



Louisville Robley Rex VAMC

Doctoral Psychology Internship Program

2024-2025 Brochure



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Psychology Training Program

Doctoral Psychology Internship
Robley Rex VA Medical Center
800 Zorn Ave
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[Psychology Internship Website](#)



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

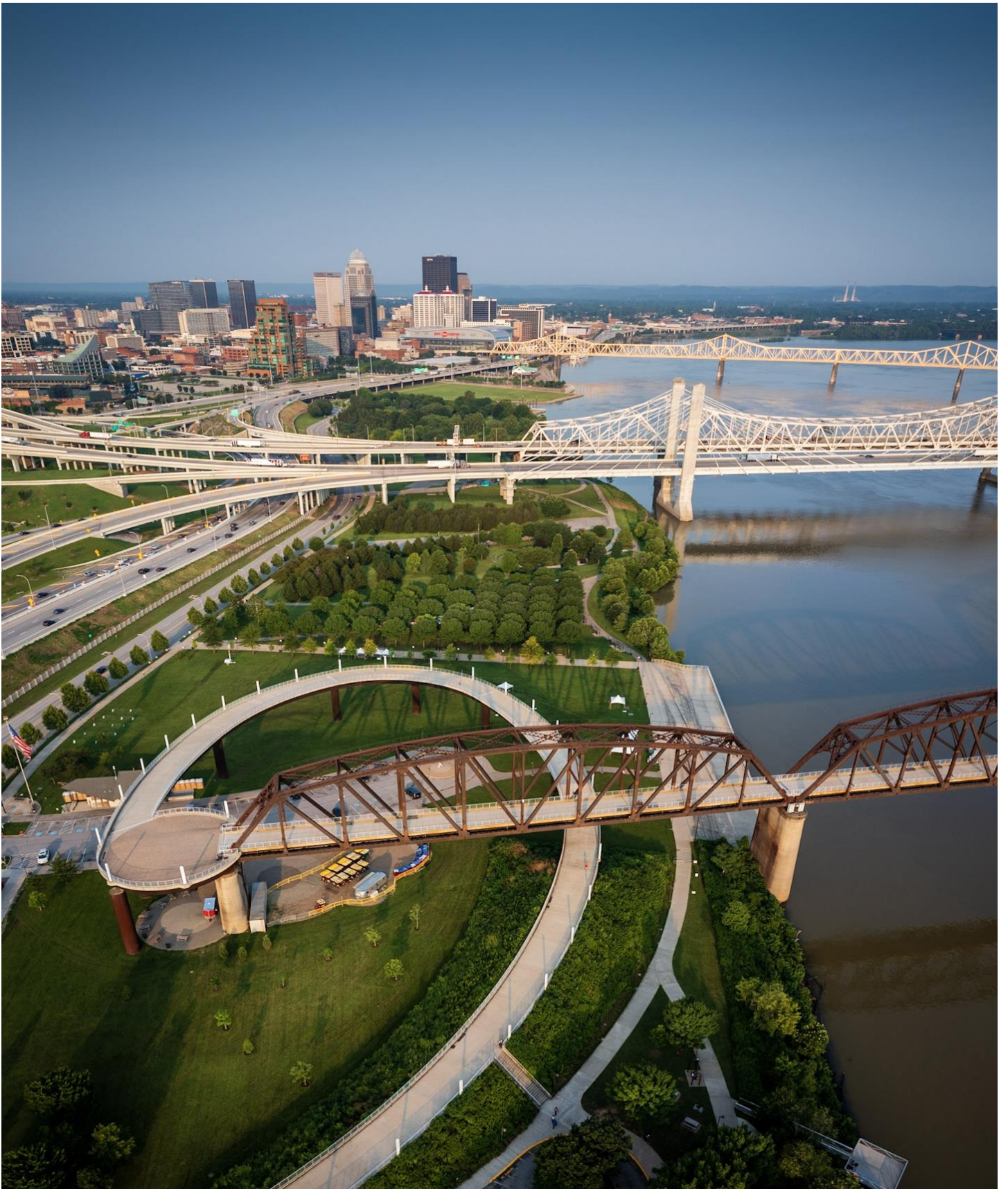


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Louisville waterfront

Psychology Internship Overview

The doctoral internship at Robley Rex VA Medical Center provides supervised training experiences in health service psychology in supporting the VA mission to provide excellent health care that improves the lives of our nation's Veterans. This is a full-time, 2000 hour doctoral psychology internship that begins the first week in August. We strive to provide high quality and comprehensive training for doctoral candidates in general clinical psychology skills as they prepare for postdoctoral placements and employment as licensed psychologists. We also offer specialized training in specific areas of interest for interns as they prepare for careers in areas such as substance use disorders, PTSD treatment, PCMH, neuropsychology, and geropsychology.

Training Model and Philosophy

Our program focuses on developing breadth and depth of clinical skills in providing mental health care following a practitioner-scholar model. This includes a focus on knowledge and consideration of research guiding clinical practice, and emphasis is placed on utilizing empirically-supported treatments. We customize each intern's training program to strengthen clinical skills needing further development and foster a strong sense of professional identity. We challenge interns to refine their understanding and application of multicultural competence and awareness of diversity and individual differences. Psychologists should provide excellent care following research-informed and evidence-based practices, guided by a multiculturally responsive approach, while integrating ethical principles.

Emphasis on Multiculturally Responsive Practice

We strive to ensure that all students graduate as culturally-sensitive practitioners of psychology. Each intern is mentored in developing a multiculturally responsive approach through clinical supervision and a number of training experiences, including multicultural journal club, didactic trainings, and small group discussions. Interns begin the year with a half-day seminar where they are encouraged to explore their own backgrounds, cultures, and culturally-informed beliefs and biases. Here they are encouraged to explore how these aspects of identity and potential impacts on their approach to practice affect interactions with clients, client perceptions, client-practitioner relationships, and sense of healthy versus disruptive patterns. Over the course of the year, interns participate in didactics on applying these ideas to clinical work, including trainings on military and Veteran culture, addressing racism in therapy, cultural considerations in psychological assessment, special issues in working with LGBTQ+ Veterans, working with older adults, cultural perspectives on trauma, microaggressions in clinical work, handling inappropriate sexual behavior in therapy, spirituality and mental health, and working with transgender clients. Supervisors in all placements integrate multicultural factors into regular supervision, discussion of professional issues, and review of theoretical and empirical readings. Finally, the internship's diversity committee continues to oversee and develop training experiences in this area, as well as foster a culture of awareness and inclusivity for diversity in all its forms within our mental health department and staff. Interested interns can participate actively on this committee.

Program Goals

- Interns will develop competence with assessing and diagnosing mental health disorders that appear in the Veteran population.
- Interns will develop competence in providing psychological interventions to adults with a range of diagnoses. Trainees will be exposed to a range of therapeutic orientations and techniques with an emphasis on empirically supported modalities.

- Interns will display an understanding and appreciation of ethnic, cultural, gender, and sexual diversity.
- Interns will develop into culturally-sensitive practitioners of psychology by exploring their own assumptions, values and biases; seeking to understand the worldview of the culturally-different client; and learning the necessary skills to provide culturally appropriate interventions and techniques.
- Interns will develop competence in conducting psychological evaluation and assessing Veterans with a variety of diagnostic concerns. An emphasis is placed on developing competence in diagnostic interviewing and administration/interpretation of psychometrically-validated instruments assessing personality and cognitive abilities.
- Interns will develop competence with crisis intervention and the assessment of suicidal/homicidal ideation and behaviors.
- Interns will develop competence in providing effective consultation, feedback, and translation of psychological principles to colleagues, staff from other disciplines, patients, and families.
- Interns will develop personal characteristics and professional behavior consistent with professional standards and ethical guidelines. They will learn to how to build and utilize interprofessional relationships.
- Interns will develop the ability to utilize supervision well and incorporate feedback into their practice. They will learn VA policies and how to administer clinical treatment within the VA system.
- Interns will develop competence with the ethical and legal practice of clinical psychology.



Psychology interns from our 2022-2023 training year in group supervision

Program Structure

Internship training occurs at the VAMC and at several Community-Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOC). Each location provides an array of outpatient medical and mental health services. The internship is organized into a general mental health clinic placement, major rotations and minor rotations. During the year-long general mental health clinic placement, the intern provides general outpatient mental health care one day per week. Major rotations are two six-month placements, two days per week. Minor rotations are two six-month placements, one day per week. Established clinical rotations are discussed in detail in a later section.

Weekly Activities

Fifteen to twenty hours of face-to-face clinical work per week is typical (assessment and psychotherapy), including at least 8-10 hours of individual or couples therapy. This should be considered an average, and an intern can have assessment-heavy periods (e.g., during the Neuropsychology rotation) in which an intern will have fewer hours than this requirement. It is expected that the intern will have more therapy-intensive training activities during the rest of internship.

