

Psychology Postdoctoral Fellowships

2021-2022

Children's Hospital Colorado (CHCO) offers post-doctoral psychology fellowships in multiple areas. All fellowships are designed as full-time 12-month positions beginning in September 2021. Fellows will receive a salary of \$47,477, subject to the withholding of taxes. As a full-time CHCO employee, fellows are eligible for benefits equivalent to a first-year employee which include medical, dental, vision, short term disability, and life insurance options. Fellows are eligible for a total of 21 days of paid time off for holidays (7 Children's Hospital Colorado observed holidays), vacation and sick days, and 5 professional leave days. Malpractice insurance is provided by CHCO.

The fellowship program is comprised of time devoted to clinical training as well as time for scholarly, research or program development activities. The program is a member of the Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC-www.appic.org) and the Council of Clinical Health Psychology Training Programs (CCHPTP - www.cchptp.org)

Requirements for Admission

Applicants must have completed their training in an APA or CPA accredited PhD or PsyD program in Clinical, Counseling, or School Psychology, and an APA accredited internship. Candidates are expected to have sufficient training and experience in Child Clinical Psychology to be able to maximally benefit from the experiences offered. **Applications will be accepted from doctoral candidates who expect to have completed all doctoral degree requirements by the fellowship start date, including completion of internship and successful dissertation defense.** Positions are contingent upon official verification of completion of all doctoral degree requirements (e.g., diploma, transcript) through the graduate school conferring the degree prior to starting the fellowship. The training program is committed to the recruitment of culturally and ethnically diverse individuals. Bilingual Spanish speaking applicants, and all other qualified applicants, are encouraged to apply.

Application Procedures

All applicants must use the online APPIC AAPA (www.appic.org).

A completed application consists of the following materials:

1. Cover letter stating interest in the specific post-doctoral position(s) of choice, previous clinical, research and professional experience relevant to the post-doctoral program, and expectations of personal and/or professional goals that may result from engaging in the specific post-doctoral positions identified.
 - ***In your cover letter please include a brief summary of how COVID-19 impacted your training and how you were able to continue your training outside of clinical hours.***
 - If you are applying for more than one Postdoctoral Fellowship with CHCO, only complete one application. You may upload separate cover letters for each of the positions to which you are applying.
 - ***All Developmental Pediatric applications must include a de-identified work sample.***
2. A current Curriculum Vitae
3. Official transcripts of all graduate coursework
4. Three letters of recommendation. *Please submit only three letters*

Interview dates for selected applicants are January 12th, 14th, 19th, and 22nd of 2021. This training program is following the APPIC guidelines for selection of fellowship candidates. Offers will be made by Friday, February 12, 2021. Should you be interested in applying for more than one position, please specify the one you are most interested in and discuss why you have chosen that position. **Application deadline is December 10, 2020.** Any questions or concerns can be directed to our Operations Coordinator, Dianna Torgerson at Dianna.Torgerson@childrenscolorado.org.

Postdoctoral Fellowship Positions

Anxiety and OCD

The Anxiety and OCD Fellowship provides focused training on the assessment and treatment of youth with obsessive-compulsive disorder or anxiety disorders. This training experience will take place within the Ambulatory Division of the Pediatric Mental Health Institute (PMHI) of CHCO located on the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus. The PMHI ambulatory clinic is extremely busy and serves an ethnically and socioeconomically diverse group of patients from the Denver metro area. The fellow will learn to conduct traditional diagnostic assessments as well as specialized anxiety evaluations connected to our Anxiety Intensive Outpatient Program (AIOp). The fellow will maintain an active caseload of individual therapy patients with primary anxiety disorders, trauma, OCD, and related conditions (e.g., Tourette syndrome, trichotillomania, insomnia) and will receive extensive supervision in evidence-based interventions including cognitive-behavioral therapy, exposure with response prevention, Acceptance and Commitment Therapy, and Comprehensive Behavioral Intervention for Tics. The fellow will also help staff the AIOp, providing an important experience conducting a group therapy intervention for youth with severe anxiety. Some training opportunities may differ due to COVID-19 health and safety precautions. The breakdown between clinical and research responsibilities will be 60/40. There will be opportunities to analyze and publish archived data examining a variety of potential mechanisms underlying adolescent anxiety (e.g., sleep disturbance, executive function deficits, fMRI measures of emotion processing) as well as clinical outcome data collected on youth served in our anxiety clinic. In addition to a weekly post-doctoral didactic seminar, the fellow will participate in other PMHI training opportunities and will also have the opportunity to provide supervision to psychology interns and externs.

