

**C-9(d) P. Postdoctoral Residency Level 3 – Specialty Competencies  
Clinical Neuropsychology**

(Commission on Accreditation, September 2021; revised February 2022)

Programs that are accredited in a substantive specialty practice area, as identified in IR C-5 P, are required to provide advanced preparation for practice in the competencies and associated elements associated with the specialty practice area. Specialty competencies must be operationalized in terms of multiple elements and must, at a minimum, reflect the bulleted content for each required specialty competency.

**I. Research**

Postdoctoral residents are expected to:

- 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.

**II. Professional Values, Attitudes, and Behaviors**

Postdoctoral residents are expected to:

- behave in ways that reflect the values and attitudes of psychology and Clinical Neuropsychology, including integrity, deportment, professional identity, accountability, lifelong learning, and concern for the welfare of others.
- engage in self-reflection regarding one's personal and professional functioning; engage in activities to maintain and improve performance, well-being, and professional effectiveness.
- actively seek and demonstrate openness and responsiveness to feedback and supervision.
- respond professionally in increasingly complex situations with a greater degree of independence.
- demonstrate an emerging professional identity consistent with the Clinical Neuropsychology specialty.

**III. Communication and Interpersonal Skills**

Postdoctoral residents are expected to:

- develop and maintain effective relationships with a wide range of individuals, including colleagues, communities, organizations, supervisors, supervisees, and those receiving professional services.
- produce and comprehend oral, nonverbal, and written communications that are informative and well-integrated; demonstrate a thorough grasp of professional language and concepts.
- demonstrate effective interpersonal skills and the ability to manage difficult communication well.

**IV. Assessment**

Postdoctoral residents are expected to:

- utilize clinical interviews, behavioral observations, record review, and selection, administration, and scoring of neuropsychological tests to answer the assessment question.

- demonstrate the ability to accurately discern and clarify assessment questions, the recipients of the assessment results, and how assessment results will be utilized.
- interpret assessment results to produce integrated conceptualizations, accurate diagnostic classifications, and useful recommendations informed by functional aspects of everyday living, quality of life, and educational/working/social/living environments.
- 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.
- 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.
- demonstrate knowledge of 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.
- demonstrate knowledge of the scientific basis of assessment, including test selection, use of appropriate normative standards, and test limitations.
- demonstrate knowledge of patterns of a) behavioral, cognitive, and emotional impairments associated with neurological, psychiatric, and general medical conditions that affect brain structure and functioning and b) incidence, prevalence (i.e., base-rate), natural course, and key signs/symptoms of disease processes for conditions of interest in neuropsychology.

#### **V. Intervention**

Postdoctoral residents are expected to:

- demonstrate an understanding of evidence-based interventions to address cognitive and behavioral problems common to recipients of neuropsychological services.
- demonstrate an understanding of how complex neurobehavioral disorders and sociocultural factors can affect the applicability of interventions.
- use assessment and provision of feedback for therapeutic benefit.

#### **VI. Consultation and Interprofessional/Interdisciplinary Skills**

Postdoctoral residents are expected to:

- demonstrate knowledge and respect for the roles and perspectives of other professions such as effective communication, appropriate referrals, and integration of 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.

## **VII. Teaching/Supervision/Mentoring**

Postdoctoral residents are expected to:

- demonstrate knowledge of supervision models and practices related to Clinical Neuropsychology.
- teach, supervise, and mentor others by accurately, effectively, and appropriately presenting information related to Clinical Neuropsychology.