Georgia Department of Behavioral Health &
Developmental Disabilities

Kevin Tanner, Commissioner

Georgia Regional Hospital | Atlanta

Georgia Regional Hospital-Atlanta
Doctoral Internship in Clinical Psychology

Internship Brochure

Revised 8/28/26



Georgia Regional Hospital–Atlanta's Main Building at Entrance

3073 Panthersville Road | Decatur, Georgia 30034 | 404.243.2110 | dbhdd.georgia.gov

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Welcome to Georgia Regional Hospital at Atlanta!



Georgia Regional Hospital at Atlanta (GRH-A) is a publicly owned facility of the State of Georgia and operated by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD). GRH-A is located on 174 acres in Decatur, directly adjacent to the city of Atlanta.

The Atlanta metropolitan area offers access to a diverse range of cultural and recreational opportunities. Beyond being a travel hub with the world's busiest airport, Atlanta is known for abundant green spaces, parks, and trails for hiking and biking. It is also home to state-of-the-art sports stadiums, innovative restaurants, and a bustling music, arts, and film industry. The latter has given Atlanta the moniker "Hollywood of the South." The city holds historical significance as a pivotal center during the civil rights movement, which is commemorated at the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historical Park.

Discover the Atlanta metro area's unique blend of culture, history, and modernity through these resources:

Discover Atlanta's attractions: Explore Georgia
Learn about upcoming events: Discover Atlanta
Get travelers' perspectives: Lonely Planet

As a psychology intern at Georgia Regional Hospital at Atlanta, you'll have the opportunity to engage with the enriching aspects of Atlanta while contributing to impactful work at GRH-A.

GRH-A operates 306 licensed, accredited inpatient beds for three major program areas: 1) Adult Mental Health, 2) Adult Forensic Services, and 3) Developmental Disabilities/Skilled Nursing. The hospital serves a large number of underserved groups including adults who are economically disadvantaged, unhoused, from diverse racial or ethnic groups, and/or who are experiencing serious mental illness. No one is refused admission to the hospital because of inability to pay for services. GRH-A seeks to maximize the continuity of services, thereby helping those hospitalized to retain the gains they make while at the hospital.



Building 10 – Psychology and Other Discipline Offices

Aim and Mission of the Internship

GRH-A's training program is strongly influenced by the desire to provide high quality psychological services to the individuals (i.e., clients or patients) described above. The aim of the GRH-A Psychology Doctoral Internship Program is to deliver supervised clinical training to doctoral-level interns in the person-centered, evidence-based treatment of adults who experience serious mental illness (SMI). We train interns in established profession-wide competencies through the supervised provision of clinical, forensic, and behavioral psychological services and program evaluation within a state inpatient hospital setting. Furthermore, the Internship's mission is consistent with DBHDD's mission: Leading an accountable and effective continuum of care to support Georgians with behavioral health challenges and intellectual and developmental disabilities in a dynamic health care environment.

Philosophy, Goals, and Training Objectives

GRH-A Psychology Internship faculty believe that a psychologist best develops from a combination of self-awareness, theoretical knowledge, analytical skills, and communication skills integrated with quality, supervised experiences. We provide training through progressive, criteria-referenced, supervised experiences with individuals with complex presentations, with an aim to increase the availability of future psychologists who are equipped to make sound therapeutic decisions in difficult clinical situations. Importantly, we also know from experience that students provide an increase in enthusiasm, clinical knowledge, and range of services we can provide, making interns a vital part of GRH-A's therapeutic community.



Workspace for Various Disciplines

The internship program follows a practitioner-scholar training model designed to prepare students for clinical practice, with an emphasis on understanding and practical application of psychological research. The internship program trains interns as generalist practitioners equipped with knowledge and skills in clinical and forensic psychology and related program evaluation. Through learning and application of the theories, methods, and skills in each of these areas, we believe that interns will be equipped with a wide range of skills that will optimally prepare them for professional independent practice with a diverse client population. To support the use of evidence-based practice and keeping abreast of emerging clinical research, GRH-A Psychology staff are committed to a department-wide learning orientation, engaging in regular dialogue and peer-consultation and use of learning resources including online journal access and SMI specific training resources.

The Doctoral Psychology Internship Program at GRH-A is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of the American Psychological Association (APA). The training competencies and related elements for the GRH-A doctoral psychology internship program are consistent with the nine profession-wide competencies identified in the American Psychological Association Standards of Accreditation.

