

Community Mental Health Internship Program (Psy.D.)

Internship Training Details

The [APA-accredited](#) Community Mental Health Internship Program is exclusively affiliated with [Adler University](#) and includes placements in several community-based partnership sites. Through these placement experiences, interns become competent in the areas of clinical intervention, diagnostic assessment, professional development, cultural issues, and professional ethics and standards. The primary objective of the program is to prepare interns to become entry-level clinical psychologists.

Interns offer clinical services at and through community-based partnerships. Interns are assigned to particular community sites based on their interests, training and educational needs, and abilities. In addition to providing direct clinical service, interns receive individual, group, and peer supervision; participate in case disposition meetings; and attend didactic workshops and seminars. Interns also provide supervision to assessment and therapy externs and receive supervision on their supervision by a licensed clinical psychologist.

Services provided in the community through community partnerships include individual, group, family, and couples psychotherapy; personality and cognitive ability assessment; support groups; consultation; partner site staff training; telehealth; and psycho-educational programs.

The APA-accredited internship program offers eight (8) full-time positions for Adler University students. The internship begins in September 1st and ends August 31st.

Intern Compensation

- Stipend: \$28,352 per annum
- Health Insurance
- 10 paid vacation days
- 10 sick days
- Up to three audited courses (one per trimester)

Program Goal

The primary goal of this internship program is to prepare interns for entry-level practice, and readiness for the next phase of their training to become a clinical psychologist, whether it is a post-doctoral fellowship or supervised work experience.

Training Model

Professional psychology has been defined by [Adler University](#) faculty as the application of psychological knowledge and skills to forward the improvement of the human condition in the broadest sense with an emphasis on the direct delivery of professional services, including the design, implementation, and evaluation of assessment and change strategies as they are applied to individuals, families, groups, couples and organizations.

The internship uses the scholar-practitioner model of training, as articulated by the [National Council of Schools and Programs in Professional Psychology \(NCSPP\)](#) as the base for its training program. The internship has four goals with attendant objectives and competencies.

Training Model Goals (achievement of goals are measured across three domains: knowledge, skills, and attitude)

1. Goal One: entry level relationship competency across all professional activities
 1. Objective One: entry level competence in communication and interpersonal skills
 2. Objective Two: consistent demonstration of professional values, attitudes, and behaviors
2. Goal Two: entry level competence in the delivery of clinical services
 1. Objective One: entry level knowledge of and skill in psychological assessment/testing
 2. Objective Two: entry level knowledge of and skill in psychotherapy (individual, couple, family, and group)
3. Goal Three: entry level competence as a clinical psychologist in the delivery of other professional psychological services
 1. Objective One: entry level knowledge of and skill in supervision/ management
 2. Objective Two: entry level knowledge of and skill in consultation/education
 3. Objective Three: entry level knowledge of and skill in research/evaluation
4. Goal Four: development of a professional critical thinking attitude
 1. Objective One: knowledge of and sensitivity to human diversity issues
 2. Objective Two: entry level knowledge of ethical and legal standards
 3. Objective Three: entry level knowledge of and skill in socially responsible practice
 4. Objective Four: basic knowledge of major psychological theoretical orientations

Sub-competencies associated with the competencies articulated in each objective are operationalized by rubrics contained in the Intern Evaluation Form and in Appendix B of the Internship Handbook.

Internship Training Activities

Supervision	
Individual Supervision (1 hour with 2 different supervising psychologists)	2 hours weekly
Assessment Case Disposition	1 hour weekly
Clinical Supervision Seminar	1 hour weekly
Seminars/Didactics	
Theoretical Orientations Seminar	1 hour weekly
Director of Training's Meeting	1 hour weekly
Intern Seminar	
Intern Seminar Topics are:	
Socially Responsible Practice	(4 one hour modules/year)*
Ethics	(2 one hour modules/year)*
Trauma-Informed Care	(8 one hour modules/year)*
Program Evaluation/Research	(4 one hour modules/year)*

*Note: Modules are spaced out throughout the training year	
Other Meetings	
Professional Issues Group	1 hour every other week
Extern Supervision	3 hours weekly
Therapy Didactic Presentation to Externs	1 hour, once during the training year

Interns are expected to complete a minimum of three (3) full assessment batteries by the end of the internship year.

Program Outcomes

Upon completion of the internship, interns, therefore, are expected to demonstrate the following:

- entry level competence in the areas of relationship, assessment, intervention, consultation/education, and supervision/management;
- an understanding of the importance of research and the use of the local clinical scientist model in providing clinical services;
- appreciation of and respect for the role of gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, race, religion, age, and other aspects of individual and cultural diversity in providing services and working with individuals;
- a basic understanding of the major psychological theoretical orientations;
- a sensitivity to the importance of extra-psychic context/environment that may contribute to the overall health of an individual and a commitment to contributing to the greater good of the community;
- a commitment to the highest level of professional values, attitudes, and behaviors, including individual responsibility, cooperation, and collaboration in working with others; and
- a commitment to the highest standards of professional ethics, lifelong learning, and professional development

Supervision

Each intern is assigned two supervising psychologists. The intern will meet one hour per week for supervision with each of the two supervisors. The intern's Primary Supervisor functions as a preceptor and is responsible for 70% of psychotherapy cases as well as supervision of the intern's supervision of their extern supervisees. The Secondary Supervisor is either the ACHS Executive Director or the Director of Training and is responsible for 30% of psychotherapy cases.

The psychologist supervisor of a case is the legal and ethical owner of the case. Interns may seek consultation with another psychologist, but all clinical decisions are the responsibility of the case psychologist supervisor.

The intern should make every effort to audio record and/or video record therapy sessions. After the supervisor reviews the recorded session, the intern will erase the session. Session recordings are only permissible with informed consent. Digital tape recorders are provided for each intern; interns at sites that do not have video-recording capability will be provided with videorecorders

as well.

The intern will also be required to videotape supervision sessions with their externs periodically, for use in the Clinical Supervision Seminar and for review by their Primary Supervisor. Video recording equipment is provided for the intern's use.

Accreditation

The Adler Community Mental Health Internship Program at Adler Community Health Services is accredited by the American Psychological Association. The Commission on Accreditation of the APA can be contacted at:

Commission on Accreditation

[Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation](#)

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