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# Denver Health

## Doctoral Psychology Internship Program

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The Denver Health Doctoral Psychology Internship Program is fully accredited by:

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Fully accredited since 1980

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## **INTRODUCTION**

The mission of the Denver Health Doctoral Psychology Internship Program is to produce highly skilled doctoral-level clinicians with a strong professional identity as psychologists. We provide outstanding clinical training and supervision in a non-profit public healthcare system. We have a strong track record of consistently producing highly effective health service psychologists who are valued members of health care organizations. In addition to active learning through a core clinical curriculum that includes psychotherapy, psychological assessment, and acute psychopathology, psychology interns develop an early career area of expertise through participation on a multidisciplinary team of professionals. The internship is highly experiential, with interns immersed as fully functioning clinicians on multidisciplinary teams providing comprehensive care to diverse, traditionally underserved populations. The atmosphere of the internship program and of the overall organization is conducive to training and learning.

The mission of the Psychology Internship Program is facilitated considerably by the rich, vibrant environment provided by Denver Health as a teaching affiliate of the University of Colorado School of Medicine. Denver Health is a large, integrated health care system that is a national model for high-quality efficient care and is Colorado's largest safety net institution by a wide margin. Denver Health's long tradition of community involvement, civic responsibility, and professional excellence are reflected in the institution's mission to:

- *Provide access to the highest quality health care, whether for prevention, or acute and chronic diseases regardless of ability to pay;*
- *Provide life-saving emergency medicine and trauma services to Denver and the Rocky Mountain region;*
- *Fulfill public health functions as dictated by the Denver Charter and the needs of the citizens of Denver;*
- *Provide health education for patients;*
- *Participate in the education of the next generation of health care professionals; and*
- *Engage in research, which enhances our ability to meet the health care needs of Denver Health system patients.*

## **THE PSYCHOLOGY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM**

### ***Philosophical Model***

The Denver Health Doctoral Psychology Internship Program is philosophically grounded in the practitioner-scholar model of professional psychology and accepts students from accredited doctoral programs in clinical or counseling psychology. We follow the Standards of Accreditation in Health Service Psychology, and expect program participants to demonstrate knowledge and abilities in each of the nine profession-wide competencies. Interns are expected to utilize critical thinking and analytical skills in applying empirical knowledge and relevant theoretical frameworks to the unique individuals with whom they work. Interns are encouraged to develop their own clinical approach within this overall framework. Faculty members are practicing clinicians within multidisciplinary teams and are well-positioned to provide clinical teaching and to serve as professional role models. The program includes consideration of ethical practice, professional standards, and evidence-based treatment in didactics and in supervision. The program promotes knowledge of and respect for diversity, as well as continued learning and growth, as core values of professional identity. Interns bring their own knowledge and skills from a variety of strong doctoral programs. There is an expectation that interns will learn from each other and that the faculty will also benefit and grow professionally. The environment is one of teamwork and

professional collaboration.

Assessment and treatment are provided on multidisciplinary teams with psychology using a developmental biopsychosocial model as an overarching framework. Psychology interns have frequent opportunities to interact with medical trainees as well as with trainees in nursing, social work, and other professions. Consideration of psychological and social factors in addition to biology improves the understanding of health and disease, as well as the ability of the team to align with and assist patients. Life span developmental models as well as applied understanding of cultural and individual diversity also bring valuable perspectives for many patients and populations. The Internship Program provides a core clinical curriculum in assessment and treatment, but can usually be flexible to meet the training needs of individual interns.

## ***Diversity***

Recognition of and respect for individual and cultural diversity is central to the mission of Denver Health and to the philosophical framework of the internship training program. A majority of patients at Denver Health are from ethnic minority groups. Overall our population is 42% Caucasian, 37% Hispanic, 14% Black, 3% Asian, 1% Native American, and 3% as Other or multi-racial. The population is largely low-income and experiences high rates of poverty-related stress. Denver Health employees receive yearly training on Cultural Diversity, Medical Interpretation and Translation Service, Understanding Sexual Harassment, Domestic Violence, and Elder Abuse. Internship seminars also cover a wide range of relevant issues, such as sexual identity issues, age, religion, language, and working with refugees. Consideration of diversity issues is an integral part of all of our major rotations and is included as a regular part of supervision. At the same time, we remain mindful that while an individual may have membership in certain identified groups, everyone should be approached as an individual who may or may not fit exactly with the “average” characteristics of individuals in these groups.

## ***Program Organization***

The Denver Health Doctoral Psychology Internship includes a generalist core curriculum component, an early-career area of specialization chosen through the Match process, and the opportunity to choose elective experiences in various areas of Denver Health’s large medical system.

The core curriculum includes:

1. **Psychotherapy and consultation with interdisciplinary teams:** Interns function as professional staff members with supervision and mentoring by skilled and experienced psychologists.
2. **Clinical experience with acute psychopathology:** This occurs through participation on the Adult or Adolescent Psychiatric Units, the Inpatient Psychiatric Consult-Liaison Service and in the Psychiatric Emergency Service.
3. **Psychological or neuropsychological assessment:** Interns provide testing, scoring, and interpretation of standardized psychological assessments with adult or pediatric patients referred from a variety of services.
4. **Didactic seminars:** Interns participate as a cohort in seminars that include Psychiatric Grand Rounds at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, foundational training in areas such as Psychopharmacology, Working in Medical Settings and Self-Awareness, as well as on going presentations relevant to working with the Denver Health populations and the clinical rotations through which the psychology interns rotate.

## ***Denver Health Internship Tracks***

Denver Health offers clinical focus areas through three internship tracks, each with its own unique match number:

**Adult Psychology (two positions)**

**HRSA Adult Psychology (four positions)**

**Child & Adolescent Psychology (two positions)**

**HRSA Child and Family Psychology (two positions)**

The **Adult Psychology** track focuses on the provision of psychotherapeutic services across a wide range of psychiatric disorders as part of the Outpatient Adult Mental Health team. The Adult track interns also rotate through the Psychiatric Consult Liaison service and the Adult Inpatient Psychiatric Unit for three months each. Testing experience is acquired with the Neuropsychology Service.

The HRSA Adult Psychology track includes an emphasis on assessment and psychotherapy as part of an interdisciplinary team for persons with substance abuse and mental health diagnosis, including Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Interns on this track also rotate through the Psychiatric Consult Liaison Service, the Adult Inpatient Service, and in integrated behavioral primary care.

The **Child and Adolescent Psychology** interns have a major focus on provision of psychotherapeutic services with the Outpatient Child and Adolescent Mental Health Team. The Child and Adolescent Psychology track has interns rotating through both the Inpatient Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Unit, pediatric primary care, and the Psychiatric Emergency Service.

As part of the HRSA Child and Family Program, interns work with children, adolescents and families adversely affected by family substance use disorders. Interns on this track will rotate through the Child and Adolescent Inpatient Unit as well as in school-based primary care clinics.

Through these various experiences, all of the Denver Health internship positions provide training in a range of settings and include acquisition of experience with acutely ill and dual or triple diagnosis patients (psychiatric, substance, and medical).

In addition, the internship may include elective experiences during the internship year. The faculty will make every effort to be flexible in order for the internship to accommodate the clinical training and professional growth needs of each intern, depending on the availability of supervisors or mentors. Review electives

The Denver Health Doctoral Psychology Internship provides a structured sequence of learning with hands-on supervision by licensed psychologists. The intern is considered a developing clinician who brings skills, but can also benefit from a supervisory relationship with an experienced clinician. Seminars and case conferences cover a variety of topics and clinical training experiences. A minimum of two hours of individual supervision are scheduled each week. Additional supervision and case review of at least two hours per week is provided by individual supervisors or through the multidisciplinary team.

Interns are closely supervised at the beginning of clinical rotations, including direct observation of interactions with patients. Interns have increasing autonomy as they demonstrate clinical abilities during the rotation and during the year. Elective experiences also receive clinical supervision. Peer supervision may also be an effective learning tool and interns are expected to make presentations of selected clinical cases in seminars periodically during the year. Training experiences and supervision can be

individualized as is appropriate to meet the specific training needs and goals of interns, within the constraints of the service requirements of the specific rotations and the availability of faculty.

### **Expected Experiences During the Internship Year:**

1. Treatment of patients across a range of problems and pathology.
2. Treatment of patients in several age groups.
3. Treatment of patients in a range of settings and levels of care (inpatient psychiatric/medical care, outpatient mental health, outpatient primary care or school-based medical clinics, correctional care, and acute or emergency service).
4. Treatment of patients who are diverse with respect to racial and ethnic background, social and economic status, age, sexual orientation, religion, and ability status.
5. Assessment and case formulation, including a minimum of three integrated psychological assessment batteries or the equivalent in partial batteries.
6. Participation on interdisciplinary teams including physicians, nurses, and social workers.
7. Clinical work with dual diagnosis patients (i.e. mental health, medical, and/or substance use).
8. Interaction with multi-disciplinary teams and/or with community agencies as a consultant or resource.
9. Substantial responsibility for the delivery of professional psychological services on the units and clinics where interns work, given the individual intern's experience and training needs.
10. Opportunities to teach and to learn from medical students, interns, and residents, as well as other professional trainees.