Weekly Schedule

The weekly schedule involves working on two different rotations and within the general MH clinic. These rotations and clinics are located at the main hospital, or at our Community-Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOC). Interns will be placed at particular CBOC sites according to what rotation they are completing, as some rotations are located at specific CBOCs. Seminars/Didactics occur on Friday mornings at the Main Campus from 8:00 am - 10:00 am. There is a rotating schedule of seminar topics, focusing upon different clinical areas, Veteran needs and intern professional development. From 10:00 am to 12:00 pm, group supervision will be provided by the Internship Directors. Interns are provided time to have lunch together for professional socialization and to discuss their experiences from 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm. From 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm, interns are given "flex time" to complete administrative duties, individual supervision, and/or provide more clinical care in their rotations.

Didactics

Interns attend weekly didactics that address a variety of topics in clinical psychology, including Assessing and Managing Suicide Risk, Psychopharmacology, Integrative Behavioral Couples Therapy, Prolonged Exposure Therapy, Dialectical Behavioral Therapy, Pain Psychology Primer, Traumatic Brain Injury, Motivational Interviewing, Geropsychology, and many more. The Multicultural Competency training series focuses on continued growth in understanding how each person's background and contextual factors can impact clinical work, as well as honing skills in integrating greater awareness of these factors into practice in ways that improve quality of care and patient experiences in treatment.

Additional Training

All interns completing a trauma-focused rotation will have the opportunity to undergo the VA Evidence-Based Psychotherapy Training in Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT) during the internship year. Interns who pursue this training will receive ongoing consultation by a CPT-certified therapist and will receive CPT certification by the completion of their training. Those who complete the PCMHI rotation will also have the opportunity to complete the PCMHI certification.

Supervision

Clinical supervision is the primary vehicle for experiential learning and feedback during internship. Interns will receive 5 hours of supervision most weeks (1 hour on each rotation/placement and 2 hours of group supervision). Your supervisors will monitor your work through a number of methods, including case discussions, review of all clinical documentation, live supervision, and co-therapy. At the beginning of each

supervisory relationship, you and your supervisor will discuss goals, training activities, and expectations for your supervisory experience. You and your supervisor will also discuss the process by which emergency supervision can be obtained when needed, including coverage during supervisor absences.

Intern Evaluation

Interns are evaluated at the beginning of the training year for areas of training need and interest. Interns are also provided copies of all evaluation forms. Throughout the year, evaluation and feedback occurs through the supervisory process to aid the intern in developing the program's competencies. The Internship Training Committee meets once per month and discusses each intern's progress. A written midpoint evaluation is completed halfway through each training experience in order to identify any training adjustments needed for successful completion. This process allows for analysis of performance across all supervisors and training experiences. The intern provides input regarding their assessment of performance during this process and receives formal written feedback.

Intern Feedback

Interns provide feedback about the program through multiple formats. The Internship Directors meet with the interns as a group weekly to discuss training issues. Other meetings with the Internship Directors are called as needed. Interns provide written feedback to their supervisors at the end of each rotation. They are encouraged to provide feedback to their clinical supervisors and the Internship Directors as issues and concerns are raised. At the end of each seminar session, the interns provide feedback to the presenters. The interns are asked to complete a feedback questionnaire and meet with the Internship Directors at the end of the year for suggested improvements. Program graduates are surveyed annually for suggestions for improvement.

Robley Rex VA Medical Center

Overview

As a part of America's largest integrated health care system, our medical center and outlying clinics provide a wide range of health, support, and facility services for Veterans in the Louisville metropolitan area. Services offered include primary and specialty health care services, comprehensive outpatient mental health care, specialty mental health care, inpatient psychiatry programs, and substance abuse treatment in outpatient and residential settings. We strive to provide excellent, patient-centered care and support services that address the health and well-being of the whole person.

Mission

To fulfill President Lincoln's promise "To care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan" by serving and honoring the men and women who are America's Veterans.

Vision

To provide Veterans the world-class benefits and services they have earned - and to do so by adhering to the highest standards of compassion, commitment, excellence, professionalism, integrity, accountability, and stewardship.

Core Values

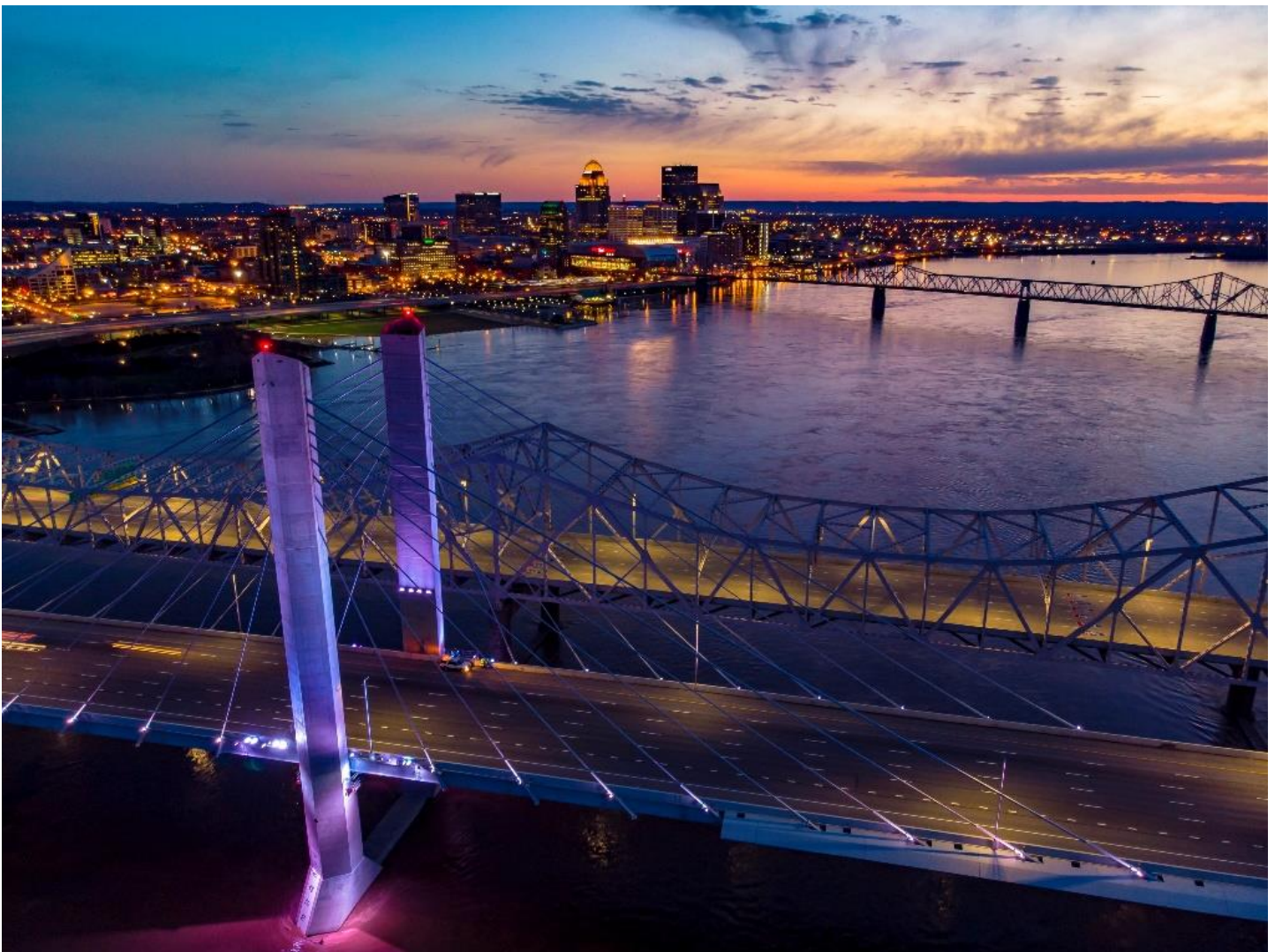
Integrity: Act with high moral principle. Adhere to the highest professional standards. Maintain the trust and confidence of all with whom I engage.

Commitment: Work diligently to serve Veterans and other beneficiaries. Be driven by an earnest belief in VA's mission. Fulfill my individual responsibilities and organizational responsibilities.

Advocacy: Be truly Veteran-centric by identifying, fully considering, and appropriately advancing the interests of Veterans and other beneficiaries.

Respect: Treat all those I serve and with whom I work with dignity and respect. Show respect to earn it.

Excellence: Strive for the highest quality and continuous improvement. Be thoughtful and decisive in leadership, accountable for my actions, willing to admit mistakes, and rigorous in correcting them.



Downtown Louisville

About the Training Program

Application Process

Our application deadline is November 1st. All interviews of applicants will be conducted by video conference. The decision to conduct all interviews via video is intentional on our part. We want to reduce barriers in the selection process that disadvantage applicants who reside remotely or lack the financial means to travel for on-site interviews. Our **Match Number is 234711**. Our internship site agrees to abide by the APPIC policy that no person at our training facility will solicit, accept, or use any ranking-related information from any intern applicant. Per VA policy, only US citizens who are completing APA- or CPA-accredited are eligible for appointment for VA Psychology Doctoral Internships.