Cystic Fibrosis & Pediatric Solid Organ Transplant

The Cystic Fibrosis & Pediatric Solid Organ Transplant fellowship is a joint training program. The fellow will spend two days a week with the Cystic Fibrosis Center, two days with the Pediatric Solid Organ Transplant Program, and one day in the Pediatric Mental Health Institute Outpatient Clinic.

The Cystic Fibrosis (CF) Center at the Children's Hospital Colorado is the largest pediatric CF center in the country, which allows for an exceptional, in-depth experience with this specialized population. The fellow will be fully integrated within the multidisciplinary team that includes pulmonologists, nurse practitioners, pharmacists, dietitians, physical therapists, respiratory therapists, nurses, and social workers. The fellow will work with patients diagnosed with CF, from infancy through young adulthood, providing a range of clinical services, including brief consultation, longer-term psychotherapy, and intervention. Support and intervention will be provided in the outpatient CF Clinic as part of patient's routine medical care, during sick visits and on the inpatient medical floor during CF-related hospitalizations. The fellow will independently staff and integrate psychology services into the Colorado Springs and other CF satellite clinics via telemedicine services. There are additional opportunities to lead groups for patients with CF and their families including a wellness group with the physical therapist, a parent management training group, a support group for teens, and a support group for parents of newly diagnosed babies. In addition to providing clinical services, the fellow will have an active role in a variety of ongoing scholarly projects and will receive support to initiate their own research project if desired. Several IRB protocols exist to allow for examination of mental health and medical data and the impact of psychology services on emotional and health outcomes. Current academic project topics include quality of life, mental health, adherence to medical care, health literacy, and the transition to adult care.

The Pediatric Solid Organ Transplant Programs at CHCO offer a unique training opportunity in the area of pediatric psychology. The solid organ transplant programs at CHCO are among the highest volume pediatric transplant centers in the country. This fellowship is designed to provide clinical and research training and to develop advanced competencies in pediatric psychology. The fellow will be engaged in all aspects of clinical assessment, treatment, and program development across the solid organ transplant programs (e.g., liver, kidney, heart) in the inpatient and outpatient medical clinic settings at Children's Hospital Colorado. The psychology fellow will have the opportunity to complete pre-transplant psychological evaluations for patients ages 0-25 undergoing evaluation for transplantation. All children, adolescents, and families meet with psychology during the transplant evaluation process on either an inpatient or outpatient basis. The evaluation includes an assessment of family functioning, adjustment, and mood—factors that impact a child's ability to cope with a solid organ transplant. Many children, adolescents, and families continue to meet with psychology throughout the transplant process; the psychology fellow will continue to complete on-going assessment, intervention, and consultation with patients during the pre-

and post-transplant phases. The fellow will see children during hospitalizations and during their outpatient medical clinic visits to help them adjust to new treatments or medical illnesses and provide interventions for treatment adherence, coping with procedure-related distress, and providing support around managing emotional reactions to their health conditions. The fellow will also be involved in parent support groups. The fellow is the point person for the transplant teams and becomes an integrated member of the teams. In addition, the fellow will assist in the development and implementation of research on a variety of ongoing projects (e.g., substance use in pediatric transplant patients, adherence to medication regimens, risk factors during pre-transplant evaluations, addressing disparities in transplant listing). Some training opportunities may differ due to COVID-19 health and safety precautions.

