & Orientation

The first two weeks of the internship year are dedicated to new employee orientation tasks and state employee training. Interns receive comprehensive training in prevention, de-escalation, and safety skills, as well as education on pertinent policies and procedures related to the internship program. During this time, interns meet with available internship supervisors to learn more about the rotations and individual supervisory styles. Interns also complete initial self-assessment questionnaires related to their career goals and professional identities.

Supervision

All emphasis rotation supervisors are licensed psychologists in Florida. Rotation supervisors practice within a variety of theoretical orientations including cognitive, behavioral, dynamic, interpersonal, humanistic, and integrative. Supervision is provided through various modes including didactic, observation, modeling, case review, discussion, and collaborative work. Interns receive a minimum of four hours per week of group and individual clinical supervision. More specifically, interns receive two hours per week of individual clinical supervision with their emphasis rotation supervisors. Interns will find that they receive additional daily informal supervision and training as they work with their rotation supervisors. If completing a focus rotation, interns receive a minimum of thirty minutes per week of supervision from the focus rotation supervisor. Interns also receive two hours of group supervision per week from licensed psychologists and/or doctoral level clinicians. Topics discussed during group supervision include formal therapy and assessment case presentations, differential diagnosis, case conceptualization, therapeutic interventions, professional and ethical issues, diversity and cultural consideration, research trends, and any pertinent process related topics that arise during the training year.

Supervision of Trainees

Interns are provided opportunities throughout the year to supervise junior trainees. These opportunities may be the supervision of students completing a practicum at NEFSH while working toward an advanced degree in the fields of psychology or counseling. Additionally, interns often oversee and supervise junior colleagues within the psychology department. For example, interns have provided supervision and training to Registered Mental Health Counseling Interns, Behavior Program Specialists, and doctoral practicum students. A licensed psychologist oversees the intern supervision experience, and interns are provided ongoing training on effective supervision skills and competencies.

Didactic Seminar Series

Interns participate in a yearlong, weekly didactic seminar series. The seminar series is designed to promote professional development, increase professional knowledge, enhance clinical skill application, and improve one's understanding of specialized topics. Past seminars have included topics related to diagnosis, medication, trauma, forensic commitment, civil commitment, substance abuse assessment/treatment, sexual offender evaluation and treatment, neuropsychology, crisis intervention, domestic violence, evidence based treatments, malingering, psychopathy, Dialectical Behavioral Therapy, Sexually Violent Predator Program, and post internship issues. While aspects of culture and diversity are integrated into all seminars, interns are consistently offered presentations that focus on particular areas of multicultural responsiveness and diversity. These seminars focus on increasing awareness of one's own assumptions, values, and biases, as well as developing a more rounded understanding of different world views and culturally sensitive intervention strategies. Past presentations incorporated into the seminar series included treatment with Latino populations, exploring aspects of privilege, treatment and intervention with sexual minorities, and exploring research and treatment among individuals with physical disabilities. Interns also have the opportunity to research, create, and present a seminar during the training year.

Evaluation & Feedback

While the evaluation process is continuous and ongoing, an intern's performance is formally evaluated quarterly. The *NEFSH Doctoral Psychology Internship Program Evaluation of Performance* tool employs a competency benchmark model and provides a method and framework for evaluating the nine PWCs. The internship program's minimum level of achievement for readiness for entry level practice has been quantified as follows: all core competency areas will be rated an average competence level of 3 or higher on the final emphasis rotation evaluation completed at 12 months, and no essential components will be rated as 0 or 1. The internship program's MLA allows supervisors the opportunity to provide candid feedback, identify growth edges and strengths, and capture interns' progress across the training year. The minimal level of achievement to successfully complete the internship are documented in the internship manual (provided during orientation) and on the evaluation forms. Interns also rate the sufficiency of and provide qualitative feedback on their supervision and training experience at the midpoint and at the conclusion of each emphasis and focus rotation, after each seminar, and in a written exit survey. The internship program employs a 360-degree feedback model in which feedback is gathered and provided across all levels of internship participation.

Additional Training & Resources

Interns are offered additional trainings and experiences that are unique to an inpatient state facility. For instance, there are opportunities to participate in hospital leadership meetings, in-service programs, grand rounds, mortality reviews, restraint reviews, community outreach, and task force initiatives. Additionally, NEFSH offers opportunities to consult with a multitude of professional disciplines, such as speech therapy, physical therapy, dentistry, neurology, pharmacy, risk management, religious leaders, and peer specialists, among others. Language translation and bilingual services are available while serving residents. Internship training also emphasizes trauma-informed care and sensitivity to diversity in all interactions with residents. Depending on interest, the data-rich environment of NEFSH makes it possible for interns to be involved in collecting and analyzing research.

Interns are encouraged to attend relevant professional conferences and local psychology association meetings. Other opportunities and/or field trips may be arranged based on the interest of the interns and the availability of training staff. Examples of past tours included Florida State Hospital, Northeast Florida Treatment and Evaluation Center, Florida State Prison, University of North Florida Counseling Center, Daysprings Assisted Living Facility, and an ECT treatment clinic. In addition to didactic training, specialized training experiences are often extended to interns. For instance, when available, interns may attend a three-day Florida Forensic Examiner training at no cost. Past training opportunities have also included workshops on Dialectical Behavioral Therapy, HCR-20 v3, Illness Management and Recovery, Recovery Oriented Cognitive Therapy, and Wellness Recovery Action Planning.

Mock Trial

During the second half of the training year, interns will participate in a mock trial. During the mock trial, interns will practice testifying in a simulated court hearing. Interns will prepare for the mock trial through group supervisions and didactic trainings. This experience will provide an opportunity to learn about and practice testifying and how to navigate the courtroom process.