Accreditation

The doctoral internship at the Robley Rex VA Medical Center is fully accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA), initially accredited in 2017 and fully accredited since 2019. Questions related to the program's accreditation status should be directed to the Commission on Accreditation (CoA):

Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation
American Psychological Association
750 1st Street, NE
Washington, DC 20002
Phone: (202) 336-5979 / Email: apaaccred@apa.org
Web: www.apa.org/ed/accreditation

APPIC Membership Status

The doctoral internship at Robley Rex VA Medical Center is a member of the Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC) (Member Number 2347). Questions related to APPIC Membership can be directed to APPIC Central Office:

Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers
17225 El Camino Real
Onyx One - Suite #170
Houston, TX 77058-2748
Phone: (832) 284-4080
Email: appic@appic.org
Web: <http://www.appic.org>

Pay & Benefits

The 2023 annual intern salary was set at \$33,469 by VA Central Office; update-to-date salary information for all sites can be found at the following link: <https://vawww.oaa.med.va.gov/DBReports/LocBasedStipends.aspx>. VA interns are eligible for health insurance and for life insurance. You are entitled to 13 days of annual (vacation) leave per year and up to 13 days of sick leave. Your year of federal employment during internship may be credited towards aspects of retirement benefits if you later become a federal employee.

Clinical Training Experiences

General Mental Health Outpatient Treatment

All interns participate in a year-long training experience in providing therapy at Community-Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOCs). The population of Veterans served by the CBOC Mental Health Clinics represents a diverse cross-section of Kentucky's racial, ethnic, religious, and socioeconomic makeup. Many of our patients live in rural settings (30%) and identify with diverse racial backgrounds (e.g., 21% African American). Veterans of all ages, genders, and sexual orientations seek services to address the full spectrum of mental health issues. The multidisciplinary teams of providers in the clinics treat Veterans with diagnoses ranging from adjustment disorders and phase of life problems to acute or chronic mood and anxiety disorders and PTSD to chronic mental illness. The internship offers training placements at several of these sites. Training and experience in outpatient services serves to enhance the intern's working knowledge as a generalist providing individual, group, and couples psychotherapy. The intern will receive training and be expected to provide evidenced-based psychotherapy such as Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Problem-Solving Therapy and Acceptance and Commitment Therapy, etc. Interns develop preliminary competence in conceptualizing and conducting independent psychological evaluations, and in effectively communicating findings to referral sources.

Major Rotations

Inpatient Psychiatry Unit

In this rotation you will be part of an interdisciplinary team of providers including ER physicians, psychiatrists, psychologists, addiction therapists, pharmacists, social workers, nurses, recreational therapists, etc. As a psychology intern, you will be involved in the following:

- ER evaluation and assessment of Veterans experiencing suicidal/homicidal ideation, plan, and intent - and/or serious chronic/acute mental illness. Results of evaluation will determine potential voluntary or involuntary psychiatric hospitalization. Position is also consultative to VA outpatient MH services Veteran without a need for acute hospitalization.
- Acute psychiatric inpatient individual counseling. Therapy can be consistent with the student's orientation. Additional training in other interventions available including treatment planning, suicide prevention, and suicide safety planning.
- Acute psychiatric inpatient group facilitation. Group content developed in collaboration with supervisor and can be a topic of interest to student.
- Opportunity for brief cognitive and psycho-diagnostic assessment.
- Opportunity for learning and building skills in treatment of addiction.
- Opportunity for understanding and awareness of the unique needs of homeless Veterans.
- Opportunity for pre-surgical assessment of patients recommended for amputations.

Neuropsychology

The neuropsychology assessment consultation service receives referrals for evaluation from medical and mental health providers throughout the medical center, with most consults coming from primary care, neurology, mental health service, and polytrauma. Thus, Veterans of all age groups, with a wide variety of neurologic, general medical, and mental health conditions are evaluated by the service. Common presentations include dementia, movement disorders, cerebrovascular accidents, mental health conditions, mild traumatic brain injury, and substance use disorders. Interns choosing this rotation can select either a major rotation (2 day/week commitment for 6 months), or a minor rotation (1 day/week commitment for 6 months).

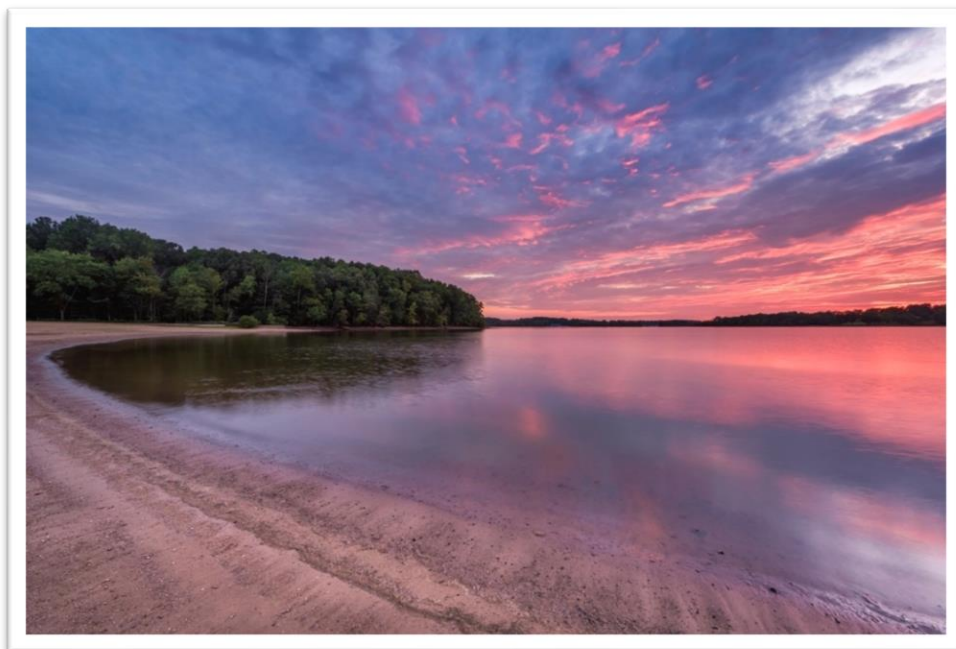
The internship rotation provides interns the opportunity to learn the fundamentals of neuropsychological assessment, and gain experience with providing patient and family education and feedback. Interns will

become familiar with the unique presentations of different neurocognitive disorders, and proficient at identifying the appropriate instruments to clarify diagnosis and functioning levels. Focused attention will be made on learning accurate administration, scoring and interpretation of neuropsychological measures, particularly for those with little to no neuropsychology experience. Additionally, interns will be trained in completing focused record review and diagnostic clinical interviews of individuals presenting for assessment, as well as their accompanying family members. Developing report writing skills for communication with interdisciplinary staff will be carefully trained. When trainee interest and scheduling permits, a neuropsychology didactic is held one a month, with staff neuropsychologists, interns, and practicum students participating through presentation of topics, articles and case studies. In this rotation, interns will receive close supervision of each case they complete, with growing autonomy as skills are demonstrated.

Primary Care Mental Health Integration

A rotation with the Primary Care Mental Health Integration (PCMHI) team allows interns the opportunity to become an integrated member of a Patient Aligned Care Team (PACT), within the VA's primary care medical setting. The intern will attend team huddles, collaborate with same-day warm handoffs, and consult with PACT team members on patient treatment planning. They will provide brief therapy services, health behavior change coaching, mental health triage and crisis intervention.

Interns will learn to integrate care management services into the primary care setting and will work with Veterans with a wide variety of presenting mental health issues and behavioral health topics including medication adherence, depression, substance use, chronic pain, and sleep disorders. They will collaborate with a wide variety of multidisciplinary providers, including primary care physicians, a team pharmacist and a team nutritionist.



Substance Use Disorders Treatment Program

The Robley Rex VAMC Substance Use Disorder Treatment Program (SUDTP) consists of the Substance Abuse Outpatient Treatment Clinic (SATC), an Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP), and the Substance Abuse Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Program (SARRTP). Interns on this rotation will be a part of an interdisciplinary treatment team, consisting of psychiatrists, resident fellows, psychologists, a recreation therapist, social workers, nurses and addiction therapists. Interns will have an intensive training experience in the identification, assessment and evidence-based treatment of substance abuse. Interns may also complete hospital consults, participate in daily rounds and in treatment team meetings. Interns may lead or co-lead a variety of both educational and process-oriented groups, in one or more of our three levels of care (SATC, IOP, or the SARRTP). During this rotation interns will gain experience with CBT-SUD therapy, Motivational Interviewing and Enhancement, Relapse Prevention, Interpersonal Process, and Mindfulness-Based Relapse Prevention.