APA Standards of Accreditation Profession-Wide Competencies

i. Research
ii. Ethical and legal standards
iii. Individual and cultural diversity
iv. Professional values, attitudes, and behaviors
v. Communication and interpersonal skills
vi. Assessment
vii. Intervention
viii. Supervision
ix. Consultation and interprofessional/interdisciplinary skills

Overview of Internship



Flowers from Therapeutic Garden

The doctoral psychology internship at GRH-A aims to provide a wide array of meaningful training experiences. The internship lasts 12 months and includes training with an individually and culturally diverse population of adults engaged in treatment within an inpatient setting. Interns choose either a Forensic Inpatient/Outpatient track or an Adult Mental Health Clinical Psychology track. Within each track interns will rotate between different treatment units. In addition, interns participate in a program evaluation or clinical specialty project (described below) for approximately four hours per week during one half of the year. Interns also participate in weekly didactic activities, group supervision, individual supervision, and opportunities to learn about and practice supervision of other mental health professionals.

Interns work between 40 and 45 hours per week. Sequentially, interns shadow a psychologist on the unit, work under close supervision of their supervisors, and increasingly assume a more independent role in providing psychological services to individuals and in their consultations with Interdisciplinary recovery planning teams.

The internship program at GRH-A is designed to help interns meet the licensure requirements set forth by the Georgia Board of Examiners of Psychologists, including but not limited to a 2000-hour internship with at least 500 hours of direct contact. Efforts are made to provide interns with didactic training regarding licensure preparation and prerequisites.

At GRH-A, we provide primarily in-person services. As a hospital we closely follow CDC and Georgia Department of Public Health guidance to prevent and reduce the spread of COVID-19 and other infectious diseases, prioritizing the safety of all hospital staff and the people we serve.

Orientation

Interns are required to attend and successfully complete a general, hospital-wide orientation program through the DBHDD University prior to psychology internship-specific orientation with the internship co-directors. This training is required to be completed during the first two weeks of the internship year. Additional hospital-wide online and in-person trainings must also be successfully completed as those training requirements emerge throughout the internship year. Following the general orientation period, interns will orient with their unit supervisor on the particular components of each track and gradually assume clinical responsibilities in coordination with their supervisors.

Tracks & Training Activities

Adult Mental Health (AMH)

The GRH-A AMH units provide short-term care of individuals who present with acute, severe, and recurring psychiatric issues from different referral sources in the community such as emergency departments, walk-ins, community mental health agencies, and other facilities. Psychiatric issues seen on AMH includes a wide range of diagnoses such as exacerbation of schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, major depression, and personality disorders. Many of the individuals that we serve have co-occurring concerns like substance use, trauma, and other psychosocial issues such as lack of social support, housing, and financial resources that make sustained recovery in the community difficult. Admissions to AMH are frequently people at significant risk of harm to self or others, or substantially unable to care for their own health and safety. Currently, there are three AMH units with about 40 individuals on each unit. On the AMH track, the intern participates in three four-month rotations on each of the AMH units. Daily, interns join and contribute to interdisciplinary recovery planning teams made up of professionals including psychologists, psychiatrists, social workers, mental health counselors, nurses, and activity therapists with individuals admitted to GRH-A. During any given week interns provide individual therapy, group therapy on the unit and at the Psychosocial Rehabilitation Mall, behavioral interventions, and complete psychological evaluations over the course of the year. Psychological evaluation referrals are for intellectual, personality, behavioral, psychosocial, and/or diagnostic testing. The diversity of the population served and complexity of presenting issues provides a rich opportunity for training.



East Unit Therapeutic Garden

The GRH-A internship program is also partnering with the Morehouse School of Medicine (MSM) to provide a training experience in outpatient care services. The intern will have an opportunity to spend time at the MSM Atlanta University Center Consortium (AUCC) Student Health and Wellness Center. The AMH intern will provide both individual therapy and psychological testing/assessment to a diverse student body seeking treatment for complex clinical needs that may not be able to be addressed at the college counseling center level. This outpatient experience will add variety and flexibility to the training year.