Commitment to Evidence-Based Practices

NEFSH has implemented several hospital-wide, evidence-based programs that emphasize and promote safety and recovery for the residents served. Please see below for a description of examples of these programs and learn how the psychology department and internship program are involved in their implementation.

Recovery-Oriented Cognitive Therapy

Recovery Oriented Cognitive Therapy (CT-R) is founded on Dr. Aaron Beck's cognitive model. CT-R is a form of cognitive behavioral therapy for psychosis designed for individuals with prominent negative symptoms of mental illness. During the initial phases of CT-R implementation, clinicians from various disciplines received extensive training and consultation on the theory and application of CT-R from a psychologist trained at the Aaron T. Beck Psychopathology Research Center. NEFSH continues to offer residents CT-R interventions and treatment groups. Psychologists trained in the model are available to provide consultation and training with a focus on CT-R interventions and case conceptualization.

Zero Suicide Initiative & DBT

In 2018, NEFSH implemented a hospital-wide Zero-Suicide initiative. This initiative represents an ongoing commitment to prioritizing residents' safety, as well as supporting and training all employees in suicide prevention. As part of the Zero Suicide initiative, several clinicians from various disciplines received intensive Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) training. DBT skills groups, facilitated by members of the psychology department, are available to residents. There are multiple opportunities throughout the year for interns to become involved in the Zero Suicide initiative and implementation of DBT.

Treatment Mall

In May 2019, NEFSH opened the first treatment mall in the state of Florida. The treatment mall approach emphasizes recovery-oriented services that are individualized, collaborative, and empowering. The treatment mall functions as a central location where residents and providers spend a substantial part of their day. Monday through Friday, residents are offered a full day of treatment, including evidence-based groups, individual therapy, leisure activities, and opportunities for social engagement. Other daily tasks are also completed at the treatment mall, such as recovery team meetings, routine assessments, and medication administration. Members of the psychology department provide evidence-based groups for residents at the treatment mall, as well as individualized psychological services. The treatment mall is currently being piloted with a limited number of residents, with a goal to expand the project to include all residents served at NEFSH.

Wellness Recovery Action Plan Training

In late 2020, NEFSH began offering a voluntary 2-day Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP®) training to employees and residents. WRAP, created by Dr. Mary Ellen Copeland, is an evidence-based personalized wellness and recovery system that is rooted in the principle of self-determination. WRAP trainings are co-led by Certified Recovery Peer Specialists. Interns will have the opportunity to attend a WRAP training. Additional opportunities to become involved with the WRAP initiative are available throughout the year.

Living Arrangements & Surrounding Communities

NEFSH is located in Macclenny, Florida. Macclenny is a small town, approximately thirty miles west of Jacksonville, and sixty miles north of Gainesville. Living in Macclenny offers interns a short commute to campus, and easy access to routine conveniences such as coffee shops, Wal-Mart, fitness centers, and a number of restaurants. There are a multitude of accessible outdoor activities and parks, including the nearby Ichetucknee Springs State Park, a National Natural Landmark. The river's year-round temperature is 72 °F, making it a popular destination. Please also see page 18 of the brochure to learn more about on-campus housing.

Most hospital professionals choose to reside in Jacksonville, where apartments and houses are both plentiful and moderately priced. Jacksonville has a population of approximately one million people in the metropolitan area, and in 2022, U.S. News and World Report listed Jacksonville as the 14th fastest-growing places in the U.S. Jacksonville has a thriving restaurant culture, and offers convenient access to the St. John's River and Jacksonville beaches. Jacksonville is also home to the Jacksonville Jaguars, an NFL franchise. Sports fans will enjoy minor league baseball, professional soccer, arena football, and professional golf tournaments, including the PGA Championships. Cultural offerings include a city orchestra, art and science museums, a zoo, concert venues, festivals, and a vibrant downtown.

Gainesville is approximately one hour away from Macclenny and is home to the University of Florida. The sports teams are passionately supported, and have a national following. Gainesville also offers major art galleries, a professional ballet company, and both state and community theaters. For those who enjoy outdoor activities, Gainesville is home to numerous parks, a botanical garden, and a large state preserve.

Regardless of where one chooses to live, the weather in northeast Florida is warm year-round. The area lends itself to endless weekend getaways or days trips within driving distance. The most popular destinations include St. Augustine, Amelia Island, Fernandina Beach, Orlando, Savannah, and any one of the natural freshwater springs located throughout north and central Florida. An additional benefit of Florida residence includes discounts to local attractions, such as discounted tickets to Disney World, Universal Studios, and several large cruise lines. The Florida Psychological Association (FPA) has chapters throughout Florida, and if interested, interns can apply for an FPA membership at a discounted student rate.

2024-2025 Internship Details & Contact Information

Benefits

The internship is a full time, one year, 40-hour per week position to be completed over twelve consecutive months. The program is designed to provide three interns with a 2,000 hour experience with at least 25% of their time in face-to-face client contact. Interns may use paid leave time to attend training opportunities, such as professional conferences, dissertation related activities, academic program graduations, and post-internship job interviews. Interns receive time off for nine state holidays and one personal day. Interns occupy a State of Florida Career Service position and accrue annual and sick leave. Interns who do not complete their training hours due to excessive absences may be allowed to complete the internship as a volunteer at the facility until the hours are accrued.

Training Stipend

The hospital provides a salary of approximately \$29,000 for one full year of clinical internship, with interns being paid biweekly. Florida has no state income tax, and interns may elect to enroll in benefits, such as health insurance coverage, for an additional monthly fee.