For Sample Schedules, please see [Appendix A](#).

### ***Denver Health Doctoral Psychology Internship Program***

#### **Goals**

The goals of the Denver Health internship follow the profession-wide competencies of the Standards of Accreditation in Health Service Psychology. The program provides training in and expects interns to demonstrate competency in each of these areas:

For more detailed information about the program goals, objectives, competencies, and expectations, please see [Appendix B](#).

1. Demonstrates knowledge of and acts in accordance with the current version of the APA Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct; relevant laws, regulations, rules, and policies governing health service psychology in Colorado, and relevant professional standards and guidelines.
2. Trainees develop the ability to conduct all professional activities with sensitivity to human diversity, including the ability to deliver high quality services to an increasingly diverse population. Must demonstrate knowledge, awareness, sensitivity, and skills when working with diverse individuals and communities. The CoA defines cultural and individual differences and diversity as including, but not limited to, age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, language, national origin, race, religion, culture, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status.
3. Behaves in ways that reflect the values and attitudes of psychology, including integrity, deportment, professional identity, accountability, lifelong learning, and concern for the welfare of others.

4. Demonstrates effective and meaningful communication and interpersonal skills with clients, co-workers, team members, and the internal/external community.
5. Demonstrates competence in conducting evidence-based assessment consistent with the scope of Health Service Psychology.
6. Demonstrates competence in interventions derived from a variety of theoretical orientations or approaches.
7. Consultation and interprofessional/interdisciplinary skills are reflected in the intentional collaboration of professionals in health service psychology with other individuals or groups to address a problem, seek or share knowledge, or promote effectiveness in professional activities.
8. Demonstrates knowledge and ability in direct or simulated practice with psychology trainees or other health professionals, including but not limited to, role-played supervision with others and peer supervision with other trainees.
9. Demonstrates knowledge, skills, and competence sufficient to produce new knowledge, to critically evaluate and use existing knowledge to solve problems, and to disseminate research.

### **Mandatory Minimum Expectations:**

1. Twelve months of full time service and 2000 hours as part of the Denver Health Doctoral Psychology Internship.
2. 200 hours of supervision, including 100 hours of individual supervision.
3. Administration, scoring and writing of three psychological test batteries or the equivalent as agreed on by the faculty.
4. Three seminar presentations, including at least two clinical case presentations and one didactic presentation.
5. Participation in a minimum of 120 hours of didactic training.
6. Final evaluation of “3 = Meets Expectations” or higher on each of the seven goals. The student’s performance meets expectations for his/her level of training.

### **Assessment of Goals and Progress**

#### **Formative Assessment Methodology:**

- Direct or video observation of clinical work, with subsequent discussion.
- On-going discussion with and feedback from other professionals.
- Review of written work samples, with feedback.
- Intern case conceptualization presentations to the clinical team and to the cohort.
- Formative Review of Goals & Progress completed monthly during supervision.
- 360 degree feedback completed by colleagues and coworkers.

#### **Summative Assessment Methodology:**

- Weekly Hours Tracking Report (reviewed with and signed by supervisor and turned in monthly).
- Psychology Resident Formal Summative Evaluation Forms for Goals 1 (Professionalism), 2 (Interdisciplinary Collaboration), Goal 3 (Intervention), and Goal 5 (Specialty Area) are completed by supervisors at three, six, nine, and twelve months. Forms for Goal 4 (Assessment) are completed only in quarters in which the trainee is acquiring experience with formal psychological assessment. Forms for Goals 6 (Supervision) and 7 (Program Evaluation and Research) are completed at six months and at twelve months.



## ***Psychology Internship Faculty***

Major rotation supervisors are licensed psychologists who are members of the Denver Health Medical Staff. Licensed Physicians provide additional supervision on some rotations. Psychologists are licensed by the State of Colorado and are regulated by the Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies and the Board of Psychologist Examiners. Many Denver Health psychologists have faculty appointments at the University of Colorado through our affiliation with the School of Medicine. Licensed Psychologists are privileged members of the Denver Health medical Staff through the Denver Health Allied Health Professionals Committee to provide independent psychological services in specific areas of clinical competence and experience. See [Appendix D](#) for a complete list of the current psychology internship faculty.

It is notable that many of the current faculty members completed both their internship and their postdoctoral year at Denver Health and others did their postdoctoral training year at our institution. Opportunities for postdoctoral positions at Denver Health have generally been *ad hoc* rather than formal postdoctoral fellowships. For several years Denver Health has been a half-time clinical placement for a formal postdoctoral fellowship in integrated primary care offered through the Colorado Health Foundation.

## **CLINICAL ROTATION DESCRIPTIONS**

### ***Adult Mental Health Outpatient Service***

The Outpatient Adult Mental Health Team is a multidisciplinary service that includes psychologists, psychiatrists, advanced practice nurses, and clinical social workers. The service provides assessment and psychotherapy to adults with a wide variety of psychiatric conditions that affect their daily living. The intern typically carries a large caseload and provides psychotherapeutic services as well as case management services. Interns may provide conjoint or group therapy but individual treatment constitutes the bulk of the clinical work. Interns may continue to treat patients they evaluated after the intake or may assist in referring to other appropriate services and locations. Patients also frequently have substance use problems and/or medical diagnoses that need to be included in the treatment plan. Psychological and neuropsychological evaluations are provided on a consultative basis. Prescribers are available for medication consultation and management on this service, and coordination of services with the prescribers is essential. Clinical supervisors' theoretical orientations cover a wide range and supervisors are open to working with different orientations according to the intern's needs.

### ***Inpatient Adult Psychiatry Service***

During these rotations, interns will have a split experience, with three months on the Adult Inpatient Psychiatric Unit and three months on the Psychiatric Consult-Liaison Service.

While on the Adult Inpatient Psychiatric part of this rotation, interns work with patients who have major psychiatric disorders (including bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, and major depression with or without psychosis) and/or substance use disorders. Many patients are admitted with psychosis and/or suicidal urges or behavior. The average length of stay is brief, sometimes less than a week.

The psychology intern provides inpatient group psychotherapy (open to all patients) and individual psychotherapy for selected patients. The focus of psychotherapy varies by the patient's needs and length of stay, and evidence-based techniques (such as DBT, CBT, or ACT) are commonly used. Psychological

testing may also be provided to assess intellectual functioning, assist in differential diagnosis, or to determine a patient's personality and character structure.

The intern helps the team (i.e. attending psychiatrist, psychiatry intern, social worker, and nurses) develop treatment and discharge plans, and participates in decisions regarding the need for involuntary treatment. A psychiatric resident provides psychopharmacologic treatments and coordinates medical care under the supervision of the attending psychiatrist.

### ***Psychiatric Consult-Liaison Service***

Psychiatric consult/liaison referrals are made when psychiatric issues affect patient presentation or management for medical inpatients. A typical consult may address issues such as capacity to participate in treatment decisions, assessment of danger to self or others, treatment compliance, differential diagnosis, certification status, or medication recommendations. Consult requests come from a variety of inpatient services including medicine, surgery, intensive care, rehabilitation, dialysis, obstetrics, pediatrics, and the correctional care medical facility.

The psychology intern serves as a member of the Psychiatric Consult Liaison (C/L) Service team which includes attending psychiatrists, psychiatry residents or interns, psychiatric nurse practitioners, and medical students. The psychology intern is assigned consults to be performed individually or in collaboration with other team members. In addition to direct patient interviews, consults often require clarification of referral questions, gathering of collateral information, psychoeducation, and facilitating communication between patients and primary care team members. There are some opportunities for brief psychotherapy. Neuropsychological evaluations are provided by the intern when C/L cases require further objective evaluation. These evaluations will consist of brief screening batteries that can be completed, scored and reported to the medical team on an expedited basis.

### ***Child and Adolescent Outpatient Mental Health Service***

The Outpatient Child and Adolescent team provides psychological evaluation and therapy for children, adolescents, and families. The team consists of psychologists, psychiatrists, a clinical nurse specialist, and social workers in addition to the trainees. The intern is an integral member of the team and is involved in all levels of treatment as well as general team functions. Patients are thoroughly evaluated at intake. The patient is then referred for a medication evaluation as needed and provided with outpatient psychotherapy services as appropriate.

The children seen have a wide variety of behavioral and emotional disorders, ranging in severity from adjustment disorders to major mental illnesses. Many of our patients have experienced traumas, come from low income communities, and/or present from culturally diverse backgrounds (e.g. Latino, African American, and immigrants from around the world). Therapy modalities include individual, family, and parenting interventions. Evidence-based practices are incorporated into treatment with children and families. These may include, but are not limited to, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT), Trauma-Focused CBT, Alternatives for Families CBT, and Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT).

