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**VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System (VAPHS) Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Residency (MHNPR) Program**

**Program Mission:** To provide a comprehensive educational opportunity through didactic and clinical experiences to enhance the training of the new psychiatric-mental health nurse practitioner (PMHNP) in the care of veterans, and to assure a successful transition from novice to confident and independent PMHNP.

**What is the MHNPR program?** The MHNPR program is partnered with the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing. VAPHS and the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing support evidence-based nursing education, research, and practice. Together, we foster a supportive learning environment for academic, professional, and personal success. The MHNPR program prepares nurse practitioners for professional leadership in clinical practice, education, and research or quality improvement.

**Program structure:** The program is a 12-month residency, with both clinical experiences and integrated didactic sessions with the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing. Didactic sessions include grand rounds, journal club, and simulation-based learning. Clinical rotations give the PMHNP resident the opportunity to practice in the following settings:

* Psychiatric inpatient care
* Center for the Treatment of Addictive Disorders (CTAD)
* Telepsychiatry
* Outpatient psychiatric services
* Psychiatric consultation/liaison services
* Combat Stress Recovery Clinic (CSRC)
* Psychosocial Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Program (PRRTP)
* Neurobehavioral program
* Community Living Center (CLC)
* Primary care mental health integration

Residents are assigned a mentor to act as a resource and provide support as they transition to autonomous and competent PMHNPs. Upon completion of the program, graduates will have the opportunity to apply for continued employment.

**All interested applicants should submit the following to the program director and Associate Chief Nurse of Education via e-mail:**

* A copy of their CV/resume
* Official graduate school transcripts in a sealed envelope
* Personal statement – what personal, professional, educational, and clinical experiences have led you to choose nursing as a profession, and the role of the PMHNP as a specialty practice? What are your aspirations for a residency program? Please comment upon your vision and planning for your short and long-term career development. (maximum two pages)
* Three letters of recommendation (one must be from a faculty member or graduate program director). Letters should be sent in a sealed envelope or e-mailed directly from the individual writing the letter

**Required application criteria:**

* U.S. citizenship
* Graduate of a Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) or Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) accredited PMHNP program.
* Recent graduate within 12 months
* Hold a master’s or doctoral degree and be licensed and nationally board certified through the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) as a PMHNP *(applicants can apply prior to obtaining national board certification, but will need to be board-certified prior to program start)*

Selected applicants will undergo background and security investigation and a pre-employment physical examination.

**Application deadline:** May 15, 2021

**Interviews begin** June 2021

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