Forensic Inpatient/Outpatient

The GRH-A Forensic units are considered medium-security residential units that house adults who require competency evaluation pertaining to a legal case. There are three units with about 40 individuals each. On the Forensic track, interns participate in three four-month rotations, which include a combination of short-term incompetent to stand trial, long-term civil commitment, and outpatient evaluation. The outpatient rotation provides opportunities for pretrial evaluations of competency to stand trial and criminal responsibility evaluations with a wide variety of defendants (e.g., rural and urban jurisdictions, charged with various types of offenses, and a range of presenting mental health concerns). Assessment activities an intern can expect during the two inpatient rotations include risk assessment, competency to stand trial, malingering and effort, completion of an annual review of civil commitment, as well as referral-based assessments (i.e., personality, cognitive/intellectual, neuropsychological and dementia screening). Forensic interns will observe and learn about preparation for and presentation of expert testimony regarding civil commitment issues and competency to stand trial. Interns also provide individual and group therapy throughout the year, interdisciplinary consultation, and learn about Georgia mental health laws for civil commitment.



Forensic Unit Fenced Area for Outdoor Recreation

Program Evaluation and Consultation Project

Both AMH and Forensic interns participate in a program evaluation and consultation project. This is an opportunity for training and supervision in using program evaluation and consultation methods to identify and evaluate clinical programs, policies, or treatment approaches based on a combination of intern interest and hospital program needs. Interns work with a psychologist supervisor using a variety of methods that includes direct work with relevant hospital staff and individuals along with empirical literature review to better understand the topic, summarize relevant issues, apply knowledge, and provide recommendations for changes and improvements for service delivery.



Building 10 Conference Room

Supervision

Each intern has a unit supervisor and works closely with other licensed psychologists who provide clinical supervision in specific areas. At set intervals during the year, interns will switch treatment units and unit supervisors. Throughout the year, the intern meets regularly with the Intern Training Coordinator who is one of the two Training Co-Directors to help build and maintain a sense of continuity. Interns also participate in one hour of group supervision per week conducted by one or more members of the Psychology Internship Committee.

Seminars & Additional Training Opportunities

In addition to weekly individual and group supervision, interns participate in a wide range of didactic training activities such as:

Intern Seminars: The purpose is to provide focused learning of knowledge and skills necessary to complete the training elements and related advancement of competencies for the GRH-A internship. Topics include: forensic services, diversity, interdisciplinary consultation, serious mental illness, recovery model, assessment, clinical supervision, as well as additional topics relevant to internship training.



Psychosocial Rehabilitation Mall Art Therapy Room

Supervision Skills Practice: Interns practice supervision and peer consultation skills with licensed and unlicensed master's level counselors and/or practicum students. In conjunction with a didactic series on supervisory skills, GRH-A interns may facilitate group and individual sessions where counselors or students discuss clinical cases and how to navigate systemic issues that may impact clinical work. A licensed psychologist provides supervision of each intern's supervision skills practice.

Psychology Peer Consultation: A monthly meeting of psychologists, mental health counselors, psychology interns, and other clinical staff with the purpose of presenting and discussing clinical case studies and other topics related to the professional practice of psychology. This group is facilitated by a licensed psychologist.

Other Didactic Learning Opportunities: Web-based psychiatric grand rounds from Emory University and Augusta University, continuing education events sponsored by DBHDD, GRH-A clinical review meetings, internship and post-doctoral events in the Atlanta area, and regular ongoing discussions with interdisciplinary recovery planning team members.



Training & Conference Center Meeting Room

Expectations of Interns &
Evaluation of Intern Performance and Progress

Formal evaluation of intern performance is a vital aspect of the GRH-A psychology internship program. Written evaluations of interns are completed every three months incorporating feedback from all supervisors involved in training at the time of evaluation. Evaluations are completed to provide the intern with professional observations and constructive feedback as the internship progresses. Interns are expected to be open and receptive to feedback from supervisors, and the evaluations are designed to be supportive of the intern's strengths and facilitate the intern's professional growth as they progress through the training year. The evaluations align very closely with the competencies listed earlier in the Philosophy, Goals, and Objectives section of this brochure, and interns are expected to demonstrate satisfactory progress with identified elements of the professional-wide competencies as the training year progresses. Interns complete self-assessments of their skills and progress toward becoming knowledgeable and skilled in the professional-wide competencies as well as their own identified professional goals at the beginning and midpoint of each year.