Interpretation services are available and often utilized. Common diagnoses include mood disorders, anxiety, PTSD, ADHD, and disruptive behaviors. Case coordination and consultation are provided through communication with physicians, school personnel, and other individuals involved in the lives of the children. Psychological testing may be completed as part of the major rotation or as an elective. Prescribers are a resource for consultation and medication evaluations.

## ***Pediatric Integrated Primary Care***

Psychology interns will provide a wide range of behavioral health services at the pediatric primary care clinic, including warm handoffs between medical providers and patients, brief assessment, crisis management, brief treatment, parenting education/interventions, and curbside consultation with medical providers regarding challenging patient presentations. Depending on patient needs, interns will provide a blend of same-day, integrated care visits, scheduled follow-up sessions, and frequent communication with medical providers about their patients' behavioral health needs. The intern will participate in the clinic-wide postpartum depression and anxiety screening and triage process. Interns will have the opportunity to shadow licensed psychologists during their time in the clinic and consult with a variety of multidisciplinary teams embedded within the primary care clinic (e.g., pediatric neurology clinic).

## ***Child and Adolescent Inpatient Service***

Interns on the Child & Adolescent Psychology rotation will also provide services on the Adolescent Inpatient Psychiatry Unit. The adolescent unit is presently a 21-bed unit serving youth aged 8-17. Patients present with a complex mix of mood, anxiety, psychotic, and behavioral disorders. Some patients presently live at home, while others reside in residential treatment centers, group homes, or detention centers. Many of the patients served have a history of abuse and/or neglect, and many have had multiple past placements. The population is diagnostically interesting and often quite challenging.

Treatment staff consists of attending psychiatrists, resident psychiatrists, psychiatric nurse practitioners, social workers, psychologists, occupational therapists, and nurses. Patients are provided individual, family, and group therapy. Individual and group therapy occurs daily and most patients participate in 2-3 family therapy sessions during their admission. Patients attend school daily from a teacher certified in special education. Patients also participate in daily occupational therapy sessions. Psychological testing is administered to patients who are referred by their attending psychiatrist.

While rotating on the unit, interns co-lead Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) and/or Multifamily groups with the supervising psychologist. DBT material must be heavily modified to meet the intellectual and developmental needs of our patient population, and interns are expected to be involved in the modification of material, both in advance of the session and as the session is progressing. Interns also administer psychological testing as directed by the supervisor, and they will score, interpret, and provide testing feedback to the treatment team, patient, and family. Possible referral questions include cognitive functioning, personality structure, general diagnostic clarification, psychosis, and Autism Spectrum Disorders.

## ***Integrated Care – Women's Care Clinic***

This is a grant funded position through the Walton Family Foundation. The focus is on assessment, intervention and consultation in an integrated primary care/OB-Gyn setting with underserved women under the supervision and mentorship of experienced women's care psychologists. The position will provide assessment and treatment before, in and after pregnancy, as well as in high risk medical situations of women seeking their care through our Women's Care Clinic. The position will also assist the psychologist and grant-MD Principal Investigator with patient tracking, data collection and clinical research. Salary and benefits will be consistent with Denver Health's other internship positions

Sessions are generally conducted in medical treatment rooms. Interns will be taught how to quickly triage for a variety of clinical presentations, provide brief assessment and interventions as able for any

presenting condition, handle crises as they arise, and collaborate efficiently with medical providers. Common interventions appropriate for this brief-treatment setting include Supportive Psychotherapy, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Motivational Interviewing, Solution-Focused Psychotherapy, etc. Other interventions may be used as appropriate based on intern and/or supervisor experience.

### ***Psychiatric Emergency Service (PES)***

Some residents will rotate through the Psychiatric Emergency Service (PES) during the internship year. The PES is a self-contained unit adjacent to the Denver Health Medical Emergency Room. Interns commit to a full day in the PES which includes the psychiatric/Alcohol/Drug Emergency Services and the Mobile Crisis Team. The psychology intern will work with professional staff (psychiatrists, medical interns, nurses, and psychologists), will evaluate cases, provide crisis interventions and arrange dispositions. The intern will also participate in admission of patients to the adolescent and/or adult inpatient units.

The PES provides a rich clinical experience with a wide variety of patients in acute crisis. The intern will learn how to do rapid emergency evaluations and refine their clinical decision making skills. Intern will receive close supervision by the attending psychiatrist, with a licensed psychologist available when needed.

### ***Neuropsychology***

On the neuropsychology rotation, interns will have the opportunity to perform in-depth neurocognitive evaluations with patients having complex histories of neurological disorders, medical conditions, psychiatric disorders, and substance abuse that are affecting their ability to function adequately. Referrals for neuropsychological evaluations come from a variety of sources including primary care, neurosurgery, psychiatry (inpatient and outpatient), neurology, rehabilitation, Denver CARES (substance abuse treatment), medical units within the hospital, and other outpatient medical services. Interns will learn a traditional, comprehensive neuropsychological battery and gain increasing autonomy as they demonstrate mastery over interviewing and test administration. Interns will further develop their skills in case conceptualization and report writing through collaboration with the supervising neuropsychologist.

## **ELECTIVE EXPERIENCES**

Denver Health is a large and diverse medical center with several opportunities for elective experiences. The faculty aims to support the interns in meeting their training objectives and in obtaining specialty training experiences without becoming overextended. Our interns consistently let us know that the elective opportunities and the flexibility we give our interns in their elective selections is a notable strength of the Denver Health internship. Although the availability of electives can vary somewhat from year to year depending on the availability of supervision, interns can usually choose from the following electives:

### ***Health Psychology Electives***

#### ***Oncology Fellows Clinic/Oncology Breast Clinic***

In the Oncology Fellows Clinic as well as in the Breast Clinic, the psychology intern serves as a consultant for one half day per week providing integrated care to hematology/oncology patients in the form of consultation, brief assessment, interventions, coordination of care, family and patient education and referrals. The multi-disciplinary team includes medical oncology fellows, physician attendings,

nursing, and social work.

*Bariatric Evaluations/Clinic*

The psychology intern works with the supervising psychologist to conduct pre-surgical evaluations with patients to determine candidacy for bariatric surgery. The intern may also serve as a consultant one half day per week to the bariatric clinic providing integrated care to patients who are pre or post-bariatric surgery in the form of consultation, brief assessment, interventions, coordination of care, family and patient education and referrals. In prior years, some interns have conducted pre or post-operative bariatric support groups.

## ***Research Elective***

Although supervised clinical experience is the primary focus of the Denver Health Internship, participation in research can possibly be supported for interested program participants. Interns in recent cohorts have joined existing research teams at Denver Health and have established successful collaborative research relationships. Several peer reviewed publications have been generated and have been helpful in obtaining postdoctoral fellowships with a strong research component. There are active pediatric research groups in adolescent substance use. There is also a research initiative for diabetes prevention. Research teams are multidisciplinary and may be led by a physician.

Requests for a research elective should be submitted in writing to the Training Director and should include the nature of the project, the mentor and the time requested (generally between four and eight hours per week). The Training Director will present this plan to the psychology faculty for approval. Please note that interns generally are not able to use the Denver Health population to recruit participants for their own research studies or for their dissertation.

## **DIDACTIC TRAINING**

One half-day per week is reserved for didactics and a wide range of learning experiences is provided. Psychiatry Grand Rounds from the University of Colorado School of Medicine features local speakers as well as nationally prominent physicians and psychologists to speak on a variety of topics of current professional interest. Grand Rounds are available by closed circuit TV, or the cohort might occasionally attend in person at the Anschutz medical campus. There are often other learning opportunities at Denver Health or in collaboration with other area internship programs.

Denver Health psychologists provide presentations on evidence-based interventions, health psychology, psychological and neuropsychological assessment, adult and child psychology, diversity and supervision. There are presentations about Colorado regulations and legal procedures, and there are also two to three presentations per year about ethical issues. Finally, the interns themselves are expected to contribute clinical case presentations as well as didactic presentations to their fellow interns and to interested faculty members.

## **SUPERVISION**

Each intern receives at a minimum two hours of scheduled individual supervision and four hours per week total supervision time. In addition, group supervision and case review through the multidisciplinary team occurs on a regular basis (on some teams several times per month, on some teams daily). On site supervision is provided by the staff psychologists assigned to the clinical service on which the intern is working. A physician or licensed mental health practitioner might provide onsite supervision on some days in particular rotations (e.g. the Psychiatric Emergency Service and the Psychiatric Consult-Liaison Service). In this case, a psychologist is also assigned as a supervisor for issues that warrant input. The interns also meet "as needed" or "curbside" with their supervisors, and the Training Director is also available for consultation regarding issues or cases. Supervisors are always available by cell phone or by pager.

## **SALARIES AND BENEFITS**

Four intern positions are currently budgeted in the non-HRSA specific tracks. The current intern salary for these positions is currently \$25,292.80. As an employee of Denver Health there are also first-rate employee benefits. These include seven paid holiday and twenty days per year of paid time off used for both vacation and sick leave. PTO may be restricted in the first ninety days (leave time is generally granted for Thanksgiving), and may only be used as it is accrued. Other benefits include health and dental insurance coverage at competitive rates, with family coverage available. Professional liability coverage is provided and paid for by Denver Health.