Developmental Pediatric Psychology

The Section of Developmental Pediatrics provides outpatient interdisciplinary evaluation and treatment of autism spectrum disorders, intellectual disability, other neurodevelopmental disorders, and genetic disorders within CHCO. The postdoctoral psychology fellow will increase their understanding of development across childhood as an active team member in a variety of age-based (i.e., infancy to late adolescence) assessment clinics. There are also opportunities, as appropriate, within subspecialty clinics (including a focus on genetic disorders and other medical conditions, i.e., XY, Fragile X, Turner, Deaf and Hard of Hearing), within the pediatric care network and outreach clinics, as well as with Bilingual Spanish speaking families. Our setting provides unique opportunities to collaborate with Developmental Behavioral Pediatricians and other medical providers, Social Workers, Speech/Language Pathologists, Occupational Therapists, Physical Therapists, and Child Life Specialists, in addition to our group of 20 diverse Psychologists. Fellows focus on building expertise in clinical conceptualization utilizing assessment measures of development/cognition, adaptive functioning, specific autism diagnostics, and diagnostics for common comorbidities and rule-outs, in order to provide supportive feedback for individuals and their families around strengths and needs for support. We strive to provide culturally sensitive services including considering appropriateness of our assessments, partnering with families, and collaborating with medical language interpreters. The year is enriched by short-term targeted intervention experiences (e.g., groups, individual, family/parent coaching) related to these diagnoses and their comorbidities (e.g., anxiety, phobias, mood). Due to COVID-19 Developmental Pediatrics is now providing evaluation and intervention services through telehealth (video conferencing), as well as continuing in-person visits. It is our expectation that our psychologists and trainees will continue to provide services through both modalities. The postdoctoral fellow participates in scholarship related to their area of interest, which may include research, program development, or quality improvement (QI) projects. Mentors provide support related to developing an independent line of research/scholarship on a variety of topics. Opportunities for providing bedside teaching, mentoring and supervision, as well as classroom teaching, varied didactics, program development experience, and professional development are plentiful. This is a full-time position with supervision provided by experienced Psychologists. Experiences within this postdoctoral fellowship are tailored to the fellow's interests and professional development goals, overseen by a year-long mentor. For interested trainees a second year of fellowship may be offered to allow for advanced opportunities in professional development, developing additional subspecialty clinical expertise, and building further on specific research interests.

Outpatient Psychology

The Outpatient Psychology Fellowship focuses on assessment and treatment of children and adolescents presenting with a broad range of emotional and behavioral problems within the Ambulatory Division of the Pediatric Mental Health Institute of CHCO. Patients present to the outpatient clinic with a wide variety of presenting problems including behavior problems, anxiety, depression, trauma, and difficulties coping with comorbid medical conditions. The fellow will conduct traditional diagnostic evaluations and will also participate in innovative assessment approaches that incorporate transdiagnostic and therapeutic assessment principles. Opportunities to engage patients and families in treatment will include individual, family, and group-based therapies. In response to COVID-19, individual and group-based therapies are occasionally offered via telehealth and the fellow will have the opportunity to provide services through this modality. Additional opportunities to participate in more intensive treatment provision through our Intensive Outpatient and Partial Hospitalization Programs may also be available. The fellow will be an active participant in the transdiagnostic research lab and participate in all aspects of research and program development aimed at developing a transdiagnostic approach to pediatric behavioral health services.

Most notably, the fellow will be engaged in a line of research aimed at empirically evaluating transdiagnostic exposure-based clinical interventions for pediatric irritability. The fellow will also provide supervision to psychology externs, interns, and psychiatry fellows.

Pediatric Primary Care

The Pediatric Primary Care Fellowship focuses on development, implementation, and evaluation of integrated behavioral health services in two pediatric primary care settings. Project CLIMB (Consultation Liaison in Mental health and Behavior), a collaborative effort between the Pediatric Mental Health Institute and Division of General Pediatrics at CHCO, provides integrated behavioral health services in the context of an urban, academic medicine pediatric residency training clinic that serves as a medical home for more than 13,000 children. The Young Mothers' Clinic (YMC) is a pediatric primary care clinic that serves adolescent mothers up to age 22 and their children. The program provides comprehensive multidisciplinary care, which includes social work, case management, nutrition, dental, and integrated behavioral health services, in addition to pediatric care and well-woman and family planning services. YMC is a subsection of the Department of Pediatrics at CHCO and the behavioral health program is a collaboration between the Department of Pediatrics and the Pediatric Mental Health Institute.

Both programs emphasize early identification and treatment of mental health, behavioral, and developmental issues within pediatric primary care and increase access to behavioral health services for a diverse, publicly insured, underserved population. The fellow's clinical responsibilities include screenings, consultations, brief assessments, brief interventions, and case management for youth and their families. The fellow works as a part of a multidisciplinary team that includes primary care providers, behavioral health providers, resource partners, and clinic staff. Some training opportunities may differ due to COVID-19 health and safety precautions. Opportunities for scholarship and teaching are built into the fellowship. Fellows spend 70% of their time engaged in clinical activities and services. Educational and scholarly activities comprise the remaining 30% of the fellow's time. Fellows collaborate on ongoing research projects and develop independent projects focused on quality improvement initiatives, program evaluation, systems and policy work, and clinical informatics. Fellows have opportunities to teach and develop trainings and educational offerings in collaboration with faculty. Additionally, fellows may have the opportunity to supervise psychology interns during the course of fellowship training.