On-Campus Housing

Interns have the option to reside in an on-campus, shared house at little or no cost while on internship at NEFSH. The house is located in a secured and gated neighborhood on campus. Housing is open to matched interns; we are unable to offer family housing at this time. The reserved house is a three bedroom, two bathroom bungalow. There is a large kitchen with a refrigerator, dishwasher, oven/stove top, as well as open area living spaces for lounging and dining. Additional amenities include central AC and heating, washer/dryer, carport, yard maintenance, and 24-hour security. The house is mostly unfurnished. Housing is subject to change, and is at the discretion of NEFSH Hospital Administration, Director of Psychology, and Director of Internship Training. **Interns are paid their full training stipend, regardless of whether they choose to live on or off campus.**

Training Year

The start date for the 2024-2025 training year is Friday, August 16th, 2024, and the completion date is Thursday, August 14th, 2025.

Contact & Questions

Correspondence concerning the internship program should be sent to:

Summer Scott, Psy.D., ABPP
Director of Internship Training
Psychology Department
Northeast Florida State Hospital
7487 South State Road 121
Macclenny, Florida 32063-9777
Telephone: (904) 330-2629
Fax: (904) 259-7195
Summer.Scott@myflfamilies.com

Questions related to the program's accredited status should be directed to the Commission on Accreditation:

Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation
American Psychological Association
750 1st Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002
Phone: (202) 336-5979
Email: apaaccred@apa.org
Web: www.apa.org/ed/accreditation

Internship Eligibility & Guidance

Internship Eligibility & Requirements

- 1) A student currently enrolled in a clinical or counseling psychology doctoral program that is eligible to participate in the APPIC Match.
- 2) Completion of all academic portions of the doctoral program prior to internship (excluding dissertation or research requirements)
- 3) Endorsement from the applicant's training director or director of clinical training that the applicant is prepared for a doctoral internship
- 4) Completion of all practicum experiences required by the applicant's program
- 5) A Master's Degree must be conferred by the end of January 2024. Note– An applicant's Master's Degree must be related to the field of psychology (i.e., clinical, counseling, forensic, rehabilitation counseling). Questions about Master's Degree qualifications may be directed to Dr. Darah Granger. Master's Degrees in Social Work or Pastoral Counseling will not be considered. Degrees from correspondence or self-study programs will also not be considered.
- 6) Applicants must be United States citizens

Guidance

Applicants that demonstrate a strong fit and interest in the population served at NEFSH are encouraged to apply. There is no minimum hours requirement, as the selection committee understands that many applicants' clinical hours and training experiences were impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Applicants' anticipated hours, as well as non-conventional training experiences that may have occurred as a result of the pandemic will also be considered during the selection process.

The NEFSH Doctoral Psychology Internship Program endeavors to recruit from diverse universities and geographical areas. Variations in experience and theoretical approaches are welcomed. Applicants with unique experiences, perspectives, and diversity, including, but not limited to, age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, language, national origin, race, religion, culture, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status, are encouraged to apply. Attracting interns from diverse backgrounds is of great importance to the internship program and reflects the training faculty's commitment to the treatment needs of our extremely diverse and underserved population.

Internship Application

NEFSH Application Documents -APPIC Program Number 120911

- Complete an AAPI online application which includes a cover letter, curriculum vitae, Director of Clinical Training verification of eligibility and readiness, all graduate transcripts (undergraduate transcripts are not required), and three letters of recommendation from doctoral clinicians, preferably licensed psychologists. The online application may be accessed at www.appic.org.
- Please attach a de-identified psychological assessment as supplemental material to the AAPI online application. Remove all identifying information and any information that could reasonably be used to identify the subject(s) of the psychological assessment, such as names, addresses, and any dates (except years) that are directly related to an individual. Remove all testing data that could compromise psychological assessment test security, such as verbatim assessment questions or critical items from measures. The assessment report should be no longer than 12 single space pages (excluding appendixes). Failure to de-identify psychological assessments in this prescribed manner may result in your application being withdrawn from consideration.

Deadline

All applications must be submitted for review by 11:59 pm on November 17th, 2023. Requests for late application submissions will be considered on a case-by-case basis.



Interview Notification & Process

After a review of materials, applicants still under consideration will be invited to interview for an internship position. The interview will be an opportunity to learn more about the facility, meet internship faculty and current interns, and discuss the internship program. Selected applicants will be contacted by December 4th, 2023 to arrange for an interview to take place in January 2024. Applicants no longer under consideration will also be notified by December 4th, 2023.

While the NEFSH Internship Program has historically offered on-site and remote interview options, interviews during the 2023-2024 recruitment year will be conducted through remote and virtual technology. The interview process was adjusted due to COVID-19 and to maximize the health and safety of applicants, faculty, and the vulnerable residents served, and is in line with the APPIC Board of Directors' recommendations. In addition to an individual interview, applicants will receive a presentation about the facility, introductions to the training faculty, time with the current internship class, time throughout to ask questions of the training faculty, and a virtual tour of the on-campus intern house. Several interview dates will be offered to applicants in the month of January 2024. Requests for rescheduling interviews will be handled on an individual basis. To ensure that the interview process is safe and equitable for all applicants, requests for on-site tours and interviews will be not be granted.

NEFSH will participate in the APPIC computer matching system for intern selection for the coming year. Applicants must register online to participate in the Match. You can register at: www.natmatch.com/psychint. Notification of your final status relative to this internship will be through the APPIC Matching Service. This internship site agrees to abide by the APPIC Policy that no person at this training facility will solicit, accept, or use any ranking-related information from any intern applicant prior to Match Day.