Compensation for these HRSA-funded internship positions is \$28,352.00 per year. HRSA psychology interns are also budgeted for \$1,000.00 for conference and travel expenses (unlike our other internship positions). However, since compensation for these positions is provided by stipend rather than salary (per grant requirements), they are not eligible for employee benefits. HRSA-funded positions will be able to take the same amount of time off for holidays, vacation, sick leave and other time as the non-HRSA positions.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT**

Administrative support for interns and for the internship is provided by Denver Health and by Behavioral Health Services. Human Resources works with interns after the APPIC Match to guide new interns through the Denver Health employment system and to complete background checks and health screens so that all interns can begin their internship in a timely manner. An administrative assistant supports the Internship Training Director in obtaining necessary access to Denver Health systems and other resources, including phones, pagers, keys, and professional provider numbers. The administrative assistant also supports the interns throughout the year if any additional administrative issues arise.

All interns are provided with work space that includes storage space and access to a computer and telephone. Denver Health has a number of software applications that are part of the healthcare system. There is an electronic medical record system that assists in the provision of integrated services throughout Denver Health. Interns are provided with individual accounts to access and utilize these systems, as well as more standard computer systems, such as internet access and email capability. Denver Health provides IT support as needed to address any difficulties in information technology.

## **BRIEF HISTORY OF THE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM**

The Denver Health Doctoral Psychology Internship Program was initiated in 1968 with two interns. The development and expansion of the program was facilitated by grants from the National Institute of Mental Health from 1969 until 1976, and from the City and County of Denver beginning in 1973. There are currently five internship positions, four funded through the Department of Behavioral Health Services and an additional position funded through a grant from the Walton Family Foundation that supports integrated psychology training in the Women's Care Clinic

The program received provisional accreditation from the American Psychological Association in 1978 and has been fully accredited since 1980. The program had a site visit and was awarded seven years full accreditation in 2011. In 2007, the official job title was changed from "Psychology Intern" to "Psychology Resident" to promote recognition within a medical setting of the extensive prior clinical

training our program participants have had prior to starting at Denver Health.

The Internship Program is represented within the Behavioral Health operating budget and is administered by the Chief Psychologist and Training Director together with the other members of the Psychology Internship Faculty.



## APPLICATION INFORMATION & INSTRUCTIONS

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The Denver Health Doctoral Psychology Internship Program is a member of the Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC) and will be participating in the APPIC Internship Matching Program through National Matching Services, Inc. (NMS) for the February 2018 match. Denver Health adheres to the APPIC policies for matching and acceptance (see the APPIC web site at <http://www.appic.org>.) and follows the ranking instructions and deadlines as defined by APPIC and NMS, Inc. 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.

### **Our NMS, Inc. Program Code Numbers are:**

**117312 HRSA Adult Track (four positions)**

**117313 Adult Psychology (two positions)**

**117314 Child/Adolescent Psychology (two positions)**

**117315 HRSA Child and Family Track**

**Please note:** Applicants should apply to one and only one of these internship match programs.

**For the 2019-2020 year, the Rank Order List Submission Deadline for Phase I is February 6, 2019. Match results will be released February 22, 2018.**

The Denver Health Doctoral Psychology Internship Program is full-time, completed in no less than twelve months, beginning August 12, 2019 and ending August 7, 2020. **Please anticipate and plan ahead to the end of the internship year regarding your university or program graduation plans.** If you successfully complete all internship program requirements, a letter will be sent to your program by August 14, 2020.

### ***Selection Criteria and Application Process***

A minimum of 600 hours of completed practicum training (at least 50 assessment hours) and four completed testing batteries are required by application submission. Denver Health reviews the APPI, a letter or interest from the applicant, transcripts, and at least three letters of recommendation. No supplemental materials are reviewed. Research experience relevant to Denver Health is given credit. Bilingual skills are a plus, especially Spanish. Preference is given to applicants with clinical experience in the following areas:

- Medical systems
- Low income populations
- Ethnically diverse populations
- Serious mental illness
- Substance use disorders

Equal opportunity is a fundamental principle of Denver Health and of the Psychology Internship Program. We are committed to recruit, hire, promote, and administer all human resource actions in a nondiscriminatory manner.

We strive to ensure that applicants and intern-employees are treated without regard to age, sexual orientation, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, marital status, physical or mental handicap, or

veteran status (except for veteran's preference). This includes, but is not limited to: employment, performance evaluation, promotion, demotion, transfer, recruitment, layoff, terminations, compensation actions, and all other decisions and actions by the internship faculty, the Training Director or Employee Services and Resources.

Denver Health typically receives over twenty five applications per position. Applications are screened according to the criteria noted above as well as for the quality of written communication. Applications that pass the initial screen are examined in depth two members of the selection committee. Six to eight applicants per position are invited to attend an on-site interview based on the in-depth reviews.

The on-site interview is encouraged. Applicants will be notified if they are invited to interview by December 15th. Interviews will be held late in December or in January. Interviews last about five hours, and typically include a tour, a meeting with the all of the faculty, individual interviews, and time with current residents.

**Deadline: All application materials must be available for review via the on-line APPIC system by November 1, 2018.**

Non-HRSA psychology interns at DHMC are full-time employees, while HRSA track interns are paid through stipend. For all positions, working at DHMC is contingent upon the applicant satisfying certain other eligibility requirements. These include a recent/current TB test, a physical exam, and current immunizations (these are usually done at Denver Health). Denver Health also completes a consumer background and criminal investigative report. Each applicant needs to be aware of these policies and procedures prior to submitting an application to us. **Once matched with us, you will be asked to satisfy these and any remaining eligibility requirements and complete the hiring process. *If you "fail" the consumer or criminal investigative background check, or fail the TB test, physical exam, or immunizations, you may not be permitted to do your internship with us, even though matched to our program, and might also therefore be excluded from the possibility of going elsewhere for the year.***

**In addition, any misrepresentation, misstatement, omission or distortion about your credentials, readiness for internship, professional competence, character, legal, or ethical history may be cause for immediate de-selection, dismissal or termination from this program.**

Consistent with Denver Health and Hospital Authority (DHHA; PolicyStat ID: 2120619) it is the policy of the Denver Health Doctoral Psychology Internship Program to provide equal treatment and equal employment opportunities to all applicants and employees with respect to any employment decision, including recruiting, hiring, transfers, layoffs, termination, discipline, testing, training, promotion, job assignment, compensation, fringe benefits, retirement plans, and all other terms and conditions of employment. We maintain a work environment free of unlawful discrimination, harassment, and retaliation. All employment decisions are based upon organizational needs, job requirements and individual qualifications without regard to age, race, color, national origin, genetic information, religion, sex, pregnancy, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, transgender status, gender expression, marital status, or veteran status and any other basis protected under Federal, State or local law (collectively "protected status"). In accordance with Federal, State and local law, our program will make good faith efforts to recruit, hire, retain, and advance in employment qualified minorities, women, individuals with disabilities and protected veterans.

## DENVER HEALTH RESIDENTS 2009-2018

YEAR	NAME	DEGREE
2009-2010	Susan Bennett Rhonda Casillas Megan Twomey Mary Quinn Juli Vierthaler Yuko Yamato	University of Denver (Counseling) Arizona State University (Counseling) Colorado State University (Counseling) Antioch University New England (Clinical) Chicago School of Professional Psychology (Clinical) University of Denver GSPP (Clinical)
2010-2011	Irina Banfi-Mare Nathaniel Burt Jennifer L. Grote Jessica Young Pae Natalie Dawn Ritchie Lindsay C. Sharp	American School of Professional Psychology (Clinical) Indiana State University (Counseling) University of Denver (Counseling) Wheaton College (Clinical) University of Illinois at Chicago (Clinical) Colorado State University (Counseling)
2011-2012	Kathryn DeLonga Kenneth Gladstone Daubney Harper Catherine Munns Eric Neumaier Gillian Taylor	PGSP-Stanford Consortium (Clinical) PGSP-Stanford Consortium (Clinical) New Mexico State University at Las Cruces (Counseling) James Madison University (Clinical) University of Wisconsin at Madison (Counseling) University of Denver (Clinical)
2012-2013	Katherine Belendiuk Tyler Barratt Bries Deerrose Laura Cote Gonzalez Elaine Allison Hess Julie Marie Kaprelian	University of Pittsburgh (Clinical) Arizona State University (Counseling) PGSP-Stanford Consortium (Clinical) New Mexico State University (Counseling) University of Texas at Austin (Counseling) The Chicago School of Professional Psychology (Clinical)
2013-2014	Darryl Etter Sarah Kelly Gwendoline Lander Lilia Luna Sheri Nsamenang Megan Petrik	PGSP-Stanford Consortium (Clinical) Wheaton College (Clinical) University of Buffalo/North (Counseling) George Fox University (Clinical) East Tennessee State University (Clinical) Marquette University (Clinical)
2014-2015	Ava Drennen Adriana Nevado Leslie Minna Jill Hersch Pamela Hamer Brian Goetsch Kim (Turek) Sheffield Amy Starosta	University of Colorado, Denver (Clinical) PGSP-Stanford Consortium (Clinical) University of Denver (Clinical) Immaculata University (Clinical) University of Denver (Clinical) George Fox University (Clinical) Louisiana State University (Clinical) University at Albany, SUNY (Clinical)
2015-2016	Beatriz Mann Brinda Prabhakar Caroline Scheiber Casey Cavanagh Jacqueline Hidalgo Joan Jou Robert Matthew Tolliver Yuliana Noniyeva	University of Texas at Austin (Clinical) University of Denver (Counseling) Alliant International University (Clinical) West Virginia University (Clinical) Carlos Albizu University (Clinical) PGSP-Palo Alto University (Clinical) East Tennessee State University (Clinical) PGSP-Palo Alto University (Clinical)