Weight Room Adjacent to Gym

Due process and grievance procedures are outlined in the interns' training handbook and discussed with interns during the orientation process

Intern Schedule of Activities



Intern Shared Office

Each intern keeps a weekly hours log of internship activities, which records the number of hours spent in individual and group supervision, direct clinical contact, seminars/didactic training, additional support activities, and other important clinical facets. Each intern's daily and weekly

schedules may vary somewhat. However, given hospital orientation, 13 state holidays, and 15 days of annual/sick leave, interns must average the following annual and weekly requirements to adequately meet the standards for internship training set forth by the Georgia Board of Examiners of Psychologists:

Annual Requirements

Direct, face-to-face individual (i.e., client or patient) contact	500 hours
Total internship hours	2,000 hours

Weekly Requirements Total = 40-45 hours
(Hours in parentheses are not calculated in the Total)

Individual supervision	3 hours
Group supervision	1 hour
Didactic training	2-4 hours
Direct, face-to-face clinical services	10-15 hours
Group therapy	(3-4 hours)
Individual therapy	(3-5 hours)
Assessment (clinical interviewing, mental status examinations, and test administration)	(2-5 hours)
Program Evaluation and Consultation activities	4 hours
Non-direct contact assessment activities (e.g., test scoring & report-writing)	(2-5 hours)
Recovery planning team meetings & morning rounds	5 hours
Progress notes/communication/	10 hours

records review/administrative	
Intern/peer consultation	2 hours
Internship-related home study	2 hours

Sample Daily Schedule

Morning rounds	8:00 – 8:30 a.m.
Interdisciplinary team mtg	8:30 – 9:30 a.m.
Chart review	9:30 – 10:00 a.m.
Individual therapy	10:00 – 11:00 a.m.
Group therapy	11:00 – 12:00 p.m.
Lunch	12:00 – 12:30 p.m.
Testing preparation	12:30 – 1:00 p.m.
Psychological testing	1:00 – 2:00 p.m.
Individual supervision	2:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Report and note writing	3:00 – 4:30 p.m.



Indoor Gymnasium

Eligibility Requirements

Minimum qualifications

Applicants must be currently enrolled in an APA-accredited doctoral program in clinical or counseling psychology which grants a degree of PhD or PsyD. Applicants are expected to have passed their clinical competency exam, or equivalent, and must have completed at least 60 semester hours of graduate-level course work (excluding internship and dissertation hours) at their graduate institution prior to inception of the internship. Completion of the dissertation prior to the inception of the internship is recommended but not a requirement.

Applicants are expected to have completed, or be in the process of completing, multiple practicum experiences under the direct supervision of a licensed psychologist. Total completed hours for practica, including intervention, assessment, supervision, and support, should meet a minimum of 1000 hours at the time of application submission. However, the GRH-A internship program recognizes the potential impact of COVID-19 on practicum hours in recent years and will take this into consideration when reviewing applications. It is also expected that applicants demonstrate knowledge and behavior that make evident a commitment to adhering to the APA Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct.

In addition to these requirements, applicants must meet all requirements to be employed by the State of Georgia. This includes having a pre-employment screening, which will be arranged through the Human Resources department. As are all employees for the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, interns are required to successfully complete mandatory random drug screenings, criminal background checks, reference verification, and other human resources requirements. The internship program has no jurisdiction over employment-related decisions resulting from a positive drug screen or adverse criminal history, and interns should be aware of this as they apply. The interns, as state employees, are paid twice per month and accrue five (5) hours of annual and five (5) hours of sick leave every pay period. During orientation, interns are provided with additional information to make benefit selection decisions that are available to them as state employees.

Preferred qualifications

In addition to the above minimum qualifications, the ideal candidate will demonstrate the following:

- Prior clinical psychology experience in an inpatient setting
- Prior clinical psychology training in providing services for people with serious mental illness
- Coursework and/or clinical training in the field of forensic psychology (Forensic track only)
- An interest in working in inpatient settings, with underserved populations, and with people with serious mental illness
- Well-developed clinical writing skills
- Interest and demonstrated ability to work effectively with diverse populations

Application Process

The GRH-A Doctoral Psychology Internship Program has approval for three internship positions for the 2027-2028 training year. Questions not answered by the information in this brochure can be sent to the co-director of psychology internship training, Dr. Mark Cochran, at Mark.Cochran@dbhdd.ga.gov.