Trauma Recovery Program (TRP)

This treatment team is located at the Stonybrook clinic and provides comprehensive, patient-centered care that emphasizes human dignity and individual strengths and differences. Specializing in the use of evidence-based treatments to reduce symptoms of PTSD, training with this team provides a thorough understanding of trauma care to include assessment/diagnosis, individual, group, and couples/family psychotherapy, medication management, and coordination with the referring clinician/team. Interns will participate in a collaborative treatment planning process with Veterans that recognizes them as educated consumers and ensures treatment plans reflect individual Veteran's preferences, needs, and values. Interns will be fully integrated in an inter-disciplinary team that includes psychiatry, psychology, social work, peer support specialists and chaplaincy. Interns will work under the mentorship of a psychologist trained in Cognitive Processing Therapy, Prolonged Exposure Therapy, Motivational Interviewing and Integrated Behavioral Couples Therapy. In addition, interns will be credentialed in and receive consultation for Cognitive Processing Therapy. Interns will facilitate groups with the multiple specialties on the team to ensure broad understanding of interdisciplinary care of traumatic reactions. Interns on this rotation will also learn the intricacies of providing tele-mental health treatments to rural community-based clinics and Veteran's homes.

Minor Rotations

Compensation and Pension

The Compensation and Pension (C&P) rotation offers psychology interns the opportunity to conduct forensic evaluations associated with the Department of Veterans Affairs disability claims process. C&P evaluations typically require the psychologist to (1) determine if a Veteran currently meets DSM-5 criteria for a claimed mental disorder, (2) document the impact that the diagnosed mental disorder has on the Veteran's occupational and social functioning, and (3) provide an expert statement on the relationship between a Veteran's claimed mental disorder and his or her military service. In this rotation, interns will perform medico-legal examinations under the close supervision of a licensed psychologist, learn to evaluate evidence from medical records and collateral testimony, and learn to appraise and assimilate scientific evidence to support legal opinions. At the beginning of the rotation, interns will complete the online Compensation and Pension Examination Program (CPEP) certification courses. At the conclusion of this rotation, interns will demonstrate an understanding of the differences between the forensic and clinical approach to examinations, a working knowledge of relevant legal statutes that guide the VA's Compensation and Pension system, competence in using both structured and unstructured clinical interviewing, proficiency with differential diagnoses using DSM-5 criteria, and competence in administering and interpreting symptom validity tests and other psychological measures. Interns will gain a deeper understanding of the role that the C&P process plays in the lives of many Veterans, not only in the distribution of financial benefits and medical care, but also in its relationship to Veterans' own sense of meaning and identity related to their military service.

Inpatient Psychiatry Unit

Please see above description for major rotation in this area.

Neuropsychology

Please see above description for major rotation in this area.

Psychological Assessment

The psychological assessment service provides comprehensive evaluations for a wide range of referral questions. Assessments are oriented towards improving care through greater patient insight, informing provider case conceptualization, and guiding treatment planning. Common referral questions include clarification of differential diagnoses, personality assessment, and evaluation of attention difficulties and potential ADHD. Psychologists on the team also complete pre-

surgical evaluations as part of preparing patients for solid organ transplant (e.g., kidney, liver), stem cell transplants, and bariatric surgery. The rotation provides interns with opportunities to improve their skills in all aspects of psychological assessment, including in-depth clinical interviews, administering and interpreting broad and targeted measures, cognitive testing, and writing integrated reports. Interns will also gain experience with selecting appropriate measures and advanced



interpretation of the most commonly used instruments in clinical practice, including the MMPI-2, MMPI-2-RF, MCMI-IV, and PAI. There will also be opportunities to develop skills with cognitive tests (e.g., WAIS-IV, SDMT, ACT, Stroop, CATA), from administration, selecting norms, to interpreting results in the context of the patient's background and contextual factors. Trainees will also deepen their skills with writing integrated reports and conducting feedback sessions following a Therapeutic Assessment model. Supervision will provide guidance following a developmental model to support interns as they grow towards increasing independence with conducting the full assessment process, incorporating a multiculturally responsive approach throughout. This experience is available as a minor rotation (1 day/week commitment for 6 months).

Substance Use Disorders Treatment Program

Please see above description for major rotation in this area.

Tobacco Cessation Motivational Interviewing

Tobacco use is the leading modifiable behavioral cause of death in the United States. Veterans use tobacco at higher rates than the general population, leading to increased risk of chronic diseases and premature death. This health psychology rotation will focus specifically on smoking cessation as chronic disease management and prevention. Learning and practicing Motivational Interview (MI) skills is integral to the clinical services provided along with CBT. Interns will be expected to assess readiness for change, make medication assisted therapy recommendations to prescribers, and be able to coach patients on medication and behavioral interventions to quit tobacco.

Interns will engage in outreach via telephone with veterans who have expressed possible interest in quitting tobacco to complete initial assessment. Interns will provide ongoing group and individual health coaching via video or phone telehealth for tobacco cessation.

Professional Development Opportunities

Mentoring

Mentoring is available to psychology interns as an informal way to enhance the soft skills of professional development. Mentors are selected in a tailored manner with the intern's input about areas with which they would like support. The mentor does not provide formal supervision on clinical work, or complete any evaluations of the intern. Their relationship would be flexible, based on the needs of the intern, acting as a role model, offering support & connections. This allows the intern to explore topics of professional expertise, or personal development in their future as an early career psychologist. With this enhanced care in the journey toward their career path, interns would be able to envision ways to seek collegial consultation once they move beyond the internship year.

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT) Allies Program

LGBT Allies is a network of local VA employees from various services/clinics who have stepped forward as supporters of the VA's mission to provide individualized, affirming, and exceptional care to our LGBTQ+ Veteran population. Allies serve as "point people" within their services/clinics when a Veteran has a need or question specific to their area of practice or expertise. Allies provide tailored services to this Veteran population. A couple of examples are Allies in endocrinology who have special expertise in HRT and Allies in mental health who have been trained to perform "readiness" evaluations of Veterans seeking gender-affirming procedures. Psychology interns may have an opportunity to shadow a readiness evaluation process if the opportunity arises. Allies receive updated information on care and access developments and are kept abreast of opportunities to participate in outreach.

Multicultural Issues in Psychology Journal Club

This discussion group is held on the first Friday of each month, during the intern flex time. During the meetings, attendees discuss a reading in the area of Multicultural Psychology that has been selected beforehand by one of the members of the journal club. The purpose of the journal club are the following: 1) to improve participants' understanding of how their values and biases may influence a range of clinical decisions (diagnosis, case conceptualizations, treatment approach, interactions with patients, etc.) as well as supervisory encounters with psychology students; 2) to improve participants' understanding of how their patients' various identities and cultural backgrounds may affect their access to care, treatment engagement, and experience of the healthcare process; and 3) to expose psychology interns to the numerous ways that professional psychologists can promote equity, human rights, and social justice in the communities they serve.

Psychology/Neuropsychology Case Conference and Journal Club

This didactic is held the third Friday of each month during the intern flex time. Each month, one attendee informally presents on a case(s) and a journal article that has been chosen to accompany the topic. Cases can involve general differential psychological assessment or neuropsychological assessment. Interns and practicum students are expected to present once during the year, with assistance from their supervisor, as needed. Staff and supervisors also present, and often there is an education component on classic presentation of diseases and disorders, or particularly interesting, unusual, or difficult differentials.



Internship Directors



Kirkpatrick, Shay, PsyD is a licensed clinical psychologist. He received his BA in Psychology from Indiana University Southeast in New Albany, Indiana, and his doctorate in Clinical Psychology from Spalding University in Louisville, Kentucky. He completed his doctoral internship at the Hamilton Center, a Community Mental Health Center, in Terre Haute, Indiana. Dr. Kirkpatrick completed his postdoctoral supervision at Seven Counties Services in Bullitt County, Kentucky, where he provided counseling to adults, children and their families. He maintained employment with Seven Counties Services and in his work there developed many group and individual therapy programs and a student training program. He developed specializations with treating anxiety disorders, assertiveness training, adolescent group therapy, hypnosis, interpersonal skills training for children, DBT, and empirically-based PTSD treatments. He also began

supervising psychology practicum students in 2007, and led the Student Training Program the following year, guiding the training of practicum students at his site.

Dr. Kirkpatrick came to the Robley Rex VAMC in August 2012, working in the Substance Use Disorders Treatment Program (SUDTP). He developed and ran the Intensive Outpatient Program, runs outpatient therapy groups, and provides individual therapy to Veterans with substance use disorders and mental health problems, including depression, anxiety, PTSD, chronic pain and interpersonal problems. In addition, he began supervising psychology practicum students in 2013. In 2014, he accepted the role of Internship Director for the Robley Rex Louisville VAMC Doctoral Psychology Internship. Currently, he co-directs the internship and provides supervision for both psychology practicum students and doctoral interns in the SUD rotation. In 2015, he was awarded Spalding University's Practicum Supervisor of the Year and in 2018 he won the Medical Center Star of the Quarter Award.