2016-2017	Alexandra Branagan Ivelisse Barreiro Rosado Jacob Lowen Jesse Wynn Kaitlin Venema Kerry Cannity	Florida State University (Counseling) Carlos Abizu University (Clinical) George Fox University (Clinical) University of Denver (Counseling) PGSP-Palo Alto University (Clinical) University of Tennessee-Knoxville (Clinical)
2017-2018	Kasturi Bhattacharjee Jessica Farrar Kerry Gagnon J. Quyen Nichols Britney Tibbits	Regent University (Clinical) University of Oregon (Counseling) University of Denver (Clinical) University of Vermont (Clinical) University of Denver (Counseling)
2018-2019	Christopher Akins Maria Boero-Legge Gabriel Casher Matthias Darricarrere Christian Goans Tess Kilwein Jeremy Kozak Rachel Narr Evelyn Plumb Lucia Walsh Iwei Wang	Fielding Graduate University (Clinical) Tennessee State University (Counseling) Southern Illinois University (Clinical) University of Denver (Clinical) University of Northern Texas (Clinical) University of Wyoming (Clinical) Palo Alto University (Clinical) University of Virginia (Clinical) University of California-Santa Barbara (Combined) University of Miami (Clinical) University of Denver (Clinical)

## DENVER HEALTH 2017 FACTS

Denver Health was founded as City Hospital in 1860 to serve the health care needs of the rapidly developing city of Denver. Since then, we have grown alongside the community to become a complete health care system, proudly providing care for all residents -- at every point in their lives. We believe healthy people are the foundation of a vibrant community, and Denver Health has been treating and healing the people of Denver for more than 150 years.

Today, Denver Health delivers preventative, primary and acute care services. We are committed to making our community a healthy place to live, work and raise a family. You'll see that commitment in the programs we offer, through the care we provide and in our determination to achieve continuous improvement so our community always has the best care available.

We care for:

- Twenty-five percent of Denver's population annually; Denver Health sees more than 210,000 unique patients each year - with nearly 930,000 total patient visits annually.
- One in three Denver-area children each year.
- The needs of special populations such as the poor, uninsured, pregnant teens, persons addicted to alcohol and other substances, victims of violence, and the homeless.

### **Rocky Mountain Regional Trauma Center**

Denver Health Medical Center is home to the Rocky Mountain Regional Trauma Center (RMRTC), the region's only ACS certified Adult Level I and Pediatric Level II trauma center. It is highly regarded as one of the best trauma centers in the nation.

### **911 Emergency Response**

Denver Health operates Denver's 911 medical emergency response system. In 2017, Denver Health paramedics responded to more than 117,000 calls for emergency medical assistance and transported more than 77,000 patients to 12 area hospitals.

### **Community Health Services**

Denver Health's Community Health Services managed 566,327 visits in 2017.

**Family Health Centers** — Nine family health centers located throughout Denver neighborhoods provide

convenient primary care services.

**School-based Health Centers** — Eighteen School-based Health Centers in Denver Public Schools offer on-site medical care to elementary, middle, and high school students.

### **Public Health**

Denver Public Health (DPH) serves as the center for communicable disease reporting, surveillance, investigation, and control for the City and County of Denver.

An integral part of Denver Health, infectious disease physicians from DPH work with hospital physicians on disease prevention and treatment throughout the hospital and family health centers.

Through numerous grant-funded programs, DPH conducts important research on infectious diseases including hepatitis surveillance, tuberculosis clinical trials, HIV/AIDS prevention, counseling, testing and treatment, and vaccine trials.

### **Rocky Mountain Poison and Drug Center**

Denver Health offers many alternatives to expensive emergency room visits and/or hospitalization. The Rocky Mountain Poison and Drug Center (RMPDC) handles many minor poisoning emergencies by telephone. In addition, the Center's staff of toxicologists cares for seriously ill patients in the hospital. RMPDC answered 161,928 calls in 2017.

Through Denver Health's 24-hour NurseLine, more than 209,000 patients get free and confidential answers to health-related questions, to avoid costly emergency room visits.

### **Denver CARES**

Behavioral Health Services manages Denver CARES, a 100-bed, non-medical facility, which provided a safe setting for more than 34,000 detoxifying episodes in 2017.

### **Quality**

Among 121 leading academic hospitals in the US (University HealthSystem Consortium), Denver Health has ranked in the best ten percent for inpatient survival for seven consecutive years and has received a 4 or 5 star ranking in overall quality for 10 consecutive years.

## DENVER HEALTH 2017 FIGURES

### Denver Health Medical Center

Total Inpatient Admissions.....	24,552
Total Babies Delivered.....	3,345
Total Inpatient Surgeries.....	3,097
Total Outpatient Surgeries.....	7,820

### Emergency Medical Services

Responded to 911 Medical Emergency Calls....	117,045
Patients Transported to Area Hospitals (12).....	77,515
Emergency Department Encounters.....	57,968
Denver Emergency Center for Children Visits...	25,147
Adult Urgent Care Clinic Visits.....	37,382
Total Emergency/Urgent Care Visits.....	120,497

### Rocky Mountain Regional Trauma Center

Pediatric Trauma.....	158
Adult Trauma.....	2,714
Total Trauma Admissions .....	2,108

### Behavioral Health Services

Adults (inpatient).....	1,289
Pediatrics (inpatient).....	608
Total Inpatient Admissions.....	1,897
Adults (outpatient) mental health admissions.....	473
Adults (outpatient) substance treatment admissions.....	804
Child (outpatient) mental health admissions.....	278
Child (outpatient) substance treatment admissions.....	192
Total Outpatient Admissions.....	1,747
Total doses of MAT (Methadone and Suboxone) dispensed through Narcotic Treatment Program.....	200,220

### Occupational Health and Safety

Worker's Compensation .....	3,583
Non-worker's Compensation.....	2,164

### Denver Health Nurseline

Total Calls .....	209,555
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### Rocky Mountain Poison and Drug Center

Total Human Exposures.....	88,747
Human Exposures Involving Children	
Age 19 and Under.....	47,888

Human Exposures Involving Children	
Age 5 and Under.....	35,315
Human Exposures Managed	
Onsite/Non-health Care Facility .....	57,384
Total Calls .....	161,928

### Community Health Services

Clinic Visits .....	472,135
Dental Services .....	51,049
Mental Health .....	38,423
Case Management/Community Education.....	671
Total Patient Visits.....	566,327

### Specialty Care Clinics

Medical Specialty Division .....	26,874
Surgery Clinic .....	12,679
Orthopedic Clinic .....	22,134
Urology Clinic.....	4,188
Eye Clinic .....	22,810
Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic .....	5,450
Total Specialty Care Patient Visits.....	94,135
Physical Therapy Encounters .....	131,973
Women's Care Visits .....	57,861

### Denver Public Health Clinics

Immunization and Travel Clinic.....	9,582
Infectious Disease/AIDS Clinic.....	21,757
Metro Health (STD) Clinic .....	16,762
Tuberculosis Clinic .....	19,033
Vital Records.....	5,656
Total Patient Visits .....	67,134

### Denver CARES Community Detoxification

Detoxification Episodes .....	34,619
DUI Episodes .....	357
Total Encounters .....	34,976

### Additional Denver Health Figures

Birth Certificate Copies Issued.....	30,968
Death Certificate Copies Issued.....	28,381
Inpatient Meals Served.....	300,386
Laboratory Tests Performed.....	2,041,277
Inpatient and Outpatient Medical Imaging Diagnostic Exams (X-rays).....	118,941
Outpatient Prescriptions Filled.....	946,481
Pounds of Laundry Processed.....	3,612,005
(over 1,800 tons)	
Volunteer Hours.....	25,180

## **DENVER AT A GLANCE**

*Founded as a gold mining camp in 1858, Denver has grown from one boom to another into the second largest city in the mountain west. The metro area has grown rapidly in recent years, with an estimated 2016 population of 3,470,235. Denver has one of the largest city park systems in the nation and the nation's second largest performing arts center. The international airport is geographically the largest and is the sixth busiest in the United States. One of the nation's premier stock shows and rodeos is held in January. Denver is Colorado's capital and is home to pro teams in all major sports. The Denver Art Museum and the Denver Museum of Nature and Science are noteworthy representatives of a vigorous cultural community. There are many venues for live music of various genres.*

### ***Population***

The City and County of Denver had over 680,000 people as of July 2015. There are high rates of high school and college graduates, and it is relatively young in age. The great weather and abundance of recreational opportunities contribute to Denver being the “thinnest” city in America. The population of Denver is quite diverse: 11.1 % African American, 31.7% Hispanic, 2.8% Asian American, and 1.3% Native American.