The Center for Cancer & Blood Disorders (CCBD)

The Center for Cancer & Blood Disorders fellowship is designed to provide clinical and research training and to develop advanced competencies in pediatric psychology within an oncology-hematology setting. The CCBD at CHCO is recognized nationally and internationally for the treatment and care of children, adolescents and young adults with cancer and non-malignant blood diseases, such as hemophilia and sickle cell anemia. The Center is the only dedicated pediatric cancer center in the Rocky Mountain region and treats more than 2000 patients each year from birth to age 25. The fellow will be engaged in all aspects of clinical assessment, treatment and program development across all CCBD diagnostic and intervention areas, including blood cancers, solid tumors, brain tumors, bone marrow transplantation and non-malignant hematologic disorders. The fellow will work in coordination with members of the CCBD Wellness Program, a psychosocial intervention team comprised of a licensed clinical psychologist, licensed clinical social workers, child life specialists, family navigators, a chaplain, and art and learning specialists. Some training opportunities may differ due to COVID-19 health and safety precautions. The fellow will also assist in the development and implementation of research within the CCBD. Didactic experiences will be available through the CCBD and through Pediatric Mental Health Institute training programs.

The Psychology Training Program Structure

The Director of Postdoctoral Fellowship training is Dr. Jennifer Lindwall, and the Director of Psychology Training programs is Dr. Jenna Glover. The director of training and the committee are charged with overseeing the progress of the fellows, interns, and externs; facilitating interdisciplinary clinical experiences; and developing the program. The training committee meets regularly to review the progress of trainees and training needs, and to discuss program development. Trainees provide ongoing verbal feedback on the program to the training directors. At the end of the training year, the training directors conduct exit interviews with the fellows, interns, and externs covering all major aspects of the training year to elicit their feedback. Trainee feedback is consistently used to make adjustments to caseload expectations, program structure, and available rotations.

Training Plan

Each psychology fellow, with their supervisors and the training director, will develop a specific program that addresses the requirements and goals of the training program, the fellow's individual training needs and interests, and the patient care needs within the Department and Hospital. As they demonstrate readiness over time, fellows are given increasing clinical responsibility, autonomy, and exposure to more challenging treatment cases. All of these experiences are overseen by supervisors who are active treatment providers and team members on the units. The development of increasing competence is evaluated informally in supervision, and formally every six months through written evaluations.

Supervision

The training staff provides close supervisory support while guiding trainees toward assuming increasing autonomy in the clinical responsibility of their cases. The goal of supervision is to support the fellow during exposure to new patient populations, assessment tools and intervention strategies, and to build feelings of competence and functional autonomy in areas of strength.

Weekly supervision is provided by licensed psychologists. Most supervising psychologists are full-time staff members on the service where they supervise. Staff members of other mental health disciplines, who are qualified and experienced, may provide additional supervision in specific areas for duties that they regularly perform. All trainees will receive weekly supervision on each service where they provide clinical care. Postdoctoral fellows may be supervised to provide weekly supervision to Interns. Some supervision may occur in group settings with other trainees. Upon completion, psychology fellows will have successfully completed 1,750 hours in their Postdoctoral Psychology Fellowship, including 104 hours of direct supervision. The requirement for post-doctoral supervision in Colorado is 1,500 postdoctoral hours under the supervision of a licensed psychologist. At least 75 hours of direct supervision must be provided (at least 50 of them individual).

Evaluation Process

The evaluation process is designed to provide fellows with information that will inform their professional growth. The expectation is that fellows and supervisors will engage in on-going evaluation of the fellow's performance, and that the supervisory relationship will support optimal learning and development. At the end of each six-month period, the fellow and supervisor will complete a more formal written evaluation of each other. The mutual exchange of feedback between the supervisor and fellow is designed to enhance professional growth of both by identifying strengths, areas needing improvement, and personal goals. The training director meets regularly with the fellows to monitor achievement of training goals and to facilitate professional development. The training director also maintains regular contact with all supervising psychologists regarding the progress and functioning of the fellows under their supervision. Psychology fellows and interns, and child psychiatry residents have dedicated didactic time on Tuesday mornings. Attendance and participation in seminars is required, including attendance in Pediatric Mental Health Institute Grand Rounds, and the time is protected from other clinical demands. Fellows and staff are encouraged to also attend continuing education and wellness programs offered within and outside of the hospital.

