



PSYCHOLOGY INTERNSHIP EDUCATION AFFILIATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS (VA) AND A SCHOOL OF PSYCHOLOGY

Use when trainees are enrolled in an educational program at a School of Psychology approved by an accrediting body recognized by the U.S. Department of Education or by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA)

NAME OF SCHOOL OF PSYCHOLOGY (including city and state)

PROGRAM/DISCIPLINE AND DEGREE(S)

This agreement, when duly executed and approved by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), establishes an affiliation between all VA facilities with a trainee from the (INSERT NAME OF SCHOOL) and the School for the academic purposes of enhanced patient care, education, and research. VA and the affiliated School have a shared responsibility for the academic enterprise. Ultimate responsibility for the control and operation of VA facilities and programs rests with VA. Ultimate responsibility for academic education rests with the affiliated institution. Additional responsibilities are delineated below.

RESPONSIBILITIES

1. The School has the following responsibilities:

- A. Operate, manage, and assume overall educational responsibilities for the educational program and maintain accreditation by an agency that is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education or by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).
- B. Evaluate the trainee's performance and conduct in mutual consultation with VA staff and according to the guidelines outlined in the approved curriculum and accepted standards.

2. VA has the following responsibilities:

- A. Operate and manage the VA facility and maintain accreditation by the Joint Commission and other accrediting entities.
- B. Appoint qualified healthcare professionals, as appropriate, as full-time or part-time staff of the facility to provide supervision of trainees and provide Veteran patient care.
- C. Participate with the affiliated school in the academic programs of education and research, provide a quality learning environment, and supply sufficient resources for appropriate conduct of such programs.
- D. Establish qualifications for trainees coming to VA for clinical education.
- E. Evaluate the trainee's performance and conduct in mutual consultation with the program director and according to the guidelines outlined in the approved curriculum and accepted standards.
- F. Orient trainees and faculty to the VA facility and inform them that they are subject to VA rules and regulations while in a VA facility.

G. Dismiss any trainee from VA assignment in accordance with VA Handbook 5021, Part VI, Paragraph 15 or Paragraph 18, whichever paragraph applies.

H. VA will ensure that all trainees and faculty who will be assigned to VA receive VA appointments, to include issuance of appropriate letters of appointment documenting their appointment as VA employees.

I. Assure that staff with appropriate credentials will supervise trainees.

J. Conduct periodic reviews of academic programs and policies according to VA policies.

K. Assure that trainees with occupational injuries (including exposure to infectious or environmental hazards) will be assessed, and, in emergency cases, initially treated at VA. Workers compensation coverage for trainees will be that which is provided under the Federal Employees' Compensation Act.

TERMS OF AGREEMENT

The School and VA comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Public Law 104-191, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and all related regulations, and assures that they do not, and will not, discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, sex, disability, or age under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.

Nothing in this agreement is intended to be contrary to state or federal laws. In the event of conflict between terms of this agreement and any applicable state or federal law, that state or federal law will supersede the terms of this agreement. In the event of conflict between state and federal law, federal law will govern.

Properly appointed faculty members and trainees of the School, when at VA healthcare facilities or on VA assignment at offsite facilities and while furnishing professional services covered by this agreement, will have personal liability protection by the provisions of the Federal Employees' Liability Reform and Tort Compensation Act, 28 U.S.C. 2679 (b)-(d). The liability, if any, of the United States for injury or loss of property or personal injury or death shall be governed exclusively by the provisions of the Federal Tort Claims Act.

TERMINATION OF AFFILIATION AGREEMENT

This affiliation agreement is in force until _____ [insert a date that is not to exceed ten years in the future and that allows for completion of the last training cycle during that period] and supersedes any previous affiliation agreement. It may be terminated in writing at any time by mutual consent with due consideration of patient care and educational commitments, or by written notice by either party 6 months in advance of the next training experience.

SIGNATURES

Signature of Dean or Equivalent Responsible Official for the School or Program

Signature of Responsible VA Official for Education Program

Date of Signature (MM/DD/YYYY)

Date of Signature (MM/DD/YYYY)

Typed Name of Individual Signing Above

Typed Name of Individual Signing Above

Typed Title of Individual Signing Above

Typed Title of Individual Signing Above