### ***Location***

Geographically, Denver is not actually in the west -- it is in the middle of the country, just 340 miles from the geographical center of the United States. Nor is it in the mountains -- the city sits on high, flat plains 12 miles east of the Rockies. One hour west of Denver, you can drive 14,240 feet above sea level on the highest auto road in North America, but the city itself is flatter than Manhattan. The fifteenth step on the west side of the State Capitol is exactly one mile high at 5,280 feet above sea level. Most people don't feel the altitude in Denver, but some feel it in the mountain resorts, which are 8,000 to 10,000 feet above sea level.

### ***Climate***

Denver has a fairly mild, semi-arid climate area. The sun shines about 300 days a year -- far more than San Diego or Miami Beach. Denver offers the pleasures of four distinct and spectacular seasons. Spring includes snow that usually melts quickly alternating with beautiful sunny days and colorful cherry trees and flowers. Summer means warm sunny days but generally cool evenings, perfect for outdoor activities. Fall is one of Denver's most delightful seasons, with colorful aspen leaves in the mountains and Indian summer down on the plains. Winter in Denver means bright days and surprisingly comfortable temperatures. Denver's average daily high in February is 45 degrees -- warmer than New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Boston or St. Louis.

### ***Housing***

Housing rates in Denver are moderate to high, with somewhat lower prices available in the suburbs.

### ***Transportation***

The Regional Transportation District (RTD) has good bus and light rail routes. Public transportation passes are available at a reduced rate to Denver Health employees. Denver is also “bike-friendly” with accessible bicycle lanes and trails, as well as a bike-share program. Parking at Denver Health is offered at no-cost to residents.

See Denver Metro Convention and Visitors Bureau at <http://www.denver.org/visitors/index.asp> for additional information.

## APPENDIX A. MAJOR ROTATION & ELECTIVE HOURS SAMPLES

<b>Adult Psychology</b>			
<i>Quarter 1</i>	<i>Quarter 2</i>	<i>Quarter 3</i>	<i>Quarter 4</i>
Inpatient Adult – 24 Outpt Adult MH – 8 Special Projects – 4 Didactics – 4	Consult Liaison – 24 Outpt Adult MH – 8 Special Projects – 4 Didactics – 4	Outpt Adult MH – 16 Neuropsychology – 8 Elective - 8 Special Projects – 4 Didactics – 4	Outpt Adult MH – 16 Neuropsychology – 8 Elective - 8 Special Projects – 4 Didactics – 4

<b>HRSA Adult Psychology</b>			
<i>Quarter 1</i>	<i>Quarter 2</i>	<i>Quarter 3</i>	<i>Quarter 4</i>
SUDS – 16 PES – 8 Integrated Care – 8 Special Projects – 4 Didactics – 4	SUDS – 16 Corrections – 8 Integrated Care – 8 Special Projects – 4 Didactics – 4	Consult Liaison – 20 Outpt MH/SUDS – 8 Assessment – 4 Special Projects – 4 Didactics – 4	Inpatient Adult – 20 SUDS – 8 Assessment – 4 Special Projects – 4 Didactics – 4

<b>Child &amp; Adolescent Psychology</b>			
<i>Quarter 1</i>	<i>Quarter 2</i>	<i>Quarter 3</i>	<i>Quarter 4</i>
Outpt Child MH – 28 PES – 8 Didactics – 4	Outpt Child MH – 28 Inpatient Child – 8 Didactics – 4	Outpt Child MH – 24 Peds Primary Care – 8 Special Projects – 4 Didactics – 4	Outpt Child MH – 24 Peds Primary Care – 8 Special Projects – 4 Didactics – 4

<b>HRSA Child &amp; Family</b>			
<i>Quarter 1</i>	<i>Quarter 2</i>	<i>Quarter 3</i>	<i>Quarter 4</i>
FIR – 16 Outpt Child MH – 8 School-Based Clinic – 8 Special Projects – 4 Didactics – 4	FIR – 12 Outpt Child MH – 12 School-Based Clinic – 8 Special Projects – 4 Didactics – 4	FIR – 8 Outpt Child MH – 8 Inpatient Child School-Based Clinic – 8 Special Projects – 4 Didactics – 4	FIR – 16 Outpt Child MH – 8 PES – 8 Special Projects – 4 Didactics – 4

PES = Psychiatric Emergency Service  
 FIR = Families in Recovery



## APPENDIX B. PROFESSION-WIDE COMPETENCIES

The Denver Health Doctoral Psychology Internship Program adheres to the following overall training requirements as set forth by the Commission on Accreditation (CoA) of the American Psychological Association (APA):

- *Consistency with the professional value of individual and cultural diversity.*
- *Consistency with the existing and evolving body of general knowledge and methods in the science and practice of psychology.*
- *Broad and general preparation for entry-level independent practice and licensure.*
- *Evaluation as an integral part of the curriculum based in part on direct observation.*

**This evaluation form is to be completed by the primary supervisor with the expectation that other rotation supervisors will provide input and feedback.**

**Each Competency should be rated according to the following scale:**

- **Marginal (1):** The student's performance is at the *marginal* level of skill expected at this level of training and is in need of additional training and/or maturation in order to be effective. An action plan is required for targeted skill growth.
- **Below Average (2):** The student's performance is at the *below average* skill level and further supervision and experience are needed to assist in developing this skill. Routine, but intensive, supervision is needed and an action plan may be necessary.
- **Meets Expectations (3):** The student's performance *meets expectations* for his/her level of training. This is a common rating throughout internship. Activities require routine supervision.
- **Above Average (4):** The student's performance is *above average* and he/she can function well independently. This is a frequent rating at completion of internship with competency attained in all but non-routine cases. Depth of supervision varies as clinical needs warrant.
- **Highly Developed (5):** The student's performance is *highly developed* and he/she has attained competency at full psychology staff privilege level; however, as an unlicensed trainee, supervision is required while in training status. This rating is expected at completion of postdoctoral training.

### ***Competency I: Ethical and Legal Standards***

- Demonstrates knowledge of and acts in accordance with the current version of the APA Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct; relevant laws, regulations, rules, and policies governing health service psychology in Colorado, and relevant professional standards and guidelines.
- Recognizes ethical dilemmas as they arise, and applies ethical decision-making processes.
- Conducts self in an ethical manner in all professional activities.

### ***Competency II: Individual and Cultural Diversity***

- Trainees develop the ability to conduct all professional activities with sensitivity to human diversity, including the ability to deliver high quality services to an increasingly diverse population. Must demonstrate knowledge, awareness, sensitivity, and skills when working with diverse individuals and communities. The CoA defines cultural and individual differences and diversity as including, but not limited to, age, disability, ethnicity, gender,

gender identity, language, national origin, race, religion, culture, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status.

- Demonstrates understanding of how their own personal/cultural history, attitudes, and biases may affect how they understand and interact with people different from themselves.
- Demonstrates knowledge of the current theoretical and empirical knowledge base as it relates to addressing diversity in all professional activities.
- Demonstrates the ability to integrate awareness and knowledge of individual and cultural differences in the conduct of professional roles.
- Demonstrates the ability to independently apply their knowledge and approach in working effectively with the range of diverse individuals and groups encountered during internship.
- Demonstrates the ability to apply a framework for working effectively with areas of individual and cultural diversity not previously encountered.
- Demonstrates the ability to work effectively with individuals whose group membership, demographic characteristics, or worldviews create conflict with their own.

### ***Competency III: Professional Values and Attitudes***

- Behaves in ways that reflect the values and attitudes of psychology, including integrity, deportment, professional identity, accountability, lifelong learning, and concern for the welfare of others.
- Demonstrates personal and professional self-awareness and reflection; with awareness of competencies; with appropriate self-care.
- Actively seeks and demonstrates openness and responsiveness to feedback and supervision.

### ***Competency IV: Communication and Interpersonal Skills***

- The CoA views communication and interpersonal skills as foundational to education, training, and practice in health service psychology.
- Relates effectively and meaningfully with clients, co-workers, team members, and the internal/external Denver Health community.
- Verbal, nonverbal, and written communications are informative, articulate, succinct, sophisticated, and well-integrated; demonstrates thorough grasp of professional language and concepts.
- Demonstrates the ability to manage difficult communication well.

