

Clinical Neuropsychology Postdoctoral Residency Competencies

Integration of Science and Practice

- Maintain currency of knowledge and skills in clinical neuropsychology practice, using scientific literature, seminars, conferences, training sessions, and/or other evidence-based resources.
- Demonstrate and utilize knowledge in the following foundational areas, including:
 - the neuropsychology of behavior, including information processing theories, cognitive/affective neuroscience, behavioral neurology, and lifespan neuropsychology.
 - additional areas as relevant to practice, especially neuroanatomy, neural systems, brain development, and neuropathology.
- Demonstrate and utilize knowledge in the following key areas, including:
 - theories and methods of measurement and psychometrics relevant to brain-behavior relationships, cognitive abilities, social and emotional functioning, performance/symptom validity, test development, reliability, validity, and reliable change;
 - scientific basis of assessment, including test selection, use of appropriate normative standards, and test limitations;
 - patterns of behavioral, cognitive, and emotional impairments associated with neurological, psychiatric, and general medical diseases and conditions which affect brain structure and functioning;
 - patterns of incidence, prevalence (i.e., base-rate), natural course, and key signs/symptoms of disease processes for conditions of interest in neuropsychology;
 - the potential functional implications of neuromedical conditions, psychiatric conditions, and neuropsychological impairments as they relate to everyday ability level, quality of life, and educational/working/social/living environments.
- Apply key components of evidence-based practice (i.e., best evidence, clinical expertise, and patient characteristics/culture/values) in selecting appropriate assessment, intervention approaches, recommendations, and supervision methods, and when engaging in consultation with other disciplines.

Ethical and Legal Standards/Policy

- Are knowledgeable of, and consistently act in accordance with,
 - the current version of the APA Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct;
 - relevant laws, statutes, regulations, rules, and policies governing the practice of clinical neuropsychology at the organizational, local, state, regional, and federal levels;
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- relevant professional standards and guidelines.
 - Are conversant with ethical and legal issues relevant to psychologists and neuropsychologists' activities across settings, including informed consent, provider roles and relationships with patients/examinees, third party assessments, use of technicians/psychometrists, third party observers, disclosure of neuropsychological test data, test security, and assessment of performance/symptom validity.
 - Recognize ethical dilemmas as they arise, apply ethical decision-making processes to resolve dilemmas, and utilize professional and legal consultation as appropriate.
 - Conduct self in an ethical manner in all professional activities.
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Individual and Cultural Diversity

- Demonstrate an understanding of how their own personal/cultural history, attitudes, and biases may affect how they understand and interact with people different from themselves.
 - Integrate current theoretical and empirical knowledge of diversity issues in neuropsychological assessment, research, treatment, and consultation (e.g. health disparities, language differences, educational level, cultural context, literacy, individual differences); understand and appreciate how cultural, linguistic, disability, and other demographic/socioeconomic factors affect the process and outcomes of neuropsychological assessments and the application of normative data and interpretations in specific populations.
 - Demonstrate the ability to integrate awareness and knowledge of individual and cultural differences in the conduct of professional roles (e.g., research, services, and other professional activities). This includes the ability to apply a framework for working effectively with areas of individual and cultural diversity not previously encountered over the course of their careers. Also included is the ability to work effectively with individuals whose group membership, demographic characteristics, or worldviews create conflict with their own.
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Professional Identity & Relationships/Self-Reflective Practice

- Possess knowledge of the varying roles of clinical neuropsychologists across settings (e.g., practice, research, training) and assessment/intervention contexts.
 - Demonstrate professional behavior and comporment that reflects the values and attitudes of clinical neuropsychology.
 - Maintain productive relationships with a variety of individuals and demonstrate effective interpersonal skills, including the ability to manage difficult communication well.
 - Engage in reflective self-assessment regarding limits of competence (e.g., knowledge base and skill sets necessary for practice).
 - Exhibit awareness of personal and professional problems and demonstrate positive coping strategies with personal and professional stressors and challenges.
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Interdisciplinary Systems/Consultation

- Understand the key issues, concepts, and roles in related disciplines (e.g., neurology, psychiatry, neuroradiology, rehabilitation, and education) and other health professions, communicate effectively with other professionals, make appropriate referrals to them, and integrate their perspectives into case conceptualizations.
 - Function effectively in consulting roles across settings (e.g., clinical, legal, public policy, research), clarifying referral questions, applying knowledge appropriate to each setting, and communicating results to referral sources both verbally and in writing.
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Assessment

- In neuropsychological assessment, accurately discern and clarify assessment questions, including who will be the “consumers” of the assessment results, and how assessment results will be utilized.
 - Effectively gather information essential to addressing assessment questions, utilizing
 - clinical interviews;
 - targeted behavioral observations;
 - records reviews;
 - selection, administration, and scoring of neuropsychological tests appropriate to specific assessment contexts.
 - Interpret assessment results to produce integrated conceptualizations, accurate diagnostic classifications, and useful recommendations.
 - Communicate both orally and in written reports the results and conclusions of assessments in an accurate, helpful, and understandable manner, sensitive to a range of audiences.
 - Address issues related to specific patient populations by referring to providers with specialized competence when appropriate, obtaining consultation, utilizing appropriate normative data, and describing limitations in assessment interpretation.
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Intervention

- Understand evidenced-based intervention practices to address cognitive and behavioral problems present in different clinical populations.
 - Understand how complex neurobehavioral disorders and sociocultural factors can affect the applicability of interventions.
 - Employ assessment and provision of feedback for therapeutic benefit.
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Research

- Accurately and effectively perform neuropsychological research activities, monitor progress, evaluate outcome, and communicate research findings.
- Apply knowledge of existing neuropsychological literature and the scientific method to generate appropriate research questions and determine effective research design and appropriate analysis.

Teaching/Supervision/Mentoring

- Demonstrate knowledge of teaching, supervision, and mentoring theories, methods, and practices relevant to clinical neuropsychology.
- Teach, supervise, and mentor related to clinical neuropsychology effectively and appropriately.

Management/Administration

- Possess knowledge of common administrative and business practices in neuropsychology practice (e.g., referral patterns, coding, billing, documentation).
 - Manage responsibility for key patient care tasks and contacts with effective documentation in a timely manner.
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