Marsano-Jozefowicz, Sofia, PhD has been a Compensation & Pension Psychologist at the Robley Rex VA Hospital since 2008 and has been the supervisory psychologist in that service since 2013. She is originally from Lima, Perú, obtained her Bachelor of Arts in Creative Writing and Psychology from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, and obtained her doctorate from the Clinical Psychology program at Fordham University in Bronx, NY. Prior to coming to Robley Rex VA, Dr. Marsano worked as a treating psychologist in various community mental health clinics in New York City and completed her psychology internship at the Brooklyn VA Hospital. In addition to her duties in Compensation & Pension, Dr. Marsano co-directs the hospital's psychology internship program and is the point-of-contact for the new and still developing Eating Disorders treatment program. Her professional interests include forensic psychology, psychological assessment, and understanding the cultural values and meanings underlying our conceptions of mental illness and our approaches to treating people who are

in psychological distress. Her aims as a clinical supervisor are role modelling being a curious learner who may not always have the answers but is willing to approach questions and dilemmas thoughtfully and with care.

Supervisor Biographies



Boyles, Melissa, A., PhD is a clinical neuropsychologist and licensed psychologist in the state of Kentucky. She is originally from Charleston, WV, and settled in Louisville, KY in late 2004. She earned her PhD in clinical psychology from the University of Arkansas in 2002. Her neuropsychology specialization was achieved through completion of a doctoral internship at the University of North Carolina Medical School in Chapel Hill, NC, and a post-doctoral fellowship in clinical neuropsychology at West Virginia University School of Medicine. Dr. Boyles worked as a clinical neuropsychologist at a local private practice before coming to the Robley Rex VAMC in December 2008. At the VAMC her primary duties include conducting neuropsychological evaluations and providing evaluation feedback, psychoeducation, and consultation services to veterans and their families. She also serves as the VA Psychology Practicum Student Training Coordinator, organizing and managing recruitment, in-processing, and administrative needs for

doctoral psychology students from local universities. She supervises interns and practicum students in neuropsychological evaluation, with both major and minor rotations/practica available. Particular areas of professional interest include dementia, movement disorders, cerebrovascular disease, and epilepsy. Dr. Boyles is a past member of the Kentucky Psychological Association (KPA), where she has served on multiple committees and designed a professional mentoring program. She is also a past and present member of the National Academy of Neuropsychology (NAN), the International Neuropsychological Society (INS), and the American Academy of Clinical Neuropsychology (AACN).



Brown, Tina, L., PsyD is a licensed psychologist in Kentucky. She graduated from Xavier University's Clinical Psychology program in 2004 with special emphasis in serious mental illness and earned a business certificate. Dr. Brown completed her postdoctoral internship and was the first resident in the VA Northeast Ohio Healthcare System's Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Recovery for Veterans with Serious Mental Illness. She worked as a full-time clinician in this facility from 2005-2013 and developed clinical expertise in complex trauma as the facility's first Military Sexual Trauma Coordinator. Along with private practice, Dr. Brown worked for the DOD USA Headquarters Recruiting Command and Outpatient Behavioral Health at the Fort Knox Army in Kentucky. Her primary responsibilities were leadership and program development across the command and traditional

outpatient behavioral health services for active duty soldiers. Her current work is a team leader for the Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Recovery Center (PRRC), which involves leading a multidisciplinary team,

including Licensed Clinical Social Workers, Peer Specialists and a License Professional Counselor. Her clinical interests include organizational development, assessment and psychotherapies that emphasize recovery-oriented care. In the last several years, Dr. Brown has continued to broaden her knowledge and skills in holistic health and wellness approaches in trauma-informed care.



Cox, Jennifer, T., PsyD serves as one of the psychologists on the Primary Care Mental Health Integration team at the Stonybrook Clinic. She received her PsyD in Clinical Psychology from Spalding University, and earned a Master’s degree in Social Work from University of Missouri-Columbia. She completed her internship at Emory University Counseling Center (2011) and post-doctoral fellowship at a Private Practice, East End Psychological Associates in Louisville (2012). Her clinical interests include insomnia, trauma, suicidality, LGBTQ+, couples, hypnotherapy, anxiety and adjustment disorders. She is trained in CPT, IPT, DBT, MI, hypnosis, PST, HeartMath, CAMS, CBT-CP (brief), and CBT-I. Dr. Cox’s theoretical orientation is integrative with emphasis on cognitive behavioral, humanistic, solution-focused and MI therapies.

Dickenson, Jenna, PsyD is from Louisville, KY. She obtained her undergraduate degree in Psychology and Anthropology at the University of Louisville. She earned her M.ED in Counseling Psychology at the University of Louisville before completing her MA and PsyD at Spalding University with an emphasis on health psychology. She completed her doctoral internship at Robley Rex VAMC in Louisville, KY. Following internship, Dr. Dickenson completed a post-doctoral fellowship at the New Orleans VAMC. She subsequently worked for two years at the Cincinnati VAMC in Home Base Primary Care before returning to Robley Rex VAMC in 2020.



Fulkerson, Erin, E., PsyD is a licensed psychologist in Kentucky and Indiana. She graduated from Spalding University’s School of Professional Psychology in 2014. Dr. Fulkerson has worked for the VA for 3 years in PCMHI, and had prior work experience in long-term care, corrections, and private practice settings. While her current work involves primarily brief interventions, her past work has involved group therapy, dialectical behavior therapy, and interpersonal psychotherapy therapy modalities. Her clinical interests are brief interventions, trauma, and overcoming bias related to mental health.



Hansen Sturm, Belinda, PhD is a clinical supervisor in Trauma Recovery Program. She obtained her master's in education (2003) at University of Texas at Austin and her Doctorate in Counseling Psychology (2013) at University of Wisconsin-Madison. *Primary clinical interests and expertise:* evidence-based treatment of post-traumatic stress; treatment of PTSD in women and military sexual trauma survivors; complex PTSD, Dialectical Behavioral Therapy, mindfulness meditation, clinical supervision and teaching.



Jablonski, Megan, E., PhD is originally from Greenville, North Carolina. She obtained her undergraduate degree in Psychology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She earned her PhD in Clinical Psychology at the University of Louisville, studying the psychological and physiological benefits of mindfulness-based interventions. She completed her doctoral internship at Mountain Home VAMC in Johnson City, Tennessee. Following internship, Dr. Jablonski completed a post-doctoral fellowship at Dayton VAMC, specializing in PCMHI & Behavioral Medicine. She subsequently worked for six years at the Frazier Rehabilitation Institute in Louisville, Kentucky as a rehabilitation psychologist, working with patients recovering from brain injury, spinal cord injury, stroke, orthopedic injury, and Functional Movement Disorder. Dr. Jablonski joining the Primary Care Mental Health Integration (PCMHI) team at the Robley Rex VAMC in October 2020.



Jenkins-Guarnieri, Michael, PhD, ABPP is a clinical psychologist specializing in psychological assessment and interdisciplinary consultation over the past number of years here at Robley Rex VAMC. He previously worked in private practice providing therapy for adolescents and adults, and then served as a staff psychologist at an Army Medical Center providing individual and group therapy as part of a multidisciplinary Intensive Outpatient Program. He values working with trainees as an important part of his professional life, believes in the internship year as a meaningful and formative training experience. He encourages trainees to steep in and wrestle with new ideas and developing skills in order to authentically weave them into their evolving frameworks and approach. He strives to meet each intern's specific training needs, tailoring discussions on conceptualization, offering concrete guidance on techniques, and applying a culturally-responsive approach to the practice of psychology. His supervision style pairs high expectations with strong support and a safe environment to nurture true growth as a clinician and professional.



Logan, Patrick, M., PhD is a clinical neuropsychologist based at the Stonybrook Outpatient Clinic, where he conducts outpatient neuropsychological evaluations. Some clinical interests include neurodegenerative conditions/dementia, TBI/stroke, and the impact of medical and psychiatric conditions on cognition. He received his PhD in clinical psychology at the University of South Florida. He completed his doctoral internship at the Birmingham VAMC/University of Alabama-Birmingham Consortium; he completed his residency in clinical neuropsychology at the James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital in Tampa.



McEuin, Courtney, L., PsyD is a licensed clinical psychologist who received her Bachelor of Arts degree from University of North Texas in Denton, Texas. She received a Master of Arts and Doctorate in Psychology from Spalding University in Louisville, Kentucky. Dr. McEuin completed her doctoral internship at Southlake Center for Mental Health in Merrillville, Indiana. Her postdoctoral supervision was completed while she was employed by Guardian Healthcare Providers and contracted to Hazelwood Center.

Dr. McEuin began working at Robley Rex VA Medical Center in January of 2011 in the Compensation and Pension Program. (C&P). She transitioned to the Trauma Recovery Program (TRP) in July of 2012. She has been serving as a clinic supervisor for doctoral interns in this rotation since 2015. In 2019, she was awarded Medical Center Star of the Quarter. Dr. McEuin specializes in the treatment of Posttraumatic Stress Disorder and other trauma related disorders. providing

evidenced based psychotherapy with specialized training in Eye Movement Desensitization Reprocessing, Prolonged Exposure Therapy, Cognitive Processing Therapy, Written Exposure Therapy, and Motivation Interviewing.