Residents learn horticulture skills while working at the NEFSH "Nature's Touch Greenhouse".

Employment & Internship Policies

Physical Requirements

Requirements for all employees, including psychology interns, are possession of physical abilities allowing for stooping, bending and lifting up to 10 pounds, contact with residents who may become verbally and physically aggressive, prolonged walking and sitting, mobility around a large campus setting, including exposure to weather elements typical of Florida, and sight and auditory interactions with residents, family members and staff. NEFSH is subject to the Americans with Disabilities Act and reasonable accommodations for covered employees will be arranged in accordance with this Act.

Physical Examination

A physical examination and tuberculosis screening are required of all new employees, including interns. NEFSH will provide these services at no expense. If preferred, interns may use their own healthcare provider; if this option is chosen, arrangements must be made in advance.

Background Check

It is the policy of the Florida Department of Children and Families that any applicant being considered for employment must successfully complete a State and National criminal history check as a condition of employment before beginning employment, and if applicable, also be screened in accordance with requirements of Chapter 435, F.S. No applicant may begin employment until the background screening results are received, reviewed for any disqualifying offenses, and approved by the agency. Background screening shall include, but not be limited to, fingerprinting for State and Federal criminal records checks through the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and may include local criminal history checks through local law enforcement agencies.

Policies

Applicants requiring a reasonable accommodation, as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act, must notify the agency hiring authority and/or People First Service Center (1-877-562-7287). Notification to the hiring authority must be made in advance to allow sufficient time to provide the accommodation.

The State of Florida supports a Drug-Free workplace. All employees are subject to reasonable suspicion drug testing in accordance with Section 112.0455, F.S., Drug-Free Workplace Act.

The State of Florida is an Equal Opportunity Employer/Affirmative Action Employer and does not tolerate discrimination or violence in the workplace.

Employment & Internship Policies, Continued

Policies, Continued

The NEFSH internship program adheres to the following policies: APA standards on accreditation, APA Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct, APPIC membership requirements, APPIC guidelines for intern selection, NEFSH internship manual, NEFSH and DCF Operating Procedures, DCF Employee Handbook.

Per APA's Standards of Accreditation the program has and adheres to, and makes available to all interested parties, formal written policies and procedures that govern interns as they enter and complete the program. These policies include: intern recruitment and selection, any required prior doctoral program preparation and experiences, administrative and financial assistance, requirements for successful internship performance (including expected competencies and minimal levels of achievement for completion), intern performance evaluation, feedback, retention, and termination decisions; identification and remediation of insufficient competence and/or problematic behavior, which shall include necessary due process steps of notice, hearing and appeal, grievance procedures for interns including due process, supervision requirements, maintenance of records, documentation of non-discrimination policies and operating conditions and avoidance of any actions that would restrict program access or completion on grounds that are irrelevant to success in graduate training or the profession.

COVID-19 Safety Modifications

Employee Safety & Facility Changes

Throughout the COVID-19 health crisis, NEFSH has continued to provide around the clock care and mental health treatment services, while prioritizing the safety of both the residents and employees. Simultaneously, during these challenging times, the internship program has remained committed to providing high quality training opportunities for doctoral interns while taking precautions to ensure their safety.

Training During A Pandemic

While the COVID-19 health crisis presents challenges to training and may limit select experiences that are typically offered during the year, the internship program is dedicated to helping trainees meet the requirements for successful completion of the internship and preparing them for entry level practice in the profession. The internship program also recognizes trainees as a vulnerable population and has developed specific guidelines and modifications related to the curriculum. While managing the COVID-19 pandemic, below is a highlight of the most significant modifications and stances related to intern training.

- The internship program prioritizes the training of students over service delivery needs. An intern's time is scheduled to engage in relevant training activities to advance competency development and support completion of the program requirements.
- If an intern becomes ill or is required to quarantine at home due to COVID-19 illness, there are organizational policies and procedures in place to protect the internship position, while continuing to receive a stipend. Interns would also be provided options with regards to accruing internship hours.

Psychology Staff

Darah Granger, Psy.D. – Director of Psychology



Dr. Granger (she/her/hers) graduated from Argosy University-Atlanta in 2008 with a degree in Clinical Psychology. She completed both her internship and postdoctoral residency at NEFSH. She has remained employed at NEFSH ever since. Dr. Granger served for several years as the Forensic Psychology Coordinator. In March 2021, she was promoted to the Director of Psychology position. Her professional interests include violence risk assessment, training of staff and trainees, assessment and treatment of personality disorders, and supervision. When not working, she enjoys cooking, traveling, spending time with friends and family, and playing with her cats.

Sandra Adrien-Ruiz- M.A., RMHC



Mrs. Sandra Adrien-Ruiz received her bachelor's degree in Psychology from Edward Waters College, and her master's degree in Mental Health Counseling from Webster University. She has successfully completed her supervision hours for her licensure. She worked at the hospital as a Social Service Counselor in the Social Service Department for five years, before accepting a position as a Behavioral Specialist in the Psychology Department. She has experience in working with most age groups of intercultural backgrounds, due to her ability to speak Creole and basic Spanish. Her professional interests include working with people dealing with mental illness focusing on diversity and multi-culture background. Her personal interest includes volunteering in her community, listening to music, traveling, shopping, spending time with family/friends/pets, and having “me” time.