A completed application should consist of:

1. Cover letter
2. Completed AAPI
3. Updated curriculum vitae (include contact email address and phone number)
4. Copies of unofficial transcripts from the current graduate institution (official transcripts not necessary)
5. Three letters of reference
6. Verification of internship eligibility from the director of clinical training at the intern's graduate institution

This program will be participating in the 2027 APPIC Match. Instructions for applying to the internship program are found on APPIC's website at https://membership.appic.org/directory/search. The GRH-A program code is 2259. This internship site has agreed to abide by all APPIC policies, including the policy that no person at this training facility will solicit, accept, or use any ranking-related information from any intern applicant.

Intern Selection Process



Flowers from One of the Therapeutic Gardens

Focused efforts are made during the interview and selection process to ensure that the applicant's educational and practicum experiences are consistent with the GRH-A Internship Program's philosophy and training objectives and are appropriate for doctoral training in professional psychology. The applicant's experience is evaluated through review of the AAPI, internship eligibility verification statement, curriculum vitae, graduate transcripts, and letters of reference. There is an emphasis on selecting applicants who are evaluated to have the highest likelihood of successful participation and completion of the internship training program based on previous experience, acquired skill sets, and interest in working with GRH-A's population.

Georgia Regional Hospital-Atlanta is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment. An applicant who has a disability that requires special accommodations should contact the co-director of psychology internship training. The GRH-A Psychology Internship Program recognizes the significance and value of individual and cultural diversity and provides training and supervision in diversity with regard to increasing awareness and ability to function competently in providing culturally informed clinical practice.

Internship Committee

Nicole Azores-Gococo, PhD, ABPP
GRH-A Position: Outpatient Forensic Psychologist
Graduate Institution: Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine
Internship: University of North Carolina School of Medicine/Federal Correctional Complex at Butner
Areas of Specialization/Training: Forensic Psychology/Assessment, Serious Mental Illness, Cultural and Environmental Influences on Behavior

Elizabeth Bradshaw-Livingston, PhD, ABPP
GRH-A Position: Co-Director of Internship Training, Assistant AMH Program Director

Graduate Institution: Western Michigan University
Internship: University of Iowa Counseling Service
Areas of Specialization/Training: Counseling Psychology, Intersectionality, Social Justice Advocacy , Identity Development, Culturally Informed Treatment, Acceptance and Commitment Therapy, Clinical Supervision and Training

Mark F. Cochran, PsyD
GRH-A Position: Co-Director of Internship Training, AMH Program Director
Graduate Institution: Loyola University Maryland; The University of Texas at Austin
Internship: Spring Grove Hospital Center (Baltimore, MD)
Areas of Specialty/Training: Clinical Psychology, Cognitive Assessment, Cognitive Behavior Therapy, ADHD, Memory, Geropsychology

Stephanie Davis, PsyD
GRH-A Position: Assistant Forensic Program Director
Graduate Institution: Georgia Southern University
Internship: Oklahoma Forensic Center
Areas of Specialty/Training: Forensic Psychology/Assessment, Serious Mental Illness

Justin Donaldson, PhD
GRH-A Position: Forensic Program Director
Graduate Institution: University of Georgia
Internship: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Counseling and Psychological Services
Areas of Specialty/Training: Forensic Assessment (Competency to Stand Trial /Waive Miranda Rights, Criminal Responsibility, Malingering, Capital Sentencing Mitigation)

Katherine Fox, PhD
GRH-A Position: Outpatient Forensic Psychologist
Graduate Institution: University of Houston
Internship: University of North Carolina School of Medicine/Federal Correctional Complex at Butner
Areas of Specialty/Training: Forensic Evaluation (Competency, Criminal Responsibility, Civil Commitment/Violence Risk); Assessment in Forensic Contexts (Malingering; Neuropsychological Testing)

Amy Gambow, PhD
GRH-A Position: Outpatient Forensic Psychologist
Graduate Institution: Palo Alto University
Internship: Southeast Human Service Center (Fargo, ND)
Areas of Specialty/Training: Forensic Psychology and Assessment, Serious Mental Illness

Jason Hall, PhD
GRH-A Position: Outpatient Forensic Psychologist
Graduate Institution: University of Minnesota
Internship: Hennepin County Medical Center (Minneapolis, MN)
Areas of Specialty/Training: Forensic Assessment, Competency Restoration, Psychopathy, Serious Mental Illness