### ***Competency V: Assessment***

- Trainees demonstrate competence in conducting evidence-based assessment consistent with the scope of Health Service Psychology.
- Demonstrates current knowledge of diagnostic classification systems, functional and dysfunctional behaviors, including consideration of client strengths and psychopathology.
- Demonstrates understanding of human behavior within its context (e.g., family, social, societal, and cultural).
- Demonstrates the ability to apply the knowledge of functional and dysfunctional behaviors including context to the assessment and/or diagnostic process.
- Selects and applies assessment methods that draw from the current empirical literature and that reflect the science of measurement and psychometrics with relevant and appropriate methods and procedures for service recipients.
- Interprets assessment results: Communicates orally and in written documentation the findings and implications of the assessment.

### ***Competency VI: Intervention***

- Intervention includes but is not limited to psychotherapy. Interventions may be derived from a variety of theoretical orientations or approaches.

- Establishes and maintains effective relationships with the recipients of psychological services.
- Develops evidence-based intervention plans specific to the service delivery goals.
- Implements interventions informed by the current scientific literature, assessment findings, diversity characteristics, and contextual variables.
- Applies the relevant research literature to clinical decision making.
- Modifies and adapts evidence-based approaches effectively when a clear evidence base is lacking.
- Evaluates intervention effectiveness and adapts intervention goals and methods as is appropriate.
- Demonstrates ability to assess, diagnose, and manage acute psychiatric presentations.

***Competency VII: Consultation and Interprofessional/Interdisciplinary Skills***

- Consultation and interprofessional/interdisciplinary skills are reflected in the intentional collaboration of professionals in health service psychology with other individuals or groups to address a problem, seek or share knowledge, or promote effectiveness in professional activities.
- Demonstrates knowledge and respect for the roles and perspectives of other professions.
- Applies knowledge in direct or simulated consultation with individuals and their families, other health care professionals, interprofessional groups, or systems related to health and behavior, including but not limited to, role-played consultation with others, peer consultation, and provision of consultation to other trainees.
- Knowledge of key issues and concepts in related healthcare disciplines. Able to identify and interact with professionals in multiple disciplines.
- Provides expert guidance or professional assistance in response to a consultation request.
- Demonstrates ability to work effectively as an interdisciplinary team member.
- Determines situations that require different consultative role functions and shifts roles accordingly.

***Competency VIII: Supervision***

- Supervision involves the mentoring and monitoring of trainees and others in the development of competence and skill in professional practice and the effective evaluation of those skills.
- Demonstrates knowledge and ability in direct or simulated practice with psychology trainees or other health professionals, including but not limited to, role-played supervision with others and peer supervision with other trainees.
- Understands the ethical, legal, and contextual issues of the supervisor role.
- Articulates a model of supervision; integrates contextual, legal, and ethical perspectives in supervision.
- Demonstrates knowledge of supervisory contract that accurately reflects roles and expectations of supervisor and supervisee.

***Competency IX: Research/Program Evaluation/Special Projects***

- Demonstrates knowledge, skills, and competence sufficient to produce new knowledge, to critically evaluate and use existing knowledge to solve problems, and to disseminate research.
- Demonstrates the substantially independent ability to critically evaluate and disseminate research or other scholarly activities (e.g. case conferences, presentation, publications).
- Demonstrates introductory knowledge of program evaluation in behavioral health and in healthcare systems.

## **APPENDIX C. MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS POLICY**

It is the policy of the Denver Health Doctoral Psychology Internship to retain permanent records of all participants in our training program. These records will include:

- Documentation of rotations and supervisors;
- Total hours worked as well as total hours of direct clinical work, supervision and didactic training;
- Summative Evaluations; and
- Certificates of internship completion

## APPENDIX D. PSYCHOLOGY FACULTY

**June Ashley, PhD** is a licensed clinical psychologist in the Integrated Behavioral Health Department. Dr. Ashley provides behavioral health consultation, short-term therapy, and brief evaluation to a diverse population of patients in both the Lowry and La Casa/Quigg Newton Family Health Centers. She started at Denver Health during a postdoctoral fellowship in integrated primary care through the Colorado Health Foundation, during which she trained at both Lowry Family Health Center and the Swedish Family Medicine Residency. She returned to Denver Health as a full-time Staff Psychologist following fellowship. Previous experiences include VA hospitals (for pre-doctoral internship and for a doctoral research practicum), a neuro-rehabilitation hospital, a university counseling center, and an additional family medicine residency. Dr. Ashley's clinical interests include chronic pain, posttraumatic stress and posttraumatic growth, and suicidality.

**Jodie Benabe, PsyD** is a licensed clinical psychologist at the ACUTE Center for Eating Disorders. Dr. Benabe received her undergraduate degree from Occidental College and her doctorate from Phillips Graduate Institute, which emphasized Multicultural Psychology. She completed her internship at Utah State University and post-doctoral training at Metropolitan State University of Denver, where she founded the annual Higher Education Diversity Summit. She has worked in a variety of settings, including universities, community mental health, residential eating disorder treatment, and with law enforcement. In addition to eating disorders, her clinical interests include trauma, OCD and repetitive body-focused behaviors, and addiction. Her research interests include understanding the role of harm avoidance and reward dependency in eating disorders. Dr. Benabe is also a Child and Family Investigator (CFI) for the Colorado 1st Judicial District.

**Sharnay Brown, PsyD** is a licensed clinical psychologist on Adult Outpatient Behavioral Health Services (OBHS – Adult). Dr. Brown's professional interests include the treatment of depression, anxiety, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorders, and other trauma-related disorders. Her background includes working with combat trauma, complex trauma, adult survivors of prolonged childhood abuse, and co-occurring substance disorders. She provides clinical services for patients and clinical supervision for psychology residents and post-doctoral fellows. She holds an instructorship with the University of Colorado School of Medicine's Department of Psychiatry. She has had experience working in a variety of settings including forensic, outpatient clinics, private practice, inpatient, residential dual diagnosis facilities, and VA hospitals.

**Caroline W. Corrigan, PhD** is a licensed clinical psychologist in the Integrated Primary Care Department. Dr. Corrigan provides a mixture of co-located mental health and integrated primary care at the Level One Physicians Clinic on the main campus. Dr. Corrigan's interests and expertise include individual and couples psychotherapy, parenting and family relationships, health behavior change, provider self-care and career longevity, and supervision. She facilitates the Resident Cohort Development Group and served as a clinical supervisor for several years.

**Laura M. Cote Gonzalez, PhD** is a licensed clinical psychologist in the Integrated Behavioral Health Department. Dr. Cote Gonzalez provides clinical services at the Southwest Primary Care Clinic and in the Women's Care Clinic through the Gestational Diabetes Program. Her professional interests include the treatment of depressive, anxiety, and traumatic stress disorders; health behavior change and wellness; culturally-responsive prevention; and bilingual and multicultural training. Dr. Cote Gonzalez collaborates in the development and facilitation of the diversity seminar series for psychology residents.

She currently serves as co-chair of the Special Interest Group on Bilingual Issues in Latina/o Mental Health for the National Latina/o Psychological Association (NLPA).

**Thom Dunn, PhD** supervises residents who spend time on the Consult – Liaison team. The team advises physicians about their patients who are admitted anywhere in the hospital except to inpatient psychiatry. The C/L team is commonly brought into cases where a patient is psychiatrically decompensated, status post suicide attempt, when there are questions of safety, and to assess decision making capacity. Patients may be admitted to a variety of services, including medicine, surgery, pediatrics, mom/baby, and the correctional care unit. Dr. Dunn also serves on the hospital's ethics committee and advises the Denver Paramedics peer support team. He is a professor of psychological sciences at the University of Northern Colorado and is works intermittently at Denver Health. Research interests include eating disorders that result in malnutrition, but do not have body image disruption (ARFID, orthorexia nervosa).

**Colleen Fischer, PhD** is a licensed clinical psychologist on Child & Adolescent Outpatient Behavioral Health Services (OBHS – Child). Dr. Fischer currently provides clinical services on the Outpatient Child and Adolescent team and in the Webb Pediatric Primary Care clinic. She is an investigator for a HRSA grant to increase psychology training in integrated primary care with high-need pediatric clinics. Dr. Fischer's clinical interests include trauma-informed care and adolescent self-injury and suicidality. Dr. Fischer is an Instructor at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry.

**Jennifer Grote, PhD** is a licensed clinical psychologist and Director of the Integrated Behavioral Health Department. In addition to her administrative roles, Dr. Grote currently provides clinical services at Westwood Family Health Center and at Eastside OB/GYN clinic.

**Caitlin Hernandez, PhD** is a licensed clinical psychologist and behavioral health consultant in the Westside Pediatric Primary Care Clinic. She currently leads the Pediatric Consultation Group for the Integrated Behavioral Health team and pursues trainings in the birth to three and perinatal populations. Dr. Hernandez is an Instructor at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry.