Mandy Alexander, Psy.D.- Assistant Director of Internship Training



Dr. Alexander (she/her/hers) obtained a Doctorate in Clinical Psychology from the University of Indianapolis in 2020. She completed both her internship and postdoctoral residency at NEFSH. She currently serves on Forensic Services, conducting forensic evaluations hospital-wide in addition to serving as the Assistant Director of Internship Training. Her professional interests include forensic evaluation and assessment (e.g., malingering) and cluster B personality disorders. She primarily conceptualizes from a psychodynamic lens; however, she also integrates humanistic and interpersonal interventions. She approaches supervision as a collaborative relationship with an emphasis on building confidence in clinical and professional abilities. In her free time, she enjoys going to the beach, concerts, traveling, writing, and spending time with her loved ones.

Psychology Staff

Jenny Beard M.S.– 2023-2024 Doctoral Psychology Intern



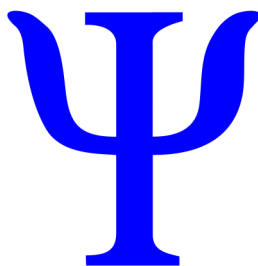
Ms. Beard (she/her/hers) earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology and Bachelor of Arts degree in criminology from the University of North Florida in 2018 and a Master of Science degree in Clinical Psychology from the Florida Institute of Technology in 2021. She is currently pursuing her Doctorate (Psy.D.) in Clinical Psychology from the Florida Institute of Technology . The focus of Ms. Beard’s dissertation was on the role of arrest and unemployment on depression and anxiety levels. Ms. Beard’s clinical experience expands from working with populations in forensic and community settings with serious mental illness, brain injuries, and those with trauma backgrounds. In her free time, Ms. Beard enjoys reading, running, skating, taking care of her plants, thrifting new vinyls, and spending time with her friends and pets.

Aron Bell, M.Ed., LMHC



Mr. Bell received his Master’s Degree from the University of North Florida in Mental Health Counseling. He worked at NEFSH first as a Rehabilitation Therapist and now as a Clinical Counselor in the Psychology Department. He has experience as a Forensic Psychological Specialist in corrections. Mr. Bell has a systemic approach to counseling, and is licensed as a Florida Mental Health Counselor. In his spare time, Mr. Bell enjoys watching basketball and going to football games. Mr. Bell works on Cypress Village.

Jacqueline Delalot, M.A., LMHC



Mrs. Jacqueline Delalot earned her Bachelor’s degree in Music Therapy from Florida State University and Her Master’s degree in Counseling & Psychology from Troy University. She is a Board Certified Music Therapist and a Licensed Mental Health Counselor. Mrs. Delalot’s work experience includes Florida State Hospital and the North Florida Evaluation and Treatment Center. She has also worked within the Florida Department of Corrections as a Mental Health Professional.

Psychology Staff

Anne Downing, BSW



Ms. Downing is the Forensic Discharge Coordinator for the hospital. She works with the hospital, community mental health providers and the court system to coordinate discharge for forensic individuals who have been recommended for conditional release. Ms. Downing received her social work degree from the University of West Florida, and has completed course work toward the MSW through Florida State University. Ms. Downing has worked at NEFSH since 1992. She enjoys gardening, travel, and the beach.

Nicole Hagan M.A.– 2023-2024 Doctoral Psychology Intern



Ms. Hagan (she/her/hers) earned her Bachelor of Science degree in psychology from Murray State University in 2018 and her Master of Arts degree in clinical psychology from Spalding University in 2021. She is currently pursuing her Psy.D. degree from Spalding University, as well. Her professional interests include the treatment of serious mental illness, psychological assessments, forensic psychology, and trauma treatment. Ms. Hagan's dissertation focuses on professional perceptions of sexual assault survivors. In her free time, she enjoys gardening, hiking, and spending time with family and friends.

Edith Hunt, M.S., M.Ed., LMHC



Ms. Hunt is a Registered Mental Health Counselor Intern and is completing her supervision hours for licensure. Ms. Hunt moved to North Florida from Niagara Falls, New York, in May 2014. She has a Master's Degree in Education in School Counseling (2012), and a Master of Science Degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling (2014), from Niagara University. Before coming to Northeast Florida State Hospital she worked at Starting Point Behavioral Health as an Intervention Counselor in a local High School. Ms. Hunt's past experiences focused on working with children from the ages of 4 to 18 years. She is excited for the opportunity to integrate, become familiar with and work with the people served at NEFSH. She enjoys spending time with her daughter and grandson - who are the main reason why she moved to Florida!

Psychology Staff

Sonia Javani, Psy.D.



Dr. Javani (she/her/hers) obtained her Doctorate in School-Clinical Child Psychology from Pace University in 2021. She completed her internship at NEFSH and her postdoctoral residency at UFHealth Jacksonville. Her professional interests include the treatment of serious mental illness, psychological assessment, chronic and complex trauma, grief and loss, and culturally sensitive and strength-based treatments. In her spare time she enjoys traveling, DIY home improvement projects, trying out new recipes, yoga, or indulging in an afternoon of Netflix.

Elaine Martin, B.A.



Elaine Martin earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Philosophy from the University of Notre Dame in 1983. Elaine worked in various fields and raised two children and three stepchildren before joining NEFSH in 2019 as a Human Service Worker II. Elaine began working as a Rehabilitation Therapist in March 2021 and joined the Psychology Department as a Behavior Program Specialist in January 2022. Elaine believes that each individual, notwithstanding the often-debilitating effects of mental illness, possesses the potential for growth and enrichment. Elaine remains committed to honoring the humanity and dignity of everyone she serves.