Aubree Harrington, PsyD
GRH-A Position: Forensic Psychologist
Graduate Institution: Spalding University
Internship: Travis County Juvenile Probation Department (Austin, TX)
Areas of Specialty/Training: Forensic Psychology/Assessment, Serious Mental Illness, Young Adult Offending, Rehabilitation Treatment for Patients with Primarily Personality Disorders

Javel Jackson, PsyD
GRH-A Position: AMH Psychologist
Graduate Institution: Virginia Consortium for Professional Psychology
Internship: Hutchings Psychiatric Center (Syracuse, NY)
Areas of Specialty/Training: Psychodynamic Theory, Gender-Responsive Programming, Grief and Loss Issues, Trauma-Informed Interventions, Supervision and Training

H. Austin Jerani, PsyD
GRH-A Position: AMH Psychologist
Graduate Institution: Albizu University
Internship: Neurobehavioral Institute of Miami (Miami, FL)
Areas of Specialty/Training: Clinical Psychology, Assessment, Substance Use Treatment, Group Counseling

Josilyn Martin, PsyD
GRH-A Position: AMH Psychologist
Graduate Institution: Nova Southeastern University
Internship: Broughton Hospital (Morgantown, NC)
Areas of Specialty/Training: Clinical Psychology, Serious Mental Illness, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Psychological Assessment

Anne Moore, PsyD
GRH-A Position: AMH Psychologist
Graduate Institution: Georgia School of Professional Psychology
Internship: Northwest Georgia Regional Hospital (Rome, GA)
Areas of Specialty/Training: Clinical Psychology (Adult), Dual Diagnoses, Addiction, Corrections, Disability Evaluations, Brief Interventions

Allison Paganelli, PsyD, ABPP
GRH-A Position: AMH Psychologist (Part-time)
Graduate Institution: The Georgia School of Professional Psychology at Argosy University
Internship: The Colorado Mental Health Institute at Fort Logan (Denver, CO)
Areas of Specialty/Training: Psychological Testing/Diagnostic Assessment, Dual Diagnoses, Interventions with Persons with SMI, Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Recovery

Brittany Penson-Prothro, PhD
GRH-A Position: Forensic Psychologist
Graduate Institution: Texas A&M University
Internship: Saint Elizabeths Hospital (Washington, DC)
Areas of Specialty/Training: Forensic Psychology/Assessment, Serious Mental Illness, Cross Cultural Psychology

Haley Sauro, PsyD
GRH-A Position: Forensic Psychologist
Graduate Institution: Nova Southeastern University
Internship: Travis County Psychology Internship Program (Austin, TX)
Areas of Specialty/Training: Assessment, Forensic Psychology, Dialectical Behavior Therapy

Danielle E. Seal, PsyD
GRH-A Position: Outpatient Forensic Psychologist (Community Forensic Services, West)
Graduate Institution: Georgia Southern University
Internship: Springfield Hospital Center (Sykesville, MD)
Areas of Specialization/Training: Forensic Psychology/Assessment and Serious Mental Illness

Olivia Subramani, PhD
GRH-A Position: Forensic Psychologist
Graduate Institution: Georgia State University
Internship: S Tulane School of Medicine
Areas of Specialization/Training: Forensic Psychology/Assessment, Serious Mental Illness, Violence Risk Research and Assessment

Pamela Thompson, PsyD
GRH-A Position: Adult Mental Health Psychologist (Part-time)
Graduate Institution: Georgia School of Professional Psychology
Internship: University of Tennessee, Memphis Medical School (Consortium)
Areas of Specialization/Training: Interpersonal Effectiveness; Use of Genogram for Intensive Intrapersonal Growth; DBT Skills Groups

Internship Admissions, Support, and Initial Placement Data

Date Program Tables are updated: 8/28/26

Program Disclosures

Does the program or institution require students, trainees, and/or staff (faculty) to comply with specific policies or practices related to the institution's affiliation or purpose? Such policies or practices may include, but are not limited to, admissions, hiring, retention policies, and/or requirements for completion that express mission and values?	__X___ **Yes** _____ **No**

If yes, provide website link (or content from brochure) where this specific information is presented:

Interns are required to attend and successfully complete a general, hospital-wide orientation program through the DBHDD University prior to psychology internship-specific orientation with the internship co-directors. Additional hospital-wide online and in-person trainings must also be successfully completed as those training requirements emerge throughout the internship year. **(brochure p.5)**