Miller, Kathryn, L., PsyD received her doctoral degree from Spalding University in 2019. She completed her internship at the Robley Rex VAMC in Louisville, KY. Following internship, she completed a postdoc at Spalding University CaPS, then took a position at the Robley Rex VAMC in Primary Care Mental Health Integration (PCMHI), and now works as an examiner in the Compensation & Pension (C&P) service. Dr. Miller has been an internship supervisor since 2021 and has supervised PCMHI rotations. She conducts brief therapy, couples therapy, work with the LGBTQ+ population and group therapy. While she enjoys working with a variety of presenting problems, she utilizes the principles of self-compassion and attachment theory to serve Veterans. Outside the VA she enjoys spending time with her husband, kiddos and Boston Terriers.



Nevins-Jones, Heather, M., PsyD earned her PsyD from Spalding University in Louisville, KY in 2009. She completed her internship at the VA Black Hills Health Care System in Ft. Meade, SD. Following internship, she began at the Robley Rex VAMC in Primary Care Mental Health Integration (PCMHI). Dr. Nevins-Jones has been an internship supervisor since 2015 and has supervised both the PCMHI and MHC rotations. She conducts brief therapy, health coaching, CBT for chronic pain, and group therapy. Her areas of interest include Whole Health, chronic pain, and mindfulness.



Nordloh, Gregory, E., PhD earned his doctorate at University of Louisville. He works with individuals of all ages. He has past experience in acute/long term physical rehabilitation and adjustment to illness with an emphasis on TBI. He has enjoyed working in a myriad of health care settings including hospitals, community residential facilities and community mental health clinics. His theoretical orientation is integrative in nature with an emphasis on empirical supported treatments. He began his employment at the Robley Rex VAMC as a BHIP therapist in the New Albany CBOC and now works as a psychologist in the Inpatient Psychiatry Unit.



Penn, Amber, J., PsyD, HSP is a licensed clinical psychologist who received her doctoral degree from Spalding University in 2019. She is a clinical health psychologist by education, with specialized training in trauma, substance use disorders, sleep medicine, pain management, and women's health. Dr. Penn is certified in Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT) for PTSD and Interpersonal Psychotherapy for Reproductive Mental Health (IPT-RMH), which is a new VA evidence-based psychotherapy for mental health challenges related to the female reproductive system. Dr. Penn has a passion for women's health, especially related to reproductive, perinatal, and maternal mental health concerns. She currently works as Robley Rex VA's Health Behavior Coordinator and Women's Mental Health Champion. Outside of work, Dr. Penn enjoys spending time in nature, going for walks, trying new coffees, reading, and spending time with her husband and son.



Pizzolato, James, E., PsyD is a clinical psychologist who earned his PsyD from Spalding University with a Health Psychology emphasis. In recent years, he worked as a BHIP psychologist at the Stonybrook CBOC. Along with treating a variety of mental health issues, he also worked with Veterans to engage in health behavior change and manage the impacts of chronic illness. Additionally, he developed a specialty in treating ADHD, assisting individuals develop effective strategies to manage symptoms and addressing emotional impacts commonly found in those with this diagnosis. Dr. Pizzolato joined the Pain Clinic in 2023. Here, he works with individual Veterans to better manage chronic pain through a biopsychosocial approach. He helped launch the Active Management of Pain (AMP) group at this facility, which is part of a new national initiative. He co-leads the AMP group with a physical therapist to highlight the importance of behavioral health tools along with appropriate movement in the effective management of chronic pain. As a graduate of this internship, Dr. Pizzolato is committed to giving back. Through this

participation, he strives to provide trainees with a similarly supportive, meaningful experience as they assume their role as a psychologist.



Thomas, Charles, G., PsyD earned his doctorate at Spalding University. He is a generalist who has treated patients of all ages in a variety of outpatient settings, including active duty military. His theoretical orientation integrates general systems theory, evolutionary psychology and ethology, and cognitive behavioral therapy into a biopsychosocial approach to treating individuals, couples, and families.

Veasey, Kayla, D., D, PsyD was born and raised in nearby Shelbyville, Kentucky. She earned her B.S. in Psychology from the University of Kentucky, her MA and PsyD in Clinical Psychology from Spalding University and completed her doctoral internship at the Indianapolis VAMC with a concentration in Primary Care Psychology. Currently, she works in Geriatrics and Extended Care at RRVAMC, providing clinical services within Home Based Primary Care as well as Inpatient and Outpatient Hospice and Palliative Care Clinics.

Veroslavsky, Rafael, PsyD is a licensed clinical psychologist in Kentucky. He received his doctoral degree in clinical psychology from Spalding University's School of Professional Psychology and completed his doctoral internship training in clinical psychology at Jackson Memorial Hospital-University of Miami in Miami, Florida. He also received his master's degree in clinical psychology from Montclair State University in Montclair New Jersey where he specialized in Latino mental health. Dr. Veroslavsky has worked as a

psychologist in private practice, community mental health, correctional systems and long-term psychiatric settings, often providing mental health services to both English and Spanish speaking individuals. Currently, Dr. Veroslavsky is a psychologist at the Ft. Knox clinic where he provides psychotherapy, clinical consultation, psychological assessments and supervision to psychology interns and post-docs.

Dr. Veroslavsky's theoretical framework is rooted in an integrated-multidimensional model that is designed to explore and address multiple factors that result in complicated mental health conditions, often impacting all aspects of an individual's quality of life. This approach is also the foundation to supervision during the internship experience, often providing an opportunity to develop a robust skill set that focuses on strengthening and building depth and breadth of clinical skills and confidence for the aspiring psychologist. Supervision is collaborative and tailored to the individual needs, strengths and personal qualities of the intern.

The clinical experience at the Ft. Knox clinic is varied and often representative of a wide range of clinical presentations, demographics and cultures that are central to the psychological needs of the veterans. Additionally, this clinic is situated within the Ft. Knox military base adding another dimension to the clinical environment.



Wahl, Clare, PhD was raised in rural Kentucky and moved to Louisville for undergraduate studies in psychology at Bellarmine University. She completed her MA in Clinical Psychology at Spalding University and a PhD in Counseling Psychology at University of Louisville. She completed her doctoral internship in Missouri with a focus on Dialectical Behavior Therapy for community outpatients through Mizzou University in Columbia and for psychiatric inpatients at Fulton State Hospital, a maximum security forensic inpatient facility. She returned to Kentucky and enjoyed three years work as community mental health outpatient therapist in Bardstown, KY. In 2013 she joined the Robley Rex VA in Compensation and Pension and in 2020 moved to a full time position as Health Behavior Coordinator and Lead Tobacco Treatment Clinician for Robley Rex. In 2020 she also took on the additional duties of LGBTQ+ Veteran Care Coordinator (VCC) to fulfill a passion to help improve service experiences for a group of veterans who have historically been marginalized. In 2023, Dr. Wahl moved to primary care mental health integration (PCMHI) as Lead Psychologist for both the Tobacco Cessation and LGBTQ+ VVC programs.

She also assists with VISN 9 LGBTQ+ Lead duties.

The Louisville Area

Louisville is the largest city in the state of Kentucky, with a population of more than 1.25 million in the metro area. Located in the northern central part of the state on the Ohio River and immediately south of Indiana, there are constant arguments about whether Louisville is the northernmost Southern city or the southernmost Midwestern city. One thing for certain is that Louisville has a wonderful mix of cosmopolitan style and laid-back charm. This very affordable city nurtures thriving music, theater, and arts scenes and is one of the few cities of its size with a resident orchestra, ballet, and opera. Louisville is also diverse in its people. It contains the largest African-American community in the state and has a growing population of immigrants from Mexico, India, Cuba, China, Guatemala, Vietnam, Somalia, and Syria. The diversity in the city's population is reflected in its restaurant scene, which is vibrant and considered one of the best in the region. There is also a variety of houses of worship in Louisville, including numerous churches to serve its large Catholic population, a variety of Protestant congregations, a handful of Jewish synagogues, several mosques, two Buddhist temples, and one Hindu temple. Louisville has the 11th highest rate of people who identify as LGBT among US metropolitan areas and is one of a handful of KY cities that has adopted a fairness ordinance, which protects LGBT and other people from discrimination. Sports are also big in Louisville, where families often divide their allegiances between the Kentucky Wildcats and Louisville Cardinals. If you don't share the locals' enthusiasm for college basketball and football, then head to Slugger Field or the Lynn Family Stadium, where you can watch the triple-A Louisville Bats play baseball or the men's Louisville City FC (USL) or women's Racing Louisville FC (NWSL) play soccer. Louisville also hosts a variety of fun events year-round, including the Humana Festival of New American Plays, Kentucky Derby festivities like fireworks and parades, Shakespeare in the Park in the summer, the massive St James Court Art Fair, and much more. Finally, Louisville has plenty to offer nature lovers, from manicured paths in Olmsted-designed parks, to the wilds of the Jefferson Memorial Forest (the largest municipal urban forest in the US), to the mighty Ohio River that flows around the city. Even more spectacular wonders are available within a couple-hours drive, including Mammoth Cave National Park and the Red River Gorge area of the Daniel Boone National Forest.