Stacie McCune



Mrs. McCune is currently working towards earning a degree in Psychology to specialize in Applied Behavior Analysis in mental health. She began working at NEFSH in 2005 as a Human Service Worker II. She spent 8 years in direct care, eventually getting her Medical Assisting Certification, She then worked in primary care and later became a law office administrator. Mrs. McCune had a passion for mental health and wanted to return to NEFSH and returned as Medical Unit Specialist and was shortly promoted to a Behavioral Program Specialist in the Treatment Mall and engaging in groups with the geriatric population. Mrs. McCune joined the psychology department in November 2022 as a Behavioral Program specialist. In this position Mrs. McCune feels as though individual with mental health issues have difficulty advocating for themselves and enjoys her role as acting as an advocate for all her individuals. In her free time, she enjoys traveling, spending time with family and going to Disney world!

Psychology Staff

Austine Nwaobi, M.S., RMHCI



Mr. Nwaobi graduated with his Master's Degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling from Nova Southeastern University in May 2021. Prior, Mr. Nwaobi earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Health Administration from St Joseph's College, New York in 2011, and graduated from the Certified Public Manager program at Florida State University in 2019. Mr. Nwaobi is currently working toward licensure as a Florida mental health counselor. Mr. Nwaobi focuses on building rapport and respect with residents and engages in counseling with an emphasis on concepts that will promote the well-being of residents. He spends his spare time with family, friends, and enjoys traveling.

Norma Owens-Hixon, M.Ed., LMHC



Ms. Owens-Hixon received her Master's Degree from the University of North Florida in Mental Health Counseling. She is a Florida Licensed Mental Health Counselor and worked at the hospital first as a Mental Health Program Analyst/Auditor and now as a Clinical Counselor in the Psychology Department. She has experience as a Child Protective Investigator and Family Service Counselor. She is dedicated to facilitating positive growth and enriching the lives of others by endorsing an eclectic approach to counseling. In her spare time, she enjoys walking and arts & music.

Chehairazode A. Rodney, M.A., LMHC



Chehairazode Rodney received her master's degree In Mental Health Counseling from Webster University. She completed her internship requirements at Northeast Florida State Hospital, and upon graduation first accepted a position in the Social Services area as a Social Services Counselor, and later in Psychology as a Behavioral Specialist. Ms. Rodney has experience working with children and adults in various settings, to include substance abuse and trauma using an eclectic therapeutic style. Ms. Rodney's professional interests include working with the severely mentally ill, multicultural counseling, women's issues, depression, and anxiety. When she is not working, Ms. Rodney likes to spend time reading on the beach, singing, gardening, and enjoying time with her family.

Psychology Staff

Summer Scott, Psy.D., ABPP- Director of Internship Training



Dr. Scott (she/her/hers) is board certified in clinical psychology (ABPP). She received her Doctorate in Clinical Psychology in 2012 from the University of Indianapolis in Indianapolis, Indiana. She completed both her internship and postdoctoral residency at NEFSH. Dr. Scott has served as the Director of Internship training since February 2017. Her professional interests include the treatment of serious mental illness, public service, supervision and training, CBT, feminist psychology, and social justice issues. Her personal interests include group fitness, listening to podcasts, thrifting store shopping, sustainable fashion, and spending time with family and pets.

Aneta Tosheva, M.A., RMHCI



Ms. Tosheva is a Registered Mental Health Counselor Intern and is currently completing her supervision hours for LMHC licensure. Ms. Tosheva moved from Bulgaria to the United States of America in 1999. She has a Master's Degree in Clinical Psychology from the University of Tulsa, OK. Before coming to Northeast Florida State Hospital she was employed as a Behavioral Specialist and a Counselor at the maximum security forensic facility of North Florida Evaluation and Treatment Center for 10 years. Ms. Tosheva's past experiences centered around working with male adults with severe and persistent mental illness who were deemed Incompetent to Proceed and Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity. She has also provided individual, group therapy and assessment in outpatient settings to children and families through Volunteers of America, Oklahoma. She enjoys group therapies and integrating CBT and experiential approaches. She enjoys watching SciFi, spending time with her dogs, and her newly acquired pet, a box turtle named Bertha after the infamous WWI cannonball, which is now displayed in a Serbian museum in Belgrade, not far from Ms. Tosheva's native Bulgaria.

Hannah Turner M.A.– 2023-2024 Doctoral Psychology Intern



Ms. Turner (she/her/hers) earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology from University of California, Santa Cruz. She earned her Master of Arts degree in clinical psychology and is currently working towards a PsyD in clinical psychology from the California School of Professional Psychology at Alliant International University's San Diego campus. Her professional interests include personality assessments, working with those diagnosed with psychosis and other serious mental illnesses, and neuropsychological and forensic assessment. Ms. Turner has experience working with individuals with serious mental illness in inpatient settings and has experience conducting forensic assessments with individuals who are incarcerated. When Ms. Turner is not working, she enjoys yoga and going to the gym, listening to music, exploring local restaurants with her fiancé, and taking care of her houseplants.

Psychology Staff

Jennifer Vandigo



Mrs. Vandigo (she/her/hers) is currently working towards earning a degree in Psychology to become a Counselor specializing in mental health and suicide prevention. She began working at NEFSH in 2014 as a Human Service Worker I. She spent close to five years in direct care, eventually getting promoted to an HSWII, before becoming a Behavioral Program Specialist in the Treatment Mall and engaging in groups with the geriatric population. Wanting to engage more in the mental health of our current residents, Mrs. Vandigo joined the psychology department in May 2022 as a Behavioral Program specialist. In this position Mrs. Vandigo hopes to encourage and help individuals overcome their obstacles to help better their future. In her free time, she enjoys reading, gardening, and spending time with her family traveling and exploring all aspects of nature!