**Laura Jacobs, PsyD** is a licensed clinical psychologist and Team Lead on Child & Adolescent Outpatient Behavioral Health Services (OBHS – Child). Dr. Jacobs' clinical interests include trauma-informed care, psychotherapy with young children, and adolescent self-injury/suicidality. Dr. Jacobs is an Instructor at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry.

**Gillian Lashen, PsyD** is a licensed clinical psychologist and Team Lead at the ACUTE Center for Eating Disorders. Dr. Lashen provides clinical services for patients with severe and life-threatening eating disorders on ACUTE, an inpatient medical unit. Her clinical interests include eating disorders, health and wellness, integrated care, and medical education. Dr. Lashen completed her doctoral internship at Denver Health and earned her PsyD from the University of Denver.

**Alison Lieberman, PsyD** is a licensed clinical psychologist specializing in integrated care. She presently provides clinical services to the Women's Care, Bariatric, Oncology, and Geriatric Primary Care teams and supervises residents on these rotations. Dr. Lieberman is an Instructor at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry.

**Abigail Lockhart, PsyD** is a licensed clinical psychologist in the Integrated Behavioral Health Department. Dr. Lockhart started working at Denver Health in September of 2013 as a Postdoctoral Fellow in Integrated Primary Care Psychology. During this year-long fellowship, she worked at Denver

Health's Lowry Family Health Center, where she was able to focus on providing integrated care to a diverse refugee population, as well as at the Swedish Family Medicine Residency program in Littleton, CO. Dr. Lockhart then became a full-time Staff Psychologist at the La Casa/Quigg Newton Family Health Center where she provides integrated behavioral health clinical services and supervision for psychology externs and residents.

**KC Lomonaco, PsyD** is a licensed clinical psychologist who specializes in Issues of Social Justice and Diversity, Integrated Primary Care, and Women's Health Issues, including chronic disease management, adjustment to chronic disease, perinatal and postpartum mood disorders, trauma, and health behavior change. She received her doctorate from the University of Denver Graduate School of Professional Psychology in 2008 and has practiced in multiple FQHC clinics and taught both psychology and medical residents as well as in the University of Colorado Medical School since that time.

**Joseph Longo, PhD** is a licensed clinical psychologist in the Integrated Behavioral Health Department. Dr. Longo provides diagnostic evaluation, brief intervention, and psychology consultation within the primary care setting. In addition, he serves as the principal psychologist in the Early Intervention HIV Primary Care Clinic, a co-located model of treatment. Previous experiences include federally qualified community health center, Denver County Jail, and college counseling centers. Dr. Longo conducts and has published research in the area of diversity competency and is an adjunct faculty at the University of Denver.

**Laura Lovato, Ph.D.** is a licensed clinical psychologist on the Adult Outpatient Behavioral Health Services (OBHS-Adult) team. Dr. Lovato's clinical interests include treatment of anxiety and mood disorders, relational concerns, management of chronic pain and illness, as well as compassion and mindfulness-based approaches to treatment. She provides clinical services for patients and clinical supervision of psychology residents. She completed her internship with the Colorado State University Health Network and her post-doctoral fellowship with Aurora Community Mental Health. She has had experience working in a variety of settings, including community mental health centers, primary care, and university counseling centers.

**Haley Medlin, PsyD** is a licensed clinical psychologist on the Adult Inpatient Psychiatry unit. Dr. Medlin received her undergraduate degree from the University of Georgia and her doctorate degree from the University of Indianapolis's School of Psychological Sciences. In addition to spearheading and supporting program development on the adult inpatient unit, Dr. Medlin provides evaluation, consultation, and individual and group therapy to adult inpatients at Denver Health. Clinical and research interests include serious mental illness, mood and anxiety disorders, acute/brief treatment, and trauma-informed care. She utilizes evidence-based approaches and techniques, including Dialectical Behavior Therapy, Cognitive-Behavior Therapy, and Acceptance and Commitment Therapy.

**Samantha Monson, PsyD** is a licensed clinical psychologist in the Integrated Behavioral Health Department. Dr. Monson provides clinical and consultative services at Lowry Family Health Center, specializing in refugee mental health. She is on faculty with the psychology residency, supervises a post-doctoral fellow in integrated primary care psychology, and teaches in the family medicine residency. She is also project lead for the Integrated Behavioral Health Academy. Dr. Monson is a Senior Clinical Instructor with the University of Colorado School of Medicine, Department of Family Medicine.

**Jennifer Peraza, PsyD** is a licensed clinical psychologist in neuropsychology at Denver Health and adjunct Instructor with the University of Colorado School of Medicine's Department of Psychiatry. Dr. Peraza completed her doctoral degree in clinical psychology in the neuropsychology track at Pacific

University. She completed her internship in the neuropsychology track at Central Arkansas VA Healthcare System and a two-year clinical neuropsychology post-doctoral fellowship at New Mexico VA Health Care System. Dr. Peraza specializes in adult and geriatric outpatient and inpatient neuropsychological assessment with interests in human diversity.

**Christopher Pierce, PhD** is a licensed clinical psychologist and the Director of Neuropsychology. Dr. Pierce is also an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Colorado School of Medicine. He received his doctoral degree in Medical (Clinical) Psychology from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, with a neuropsychology internship at the University of Washington School of Medicine. He completed his Residency in Neuropsychology and Rehabilitation Psychology at the Rehabilitation Institute of Michigan. He specializes in outpatient and inpatient neuropsychological assessment of adult and geriatric patients.

**Natalie Ritchie, PhD** is a licensed clinical health psychologist at Denver Health Managed Care, where she enjoys providing supervision for the Health Coaching rotation. At Denver Health since 2010, she has served in a variety of health psychology roles and currently directs multiple grants on diabetes prevention and management. Dr. Ritchie's clinical and research interests are in health behavior change, including for weight and diabetes management in underserved populations. Dr. Ritchie is a Visiting Instructor at the University of Colorado School of Medicine's Department of Psychiatry.

**Daniel S. Schoenwald, PhD** is a licensed clinical psychologist on Adult Outpatient Behavioral Health Services (OBHS – Adult) and at Level One Physicians Clinic. In addition to treating patients on these services, he has also supervised residents on rotation with the adult team. His clinical interests include psychopathology, psychotherapy with men, psychopharmacology, and group therapy. Previously, he maintained a full-time private practice and was also an adjunct professor, teaching Adult Psychopathology and Group Therapy and Process.

**Trina Seefeldt, PhD** is a licensed clinical psychologist and Team Lead on Adult Outpatient Behavioral Health Services (OBHS – Adult). She received her undergraduate degree in psychology from Loyola University Chicago and her PhD in clinical psychology from the University of Utah. She provides clinical services for patients and clinical supervision for psychology residents and post-doctoral fellows. She holds an instructorship with the University of Colorado School of Medicine's Department of Psychiatry, and is an affiliate professor with Metropolitan State University of Denver's Department of Psychology. Dr. Seefeldt has worked for over a decade with underserved populations, including individuals experiencing homelessness and incarcerated individuals. Her areas of treatment interest include complex trauma; personality disorders; parenting issues; couples and family therapy; and depressive and anxiety disorders.

**J. Christopher Sheldon, PhD** is the Chief Psychologist and Psychology Internship Training Director. He is also an Associate Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Colorado School of Medicine. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Texas at Austin and his Doctorate in Clinical Psychology at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center. Dr. Sheldon's interests include psychology training, mood disorders and self-injurious behavior in youth. The primary theoretical orientations Dr. Sheldon works from are Cognitive Behavioral, Developmental and Psychodynamic.

**Megan Twomey, PhD** is a licensed clinical psychologist on the Adolescent Inpatient Psychiatry Unit. She provides individual, family, and group therapy as well as psychological assessment services. Her areas of clinical and research interest include autism spectrum disorder, mood disorders, anxiety



disorders, attachment, and self-injurious behavior. Dr. Twomey has served as an instructor at the University of Colorado School of Medicine.

**Jeremy Vogt, PhD** is a licensed clinical psychologist and behavioral health consultant with the Integrated Behavioral Health Department. Dr. Vogt received his doctorate degree from the University of South Dakota in 2011. He completed his predoctoral internship at the University of Colorado –Denver School of Medicine with an emphasis in primary care psychology and a post-doctoral fellowship with the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) Mental Health Program in administrative and public health psychology. His professional interests include suicide prevention in primary care and the training of medical providers in behavioral sciences. Dr. Vogt currently provides clinical services at Denver Health’s Family and Internal Medicine Clinic (FIM) and the Intensive Outpatient Clinic (IOC), where he also provides clinical supervision to the psychology resident.

**Katherine Washington, PhD** is a licensed clinical psychologist on Child & Adolescent Outpatient Behavioral Health Services (OBHS – Child). Dr. Washington provides clinical services on the Outpatient Child and Adolescent team. Her clinical interests include psychological evaluations, play therapy, and trauma treatment. Dr. Washington is a member of American Psychological Association and Colorado Psychological Association. Previously, she was instructor of Adolescent Psychology at Washburn University in Topeka, Kansas.