Orientation

Psychology fellows orient at the beginning of the training year. As hospital employees, fellows must complete hospital required human resource (HR) activities, some of which must be completed prior to employment (criminal background check, employee health screening, and drug and alcohol screening). Fellows are also required to attend an all-day hospital orientation. Whenever feasible, fellows orient together, to facilitate interdisciplinary socialization and support. During orientation, fellows meet individually with their supervisors to develop their personal training goals for the year. They will also be introduced to department and hospital staff, services, and activities. All trainees will receive training to chart, bill, and complete reports in the electronic medical record (EPIC) system.

Resources and Support

The psychology fellows are hospital employees, and have similar benefits, rights and responsibilities as a first-year employee. Fellows are provided with seven paid holidays and fourteen days to take as vacation or sick time, for a total of 21 Personal Time Off (PTO) days. Fellows are also allowed five professional leave days and five conference days. Fellows may choose benefits from a cafeteria plan of options including health, dental, vision, and life insurance benefits. Fellows are provided with parking at the employee cost per pay period. As employees, the fellows have access to the on-site employee health service, and they may also access the employee assistance program (EAP).

The fellows are provided with general administrative assistance provided by the Operations Coordinator. Support includes facility and institute-related issues, Human Resource liaison, institute and program support, assessment materials. IT support is also provided for the fellow by CHCO's IT Help Desk as needed.

Fellows have access to the libraries at CHCO and the University of Colorado, including access to books and on-line journals. Fellows also have access to resources on the hospital Intranet, and to on-line medical search engines and journals. The fellows are provided with an email account, voicemail, and access to transcription services.

Biographies of Training Faculty are available for viewing on our webpage <https://www.childrenscolorado.org/doctors-and-departments/departments/psych/mental-health-professional-resources/training/>.

For questions, please contact the following individuals:

- **Jennifer Lindwall, Ph.D.**
Associate Professor
Postdoctoral Fellowship Training Director
Jennifer.Lindwall@childrenscolorado.org
720-777-8007
- **Jenna Glover, Ph.D.**
Assistant Professor
Psychology Training Director
Postdoctoral Fellowship Co-Director
Jenna.Glover@childrenscolorado.org
720-777-6275
- **Cindy Buchanan, Ph.D.**
Associate Professor
Associate Director of Psychology Training
Cindy.Buchanan@childrenscolorado.org
720-777-5529
- **Benjamin Mullin, Ph.D.**
Associate Professor
Anxiety and OCD Fellowship
Benjamin.Mullin@childrenscolorado.org
720-777-8006
- **Courtney Lynn, Ph.D.**
Assistant Professor
Cystic Fibrosis Center
Courtney.Lynn@childrenscolorado.org
720-777-4876
- **Emily Muther, Ph.D.**
Associate Professor
Clinical Director of Behavioral Health, Cystic Fibrosis Center
Emily.Muther@childrenscolorado.org
720-777-3257
- **Elizabeth Christofferson, Ph.D.**
Assistant Professor
Clinical Director, Solid Organ Transplant Psychology
Elizabeth.Christofferson@childrenscolorado.org
720-777-2300
- **Catherine Naclerio, Psy.D.**
Senior Instructor
Solid Organ Transplant
Catherine.Naclerio@childrenscolorado.org
720-777-9847
- **Rebecca Wilson, Psy.D.**
Associate Professor
Program Director
Developmental Pediatric Psychology
Rebecca.Wilson@childrenscolorado.org
720-777-6837
- **Elizabeth Griffith, Ph.D.**
Associate Professor
Developmental Pediatric Psychology
Elizabeth.Griffith@childrenscolorado.org
720-777-6630
- **Jessica Hawks, Ph.D.**
Assistant Professor
Clinical Director of Ambulatory Services
Jessica.Malmberg@childrenscolorado.org
720-777-8221
- **Ayelet Talmi, Ph.D.**
Professor
Program Director, Project CLIMB
Primary Care Psychology
Ayelet.Talmi@childrenscolorado.org
720-777-6670
- **Bethany Ashby, Psy.D.**
Associate Professor
Program Director, Young Mothers Clinic
Primary Care Psychology
Bethany.Ashby@childrenscolorado.org
720-777-5041
- **Robert Casey, Ph.D.**
Associate Professor
Center for Cancer & Blood Disorders
Robert.Casey@childrenscolorado.org
720-777-6594