April Whitt, Senior Clerk



Ms. Whitt began working with the State of Florida in 2010 with the Department of Revenue as a Senior Clerk. She left for a few years to work with Adults with Intellectual Disabilities as a supported Living Coach. Ms. Whitt returned to the State of Florida in September of 2020, working in the Dietary Department at NEFSH, and was promoted to the Senior Clerk position in psychology department in April of 2021. In her spare time, Ms. Whitt enjoys traveling (especially to the beach or the Smokey Mountains), listening to music, singing, and making soy candles.

Previous Interns

1997-1998

- California School of Professional Psychology - Fresno

1998-1999

- Howard University

1999-2000

- John F. Kennedy University
- Texas A&M
- Illinois School of Professional Psychology

2000-2001

- University of South Dakota
- University of Indianapolis
- Illinois School of Professional Psychology

2001-2002

- Marywood University
- Argosy University/Tampa
- University of Oklahoma
- Forest Institute of Professional Psychology

2002-2003

- Nova Southeastern University
- Florida School of Professional Psychology
- Nova Southeastern University
- Xavier University

2003-2004

- University of Alabama
- Nova Southeastern University

Previous Interns-Continued

2004-2005

- Nova Southeastern University
- University of Indianapolis
- Argosy/Atlanta

2005-2006

- Nova Southeastern University
- Argosy University-Atlanta
- Argosy University-Atlanta
- Florida Institute of Technology

2006-2007

- California School of Professional Psychology at Alliant International University – San Diego
- Nova Southeastern University
- Drexel University

2007-2008

- Argosy/Tampa
- University of Hartford
- LarMarquette University
- Florida Institute of Technology

2008-2009

- Argosy-Tampa
- Georgia School of Professional Psychology
- Nova Southeastern University

2009-2010

- Argosy Atlanta
- Florida Institute of Technology
- Argosy, Tampa

Previous Interns

2010-2011

- Argosy, Hawaii
- Nova Southeastern University
- Pacific University

2011-2012

- Florida Institute of Technology
- University of Indianapolis
- Illinois School of Professional Psychology

2012-2013

- Louisiana State University
- Argosy, Florida School of Professional Psychology
- Florida State University

2013-2014

- Forest Institute, Springfield, Missouri
- Roosevelt University
- Argosy Tampa

2014-2015

- Nova Southeastern University
- Wright Institute
- Florida School of Professional Psychology

2015-2016

- Albizu University – Miami Campus
- Chicago School of Professional Psychology, DC campus
- Nova Southeastern University

Previous Interns

2016-2017

- La Verne University
- Carlos Albizu University- San Juan
- Florida Institute of Technology

2017-2018

- Spalding University
- Spalding University
- Argosy Tampa

2018-2019

- Illinois School of Professional Psychology at National Louis University
- Georgia Southern University
- West Virginia University

2019-2020

- University of Indianapolis
- Chicago School of Professional Psychology, DC campus
- Florida Institute of Technology

2020-2021

- Mercer University
- Pace University
- Florida School of Professional Psychology at National Louis University

2021-2022

- Jackson State University
- Fielding Graduate University
- Florida School of Professional Psychology at National Louis University

Previous Interns

2022-2023

- California School of Professional Psychology at Alliant International University, San Diego
- The Chicago School of Professional Psychology- New Orleans
- Northwest University

Internship Admissions, Support, and Initial Placement Data

Internship Program Admissions

Date Program Tables are updated: 8/31/23

Program Disclosures

Does the program or institution require students, trainees, and/or staff (faculty) to comply with specific policies or practices related to the institution's affiliation or purpose? Such policies or practices may include, but are not limited to, admissions, hiring, retention policies, and/or requirements for completion that express mission and values?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If yes, provide website link (or content from brochure) where this specific information is presented:	
NA	

Internship Program Admissions

Briefly describe in narrative form important information to assist potential applicants in assessing their likely fit with your program. This description must be consistent with the program's policies on intern selection and practicum and academic preparation requirements:
<p>NEFSH is an inpatient state mental health treatment facility that provides continuous service to people with chronic and persistent severe mental illness. The internship is accredited by the American Psychological Association and adheres to a practitioner-scholar model. The overall aim of the doctoral psychology internship program at NEFSH is to provide quality training necessary to facilitate the transitional process from student to entry level practice professional while working with adults and a severely mentally ill population. Additionally, the internship program aims to produce generalist adult health service psychology practitioners who demonstrate the capacity to function autonomously and responsibly, and are prepared for public service.</p> <p>To function effectively in this program, an intern demonstrates willingness, interest, and clinical maturity to provide services to individuals with severe mental illness. Applicants that demonstrate a strong fit and interest in the population served at NEFSH are encouraged to apply. There are no minimum hours requirements, as the selection committee understands that many applicants' clinical hours and training experiences were impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Applicants' anticipated hours, as well as non-conventional training experiences will also be considered during the selection process.</p>

Internship Admissions, Support, and Initial Placement Data

Does the program require that applicants have received a minimum number of hours of the following at time of application? If Yes, indicate how many:			
Total Direct Contact Intervention Hours		No	Amount: NA
Total Direct Contact Assessment Hours		No	Amount: NA