Louisville/Jefferson County Metro At a Glance

Population: 628,594 (Louisville City: 246,161)

Veterans: 35,164

White: 64.5%

Black: 24.0%

Latino: 6.1%

Multiple racial backgrounds: 3.5%

Asian: 2.7%

American Indian; Alaska Native: 0.1%

Native Hawaiian; Pacific Islander: 0.1%

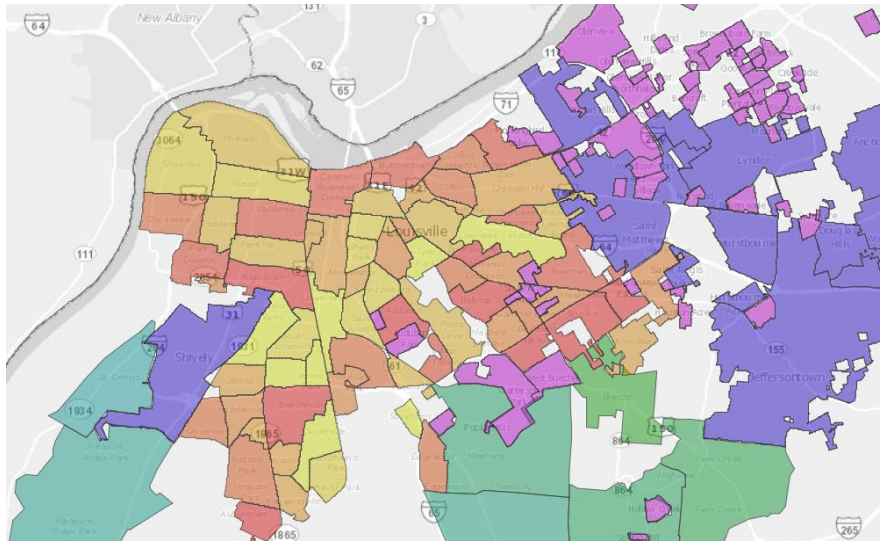
(Census 2020 categories)

Owner-occupied housing rate: 60.1%

Median rent: \$878

Median housing unit: \$165,400

Living in the same house 1 year ago: 84.2%



Bachelor's degree or higher: 30.4%

Civilian labor force: 65.6%

Households with a computer: 90.9%

People 65 years or older: 15.2%

Median household income: \$54,929

Per capita income: \$32,187

Mean travel time to work: 23 minutes

North, south, east or west – Louisville offers a wealth of attractions and fantastic historic architecture in every direction.

Much like the boroughs of New York City, Louisville's neighborhoods each have their own distinct personalities. Dive into the heart of downtown Louisville by visiting our "Times Square," Fourth Street Live!, the city's entertainment district.

Right up the road is Louisville's historic Whiskey Row, an area full of history and character like NYC's Greenwich Village. Appropriately named Whiskey Row, as it was home to the Bourbon industry in Louisville, this area of Main Street is returning to its roots with distilleries and bourbon-themed businesses and accommodations.

Nestled right on the edge of downtown is our very own Meatpacking District, Butchertown. It isn't just the name or industry that aligns these two; it's also the exclusive nightlife and dining.

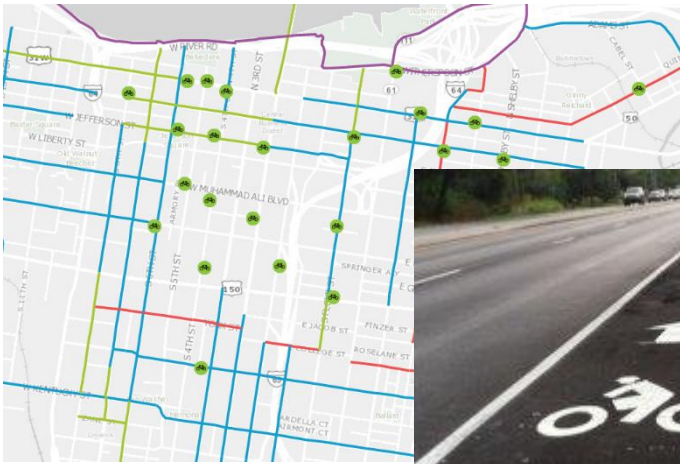
The Highlands and NuLu will remind you of famous Brooklyn boroughs, offering a view of local culture with coffee shops, breweries and laidback bars at every turn.

-GoToLouisville.com



Look at how low Louisville's business costs are in comparison with other cities:

MSA	OVERALL COST	LABOR	OFFICE RENT	ENERGY	TAXES
LOUISVILLE	87.9	96.6	62.8	91.2	93.0
Atlanta	89.5	94.3	84.3	87.4	80.4
Austin	99.7	91.3	125.5	99.4	79.6
Baltimore	108.6	101.7	104.0	133.0	79.8
Boston	107.3	100.9	101.8	128.2	90.2
Charlotte	85.4	91.8	80.6	77.4	85.7
Chicago	98.6	100.0	101.7	89.6	91.9
Columbus	97.8	93.0	81.6	118.1	104.2
Dallas	94.2	93.4	95.3	99.4	79.6



Bike lanes in the city



Public transportation



Things To Do

- Festivals and Events
- Historic sites like Muhammad Ali's Center, Louisville Slugger museum, and Churchill Downs/Kentucky Derby museum
- Louisville Zoo
- Speed Art Museum
- City parks with over 100 miles of trails
- State parks and greenways
- Frazier History Museum
- Old Louisville historic tour
- Fourth Street Live music



Internship Admissions, Support, and Initial Placement Data

Internship Program Tables

Date Program Tables are updated: March 20, 2024

<p>Program Admissions</p> <p>This is a full-time, 2000 hour doctoral psychology internship. Our independent training program focuses on breadth of clinical skills, while highlighting comprehensive mental health care. This includes a focus on knowledge and consideration of research guiding clinical practice (practitioner-scholar model). Emphasis is placed on utilization of empirically supported treatments. The typical weekly expectation consists of 15-20 hours of face-to-face clinical work (assessment and psychotherapy), including at least 8-10 hours of individual or couples therapy per week. This should be considered an average, and an intern can have assessment-heavy periods (e.g., during Neuropsychology rotation) in which an intern will have fewer hours than this requirement. It is expected that the intern will have more therapy-intensive training activities during the rest of internship. We also emphasize sensitivity to individual differences and diversity, and we value attracting a diverse group of interns. All things being equal, consideration is given to applicants representing elements of diversity, including, but not limited to, age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, language, national origin, race, religion, culture, sexual orientation, social economic status, and military service.</p>	
<p>Does the program require that applicants have received a minimum number of hours of the following at time of application? If Yes, indicate how many:</p>	
<p>Total Direct Contact Intervention Hours:</p>	<p>Yes, 300 intervention hours</p>
<p>Total Direct Contact Assessment Hours:</p>	<p>Yes, 150 assessment hours</p>
<p>Describe any other required minimum criteria used to screen applicants:</p>	<p>U.S. Citizenship.</p>

Financial and Other Benefit Support for Upcoming Training Year*

<p>Annual Stipend/Salary for full-time interns</p>	<p>\$33,469</p>
<p>Annual Stipend/Salary for half-time interns</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Program provides access to medical insurance for intern?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>If access to medical insurance is provided:</p>	
<p>Trainee contribution to costs required?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Coverage of family member(s) available?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Coverage of legally married partner available?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Coverage of domestic partner available?</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>Hours of Annual Paid Personal Time Off (PTO and/or Vacation)?</p>	<p>104</p>
<p>Hours of Annual Paid Sick Leave?</p>	<p>104</p>

In the event of medical conditions and/or family needs that require extended leave, does the program allow reasonable unpaid leave to interns/residents in excess of personal time off and sick leave?	Yes
Other benefits:	Yes
Interns receive 11 paid federal holidays. Additionally, interns are offered full health and life insurance benefits, including optional dental and vision insurance.	
Note: *programs are not required by the Commission on Accreditation to provide all benefits listed in this table.	

Initial Post-Internship Positions
(Aggregated Tally for the Preceding 4 Cohorts; 2019-2023)

	2019-2023
Total # of interns who were in the 4 cohorts	12
Total # of interns who remain in training in the internship program	0
	<i>PD; EP</i>
Academic teaching	PD=0; EP=0
Community mental health center	PD=0; EP=0
Consortium	PD=0; EP=0
University Counseling Center	PD=0; EP=0
Hospital/Medical Center	PD=0; EP=1
Veterans Affairs Health Care System	PD=1; EP=6
Psychiatric facility	PD=0; EP=0
Correctional facility	PD=0; EP=0
Health maintenance organization	PD=0; EP=0
School district/system	PD=0; EP=0
Independent practice setting	PD=2; EP=2
Other	PD=0; EP=1

Note: "PD" = Post-doctoral residency position; "EP" = Employed Position. Each individual represented in this table should be counted only one time. For former trainees working in more than one setting, select the setting that represents their primary position.

