

VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System Postdoctoral Training Program

This Psychology Postdoctoral Residency is part of a consortium with the University of Michigan (for information about the UM part of the consortium, go to <http://www.psych.med.umich.edu/education/psychology/>). The VA training program has five residents, three in Mental Health and two in Neuropsychology. The Mental Health positions are each one year. The Neuropsychology positions are each two years with one new resident being accepted each year.

The goals of the Residency generally are to:

1. Provide advanced training for independent professional practice, with understanding and skill in collaboration with other health professionals, skill in recognizing medical/legal issues, practical competence in the identification and resolution of ethical dilemmas, continuous growth in sensitivity to individual and cultural diversity in psychology, and ability to practice in organizational context(s);
2. Create the inception of a specialization in each Resident in their intended Mental Health, Behavioral Health, or Neuropsychological career path by providing expertise in specific assessment and intervention problems and situations typical of those encountered as a practicing Psychologist in that area;
3. Develop a greater database in their realm of specialization by teaching more advanced methods of scholarly inquiry and providing specific training in how and where new knowledge in the specialty is found and made (Walker & London, 2007);
4. Teach methods of evidence based practice in Psychology as a central methodology to link available scientific knowledge to practice through an organized series of steps that are used in the Residency year as a prelude for the permanent employment in specialty practice, and;
5. Help to develop the professional identity of the Resident, build supervisory and teaching capabilities, and involve the Resident in a wide range of professional activities.

The three Mental Health residencies are devoted to training involving enhancement and specialized MH practice. Residents will elect a major and a minor area of clinical concentration in: 1) evidence-based interventions for ambulatory primary care patients with high acuity mental health and substance abuse problems, 2) evidence-based interventions to treat identified PTSD patients (OEF/OIF) to prevent progression, 3) evidence-based MH Primary Care Combined methods to address specific Veteran health and wellness issues, or 4) Development of Recovery-Based Methods to move Veterans across a Comprehensive Continuum of Care. In addition to clinical training in assessment and treatment, all postdoctoral students are involved in training on program development, quality improvement, and program evaluation.

The Neuropsychology Postdoctoral Residency is a two-year program, organized to conform closely to the Houston Conference Guidelines (Hannay, 1998). The first year concentrations are in traumatic brain injury (TBI) (major concentration) and chronic pain care (minor concentration). The second year clinical concentrations are in geriatric neuropsychology (major) and palliative care (minor). Beyond adhering to the general framework of Neuropsychology specialty training, Residents need training for the full range of VA needs where they practice. There is a pressing need for VA specialists who can assess and treat veterans suspected of having TBI, but also for needs relating to other eras of service. Patients have complex needs from the Vietnam and Gulf I eras, and the need for Geriatric Neuropsychology specialists is pressing.

Faculty

Minimal Requirements: US citizenship, APA-accredited internship & doctoral degree in Psychology expected by 08/25/2014.

The stipend for the program is \$44,165 for the year, paid biweekly (includes Ann Arbor Locality Based Pay). Benefits include 13 vacation days, 13 sick days, 10 federal holidays, leave for educational and professional activities, and eligibility for health insurance. Malpractice coverage is provided under the Federal Tort Claims Act.

To apply: Send the following materials, electronically if possible to Pam LaForest (see contact info below): Application Form (available at <http://www.psych.med.umich.edu/education/psychology/how-to-apply/>), Cover Letter, Curriculum Vitae, Transcript of graduate program (unofficial copy is OK), 3 letters of recommendation & 2 professional writing samples (i.e., deidentified/redacted report and/or article reprint)

Ms. Pam LaForest (pamelala@med.umich.edu) or by mail to 2101 Commonwealth Blvd, Ste C, Ann Arbor MI 48105.

Application Review begins January 1st. For further information and to arrange an interview at the INS meeting in Seattle in February 2014, contact Kenneth Adams, Ph.D., Director of VA Psychology Training, kmadams@umich.edu. Telephone and Personal Interviews in Ann Arbor are also available and may be preferred.