Describe any other required minimum criteria used to screen applicants:	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) A student currently enrolled in a clinical or counseling psychology doctoral program that is eligible to participate in the APPIC Match. 2) Completion of all academic portions of the doctoral program prior to internship (excluding dissertation or research requirements) 3) Endorsement from the applicant's training director or director of clinical training that the applicant is prepared for a doctoral internship 4) Completion of all practicum experiences required by the applicant's program 5) A Master's Degree must be conferred by the end of January 2023. Note– An applicant's Master's Degree must be related to the field of psychology (i.e., clinical, counseling, forensic, rehabilitation counseling). 6) Applicants must be United States citizens. 7) Completion an AAPI online application which includes a cover letter, curriculum vitae, Director of Clinical Training verification of eligibility and readiness, all graduate transcripts, and three letters of recommendation from doctoral clinicians, preferably licensed psychologists. 8) A de-identified psychological assessment as supplemental material to the AAPI online application. Remove all identifying information and any information that could reasonably be used to identify the subject(s) of the psychological assessment, such as names, addresses, and any dates (except years) that are directly related to an individual. Remove all testing data that could compromise psychological assessment test security, such as verbatim questions or items from measures. The assessment report should be no longer than 12 single space pages (excluding appendixes). Failure to de-identify psychological assessments in this prescribed manner may result in your application being withdrawn from consideration. 10) All applications must be submitted for review by 11:59 pm on November 17th, 2023. 	

Internship Admissions, Support, and Initial Placement Data

Financial and Other Benefit Support for Upcoming Training Year*	
Annual Stipend/Salary for Full-time Interns	\$29,020.42
Annual Stipend/Salary for Half-time Interns	NA
Program provides access to medical insurance for intern?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If access to medical insurance is provided:	
Trainee contribution to cost required?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Coverage of family member(s) available?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Coverage of legally married partner available?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Coverage of domestic partner available?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Hours of Annual Paid Personal Time Off (PTO and/or Vacation)	Interns receive time off for nine state holidays and one personal day. Interns also accrue 2 hours of annual leave every two weeks.
Hours of Annual Paid Sick Leave	Interns accrue 2 hours of sick leave every two weeks.
In the event of medical conditions and/or family needs that require extended leave, does the program allow reasonable unpaid leave to interns/residents in excess of personal time off and sick leave?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Other Benefits (please describe): Dissertation Release	Dissertation Release Time, Professional/Administrative Development Time

*Note. Programs are not required by the Commission on Accreditation to provide all benefits listed in this table

Internship Program Admissions, Support, and Initial Placement Data-Continued

Initial Post-Internship Positions

(Provide an Aggregated Tally for the Preceding 3 Cohorts)

	2018-2021	
Total # of interns who were in the 3 cohorts	9	
Total # of interns who did not seek employment because they returned to their doctoral program/are completing doctoral degree	0	
	PD	EP
Academic teaching	0	0
Community mental health center	0	0
Consortium	0	0
University Counseling Center	0	0
Hospital/Medical Center	5	0
Veterans Affairs Health Care System	0	0
Psychiatric facility	2	0
Correctional facility	0	0
Health maintenance organization	0	0
School district/system	0	0
Independent practice setting	2	0
Other	0	0

Note: "PD" = Post-doctoral residency position; "EP" = Employed Position. Each individual represented in this table should be counted only one time. For former trainees working in more than one setting, select the setting that represents their primary position.

Internship Program Admissions, Support, and Initial Placement Data-Continued

Initial Post-Internship Positions

(Provide an Aggregated Tally for the Preceding 3 Cohorts)

	2019-2022	
Total # of interns who were in the 3 cohorts	9	
Total # of interns who did not seek employment because they returned to their doctoral program/are completing doctoral degree	0	
	PD	EP
Academic teaching	0	0
Community mental health center	0	0
Consortium	1	0
University Counseling Center	0	0
Hospital/Medical Center	1	0
Veterans Affairs Health Care System	0	0
Psychiatric facility	3	0
Correctional facility	0	0
Health maintenance organization	0	0
School district/system	0	0
Independent practice setting	4	0
Other	0	0

Note: "PD" = Post-doctoral residency position; "EP" = Employed Position. Each individual represented in this table should be counted only one time. For former trainees working in more than one setting, select the setting that represents their primary position.

Interns' schedules are influenced by a variety of factors that include rotation assignments, interests, and current happenings within NEFSH.

This sample schedule provides a snapshot of a routine week for interns.

MONDAY

- 8:15 am Morning meeting
- 9:00 am Recovery Team Meeting
- 12:00 pm Lunch
- 1:00 pm Facilitate group therapy
- 2:00 pm Meet with resident for individual therapy
- 3:00 pm Individual supervision

TUESDAY

- 8:15 am Morning meeting
- 9:00 am Work on monthly progress notes
- 11:00 am Group supervision
- 12:00 pm Lunch
- 1:00 pm Facilitate group therapy
- 3:00 pm Meet with resident to start psychological testing

WEDNESDAY

- 8:15 am Morning meeting
- 9:00 am Collaborate on resident behavioral plan
- 11:00 am Meet with resident for individual therapy
- 12:00 pm Lunch & Intern Social Hour
- 1:00 pm Facilitate group therapy
- 3:00 pm Weekly Didactic

THURSDAY

- 8:15 am Morning meeting
- 9:00 am Work on documentation
- 11:00 am Research/ Dissertation
- 12:00 pm Lunch
- 1:00 pm Facilitate group therapy
- 2:00 pm Individual supervision
- 3:30 Psychology Department Meeting

FRIDAY

- 8:15 am Morning Meeting
- 9:00 Focus Rotation tasks
- 11:00 am Group Supervision
- 12:00 pm Lunch
- 1:00 pm Facilitate group therapy
- 2:00 pm Meet with resident for brief therapy
- 3:00 Focus Rotation Individual Supervision



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