

Postdoctoral Residency Admissions, Support, and Initial Placement Data
Date Program Tables are updated: August 23, 2018

Postdoctoral 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 resident selection and practicum and academic preparation requirements:

Applicants should be able to demonstrate in their application a strong interest in geriatrics, PTSD, or substance abuse issues and treatment with a long-term goal to provide service and contribute to these areas in psychology. Selection for our residency program is based on the entirety of the application and interview. Our training program is seeking individuals who value clinical care broadly (and evidenced based care specifically), cultural curiosity, working on interprofessional teams, providing supervision, etc. A general description of our residency program is included below. Applicants should use this general description to assess their fit with the training program.

Our psychology postdoctoral residency program strives to provide a coherent series of training experiences that lead residents to develop the advanced competencies that are needed to practice autonomously in an interprofessional healthcare setting. Additionally, we provide postdoctoral residents clinical and structured learning experiences to develop advanced competencies in of three emphasis areas within clinical psychology (Geropsychology, PTSD treatment, and Substance Use Disorder Treatment). We believe that the primary learning mechanism for competency development is hands on clinical work with patients and interprofessional teams. Training experiences offered provide the opportunity to cultivate a broad set of generalist skills, while also focusing on one of the three specific emphases mentioned above. *Through this progression of training experiences, we aim to produce psychologists who have developed advanced competencies in clinical psychology broadly and advanced competencies within an emphasis area specifically (Substance Use Disorder Treatment, PTSD Treatment, or Geropsychology). Additionally, we aim to produce psychologists who are prepared with the requisite knowledge and skills to provide leadership to clinical teams, interprofessional teams, and/or professional organizations.*

Our postdoctoral residency program continually strives to understand, appreciate, embrace, and apply concepts related to diversity in our work with trainees, patients, and interprofessional teams. In our program, diversity is perceived as a distinct competency and is also interwoven into how we think about the development of the overall competencies required to become a practicing, licensed psychologist. The inherent dynamic nature of society, and thus diversity, leads us to a broad conceptualization of diversity, and motivates us to persistently explore the meaning of and application of diversity issues. We endeavor to continually grow new opportunities for our training program and supervisors to be thoughtful of and engage in meaningful dialogues about diversity throughout the training year. *We aim to produce psychologists who have developed advanced competencies in considering the broad and dynamic nature of diversity and who integrate the application of diversity concepts throughout practice.*

Our postdoctoral residency program integrates clinical, scientific, and ethical knowledge in the development of attitudes and skills basic to clinical psychology. Therefore, the philosophy of training offered by the NF/SGVHS is best described as a “practitioner-scholar” model. The training experiences have a strong clinical focus. However, knowledge and use of empirically supported processes and interventions are expected and encouraged in all aspects of the program. *Our aim is to produce psychologists who are able to integrate science and practice in their work with patient and inter-professional teams; who are able to engage in program development from a practitioner-scholar*

perspective; and who are able to disseminate knowledge in a way that is informed by both science and practice.

At the core of our postdoctoral residency program is a developmental model that is largely based in professional mentorship with the resident's preceptor. The mentor (preceptor) will provide close consultation with the resident throughout the training year and will serve. The mentor and supervisors commit to deliver training in a manner that is respectful to the needs of the resident, while providing the combination of challenge and support necessary for competency development. Mentors and supervisors use formative and summative evaluation to collaboratively make decisions regarding caseload, types of patients assigned, and proximity of supervision in a way that encourages clinical skill development at an appropriate, but progressive level of autonomy.

Describe any other required minimum criteria used to screen applicants:

Applicants must US Citizens who have completed all the requirements of an APA, CPA, or PCSAS Accredited Doctoral Program in Clinical or Counseling Psychology and have completed an APA or CPA Accredited internship program, prior to the start of the postdoctoral residence.

If you are selected as a postdoctoral resident, you will be considered a Federal employee, and the following requirements will apply.

1. U.S. citizenship. VA is unable to consider applications from anyone who is not currently a U.S. citizen. Verification of citizenship is required following selection. All fellows must complete a Certification of Citizenship in the United States prior to beginning VA training.
2. A male applicant born after 12/31/1959 must have registered for the draft by age 26 to be eligible for any US government employment, including selection as a paid VA trainee. Male applicants must sign a pre-appointment Certification Statement for Selective Service Registration before they can be processed into a training program. Exceptions can be granted only by the US Office of Personnel Management; exceptions are very rarely granted.
3. Fellows are subject to fingerprinting and background checks. Match result and selection decisions are contingent on passing these screens. Please find additional information about the required background checks at the following website (<http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/codification/executive-order/10450.html>)
4. VA conducts drug screening exams on randomly selected personnel as well as new employees. Fellows are not required to be tested prior to beginning work, but once on staff they are subject to random selection for testing as are other employees.
5. Selected postdoctoral residents are subject to fingerprinting, background checks, and urine drug screens. Selection decisions are contingent on passing these screens (please see brochure for additional information regarding appointment as a Federal employee)

Financial and Other Benefit Support for Upcoming Training Year*

Annual Stipend/Salary for Full-time Residents	\$46,102
Annual Stipend/Salary for Half-time Residents	N/A
Program provides access to medical insurance for resident?	Yes No
If access to medical insurance is provided	
Trainee contribution to cost required?	Yes No
Coverage of family member(s) available?	Yes No
Coverage of legally married partner available?	Yes No
Coverage of domestic partner available?	Yes No
Hours of Annual Paid Personal Time Off (PTO and/or Vacation)	104
Hours of Annual Paid Sick Leave	104
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?	Yes No
Other Benefits (please describe) Postdoctoral Residents also receive 10 Federal Holidays off and can be considered for up to 5 days of Authorized Absence (e.g., conferences, etc.) If leave beyond Federal Holidays, accrued annual leave, accrued sick leave, and authorized absence are needed, the length of the internship would be extended to ensure the intern completes a full year of training.	

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

Initial Post-Residency Positions
(Provide An Aggregated tally for the Preceding 3 cohorts)

	2014-2017	
Total # of residents who were in the 3 cohorts	9	
Total # of residents who remain in training in the residency program	0	
	PD	EP
Community mental health center	0	0
Federally qualified health center	0	0
Independent primary care facility/clinic	0	0
University counseling center	0	0
Veterans Affairs medical center	0	8
Military health center	0	0
Academic health center	0	0
Other medical center or hospital	0	1
Psychiatric hospital	0	0
Academic university/department	0	0
Community college or other teaching setting	0	0
Independent research institution	0	0
Correctional facility	0	0
School district/system	0	0
Independent practice setting	0	0
Not currently employed	0	0
Changed to another field	0	0
Other	0	0
Unknown	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.