Applicants must meet all requirements to be employed by the State of Georgia. This includes having a pre-employment screening, which will be arranged through the Human Resources department. As are all employees for the State of Georgia, interns are required to successfully complete mandatory random drug screenings, criminal background checks, reference verification, and other human resources requirements. The internship program has no jurisdiction over employment-related decisions resulting from a positive drug screen or adverse criminal history, and interns should be aware of this as they apply. **(brochure p.12)**

Internship Program Admissions

Briefly describe in narrative form important information to assist potential applicants in assessing their likely fit with your program. This description must be consistent with the program's policies on intern selection and practicum and academic preparation requirements:

Georgia Regional Hospital-Atlanta (GRH-A) is an inpatient psychiatric state hospital in the metropolitan area of Atlanta, Georgia. The internship program currently has three full-time doctoral psychology positions. The intern chooses one of two tracks, either on adult inpatient mental health (civil commitment) units, or on adult forensic services inpatient units (2 rotations) and outpatient evaluation (1 rotation). For the forensic track, applicants should have had coursework and/or clinical training in a forensic psychology setting. For either track, a good fit for the GRH-A program would be applicants who have prior clinical experience in an inpatient setting or working with SMI in any setting; an interest in working in inpatient settings, with

underserved populations with serious mental illness; well-developed report-writing skills; and interest and experience working with diverse populations.

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:			
Total Direct Contact Intervention Hours	No		Amount: NA
Total Direct Contact Assessment Hours	No		Amount: NA

Describe any other required minimum criteria used to screen applicants:
The minimum requirements for the GRH-A Psychology Doctoral internship program include that the applicant is currently enrolled in a psychology PhD or PsyD program, has completed at least 60 semester hours in that program and has passed the required clinical comprehensive exams, and that total completed practica hours including intervention, assessment, supervision and support should meet a minimum of 1000 hours. However, the GRH-A internship program recognizes the potential impact of COVID-19 on practicum hours in recent years and will take this into consideration when reviewing applications.

Financial and Other Benefit Support for Upcoming Training Year*

Annual Stipend/Salary for Full-time Interns	$34,674	
Annual Stipend/Salary for Half-time Interns	NA	
Program provides access to medical insurance for intern?	**(Yes)**	No
If access to medical insurance is provided:		
Trainee contribution to cost required?	**(Yes)**	No
Coverage of family member(s) available?	**(Yes)**	No
Coverage of legally married partner available?	**(Yes)**	No
Coverage of domestic partner available?	Yes	**(No)**
Hours of Annual Paid Personal Time Off (PTO and/or Vacation)	120 (5/pay period)	
Hours of Annual Paid Sick Leave	120 (5/pay period)	
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)**	No

Other Benefits (please describe):

GRH-A psychology interns are employees of the State of Georgia while here as an intern. As such, they are able to purchase elective health, dental, vision, legal, disability, accidental death and dismemberment insurance. Health care and child-care spending accounts and life and dependent life insurance are also available on an elective basis. Employees participate in the Employee Retirement System. Contributions are based on a percentage of salary. Group Term Life insurance is provided to all members of the Employee Retirement System. Tax shelter plans are available that enable employees to provide for greater retirement security. Fund programs are available in both 457 and 401(k) plans. Employees are eligible to become members of the Human Services Employee Credit Union.

All use of leave must take into consideration the requirements of completing 2,000 hours of logged clinical training as an intern and the program's design that aims for the completion of a doctoral internship in 365 days.

*Note. Programs are not required by the Commission on Accreditation to provide all benefits listed in this table

Initial Post-Internship Positions

(Provide an Aggregated Tally for the Preceding 3 Cohorts)

	2022-2025	
Total # of interns who were in the 3 cohorts	6	
Total # of interns who did not seek employment because they returned to their doctoral program/are completing doctoral degree	0	
	PD	**EP**
Academic teaching	0	0
Community mental health center	1	0
Consortium	0	0
University Counseling Center	0	0
Hospital/Medical Center	3	0
Veterans Affairs Health Care System	0	0
Psychiatric facility	2	0
Correctional facility	0	0
Health maintenance organization	0	0
School district/system	0	0
Independent practice setting	0	0
Other: Active Duty Military	0	0

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.

The Doctoral Psychology Internship Program at Georgia Regional Hospital – Atlanta is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of the American Psychological Association.
Questions related to the program’s accredited status should be directed to the Commission on Accreditation:

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