Applicant Selection Procedures

Eligibility for Application to Internship Program

1. Doctoral student in good standing at an American Psychological Association (APA) or Canadian Psychological Association (CPA) accredited graduate program in Clinical, Counseling, or Combined psychology or Psychological Clinical Science Accreditation System (PCSAS) accredited program in Clinical Science. Persons with a doctorate in another area of psychology who meet the APA or CPA criteria for re-specialization training in Clinical, Counseling, or Combined Psychology are also eligible.
2. Written verification by the Training Director of the doctoral program that the individual is approved for internship status by the Department.
3. All coursework must be completed prior to beginning the Internship.
4. United States Citizenship.

The Louisville Robley Rex VAMC Doctoral Internship is participating in the APPIC Uniform Application Process. You may access the online application from the internet (www.appic.org). Your Training Director will need to complete the online Verification of Internship Eligibility and Readiness form.

Eligibility for VA Employment

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) adheres to all Equal Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action policies. As a Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Health Professions Trainee (HPT), you will receive a Federal appointment, and the following requirements will apply prior to that appointment

1. **U.S. Citizenship.** HPTs who receive a direct stipend (pay) must be U.S. citizens. Trainees who are not VA paid (without compensation-WOC) who are not U.S. citizens may be appointed and must provide current immigrant, non-immigrant or exchange visitor documents.
2. **U.S. Social Security Number.** All VA appointees must have a U.S. social security number (SSN) prior to beginning the pre-employment, on-boarding process at the VA.
3. **Selective Service Registration.** Male applicants born after 12/31/1959 must have registered for the Selective Service by age 26 to be eligible for U.S. government employment, including selection as a paid or WOC VA trainee. For additional information about the Selective Service System, and to register or to check your registration status visit <https://www.sss.gov/>. Anyone who was required to register but did not register before the age of 26 will need to apply for a Status Information Letter (SIL) and request a waiver. Waivers are rare and requests will be reviewed on a case by case basis by the VA Office of Human Resources Management. This process can take up to six months for a verdict.
4. **Fingerprint Screening and Background Investigation.** All HPTs will be fingerprinted and undergo screenings and background investigations. Additional details about the required background checks can be found at the following website: <http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/codification/executive-order/10450.html>.
5. **Drug Testing.** Per Executive Order 12564, the VA strives to be a Drug-Free Workplace. HPTs are not drug-tested prior to appointment, however are subject to random drug testing throughout the entire VA appointment period. You will be asked to sign an acknowledgement form stating you are aware of this practice. See item 8 below.

6. **Affiliation Agreement.** To ensure shared responsibility between an academic program and the VA there must be a current and fully executed Academic Affiliation Agreement on file with the VHA Office of Academic Affiliations (OAA). The affiliation agreement delineates the duties of VA and the affiliated institution. Most APA-accredited doctoral programs have an agreement on file. More information about this document can be found at <https://www.va.gov/oaa/agreements.asp> (see section on psychology internships). Post-degree programs typically will not have an affiliation agreement, as the HPT is no longer enrolled in an academic program and the program is VA sponsored.
7. **TQCVL.** To streamline on-boarding of HPTs, VHA Office of Academic Affiliations requires completion of a Trainee Qualifications and Credentials Verification Letter (TQCVL). An Educational Official at the Affiliate must complete and sign this letter. For post-graduate programs where an affiliate is not the program sponsor, this process must be completed by the VA Training Director. Your VA appointment cannot happen until the TQCVL is submitted and signed by senior leadership from the VA facility. For more information about this document, please visit <https://www.va.gov/OAA/TQCVL.asp>
 - a. **Health Requirements.** Among other things, the TQCVL confirms that you, the trainee, are fit to perform the essential functions (physical and mental) of the training program and immunized following current Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines and VHA policy. This protects you, other employees and patients while working in a healthcare facility. Required are annual tuberculosis screening, Hepatitis B vaccine as well as annual influenza vaccine. *Declinations are EXTREMELY rare.* If you decline the flu vaccine you will be required to wear a mask while in patient care areas of the VA.
 - b. **Primary source verification of all prior education and training** is certified via the TQCVL. Training and Program Directors will be contacting the appropriate institutions to ensure you have the appropriate qualifications and credentials as required by the admission criteria of the training program in which you are enrolled.
8. **Additional On-boarding Forms.** Additional pre-employment forms include the Application for Health Professions Trainees (VA 10-2850D) and the Declaration for Federal Employment (OF 306). These documents and others are available online for review at <https://www.va.gov/oaa/app-forms.asp>. Falsifying any answer on these required Federal documents will result in the inability to appoint or immediate dismissal from the training program.
9. **Proof of Identity per VA.** VA on-boarding requires presentation of two source documents (IDs). Documents must be unexpired and names on both documents must match. For more information visit: <https://www.oit.va.gov/programs/piv/ media/docs/IDMatrix.pdf>

Additional information regarding eligibility requirements for appointment as a psychology HPT can be found at the end of this brochure.

[Additional information regarding eligibility requirements \(with hyperlinks\)](#)

- Trainees receive term employee appointments and must meet eligibility requirements for appointment as outlined in VA Handbook 5005 Staffing, Part II, Section B. Appointment Requirements and Determinations. https://www.va.gov/vapubs/viewPublication.asp?Pub_ID=646&FTYPE=2

- Selective Service website where the requirements, benefits and penalties of registering vs. not registering are outlined: <https://www.sss.gov/Registration/Why-Register/Benefits-and-Penalties>

[Additional information specific suitability information from Title 5 \(referenced in VHA Handbook 5005\)](#)

(b) Specific factors. In determining whether a person is suitable for Federal employment, only the following factors will be considered a basis for finding a person unsuitable and taking a suitability action:

- (1) Misconduct or negligence in employment;
- (2) Criminal or dishonest conduct;
- (3) Material, intentional false statement, or deception or fraud in examination or appointment;
- (4) Refusal to furnish testimony as required by § 5.4 of this chapter;
- (5) Alcohol abuse, without evidence of substantial rehabilitation, of a nature and duration that suggests that the applicant or appointee would be prevented from performing the duties of the position in question, or would constitute a direct threat to the property or safety of the applicant or appointee or others;
- (6) Illegal use of narcotics, drugs, or other controlled substances without evidence of substantial rehabilitation;
- (7) Knowing and willful engagement in acts or activities designed to overthrow the U.S. Government by force; and
- (8) Any statutory or regulatory bar which prevents the lawful employment of the person involved in the position in question.

(c) Additional considerations. OPM and agencies must consider any of the following additional considerations to the extent OPM or the relevant agency, in its sole discretion, deems any of them pertinent to the individual case:

- (1) The nature of the position for which the person is applying or in which the person is employed;
- (2) The nature and seriousness of the conduct;
- (3) The circumstances surrounding the conduct;
- (4) The recency of the conduct;
- (5) The age of the person involved at the time of the conduct;
- (6) Contributing societal conditions; and
- (7) The absence or presence of rehabilitation or efforts toward rehabilitation.

Past Interns, Programs, & Career Paths

Our psychological interns have come from a wide range of clinical and counseling psychology programs:

Graduate Programs	
Eastern Kentucky University-Clinical	University of Cincinnati-Clinical
Adler University, Chicago-Clinical	Spalding University-Clinical
University of Louisville-Clinical	Michigan School of Psychology-Clinical
University of Georgia-Counseling	University of Tennessee-Clinical
University of Kentucky-Clinical	University of Kentucky-Counseling
University of Southern Mississippi-Counseling	Nova Southeastern University-Clinical
Fielding Graduate University-Clinical	Arizona School of Professional Psychology-Clinical
Illinois School of Professional Psychology-Clinical	Alliant University, San Diego-Clinical
Alliant University, Sacramento-Clinical	University of North Carolina at Wilmington-Clinical
Marshall University-Clinical	

Furthermore, graduates of our internship program have been satisfied with their post-internship career paths:

Internship Class	Post-internship Employment
2015-2016	Robley Rex VAMC
	St. Louis VAMC
	Southern Arizona VAMC
2016-2017	Robley Rex VAMC
	Lexington VAMC
	Robley Rex VAMC
2017-2018	Full-Time Parent
	Compass Counseling & Psychology
	Riverside Healthcare System
2018-2019	Robley Rex VAMC
	Louisville Center for Eating Disorders
	Central Texas VAMC
2019-2020	Cincinnati VAMC
	Lexington VAMC
	Lexington VAMC
2020-2021	Self-Employed

	Lexington VAMC
	Private Group Practice
2021-2022	University Hospital (Cleveland)
	Robley Rex VAMC
	Comprehensive Neuropsychology Services
2022-2023	Robley Rex VAMC
	Columbus VAMC
	Private Group Practice

