



SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University - Department of Neurology Externships Clinical Neuropsychology

2 Tracks: Adult and Pediatric

The Department of Neurology at State University of New York (SUNY) Downstate Medical Center offers a neuropsychology externship for psychology graduate students. The externship student will receive training in neuropsychological assessment that includes interviews, test administration, scoring, interpretation, report writing, and providing feedback. There are two positions available, both of which provide extensive neuropsychological experience with different populations.

Didactics include Neurology Grand Rounds, epilepsy surgery conference, neurobehavioral conference, clinical case presentations, journal club, as well as lectures specific to neuropsychology. Externs will also have opportunities to observe the Wada procedure. Opportunities to conduct independent research projects or assist in research conducted by faculty are available.

Adult Track-This placement is focused on neuropsychological assessment of adults, primarily outpatients, with a wide range of neurological conditions, with an emphasis on epilepsy (e.g., pre- and post-surgical evaluations) and MCI/dementia. Other populations include TBI, stroke, ADHD, HIV, and patients with cognitive difficulties in the context of chronic illnesses, such as diabetes, as well as those with psychiatric conditions. Training includes cross-cultural neuropsychological assessments as we serve diverse patients in Brooklyn. The student works under close supervision of Dr. Luba Nakhutina, Ph.D., ABPP-CN, lifespan Board Certified Neuropsychologist in the Dep. of Neurology. Students must be available on Thursdays and Fridays.

Pediatric Track- The trainee's experience will focus on neurodevelopmental disorders and brain-behavior functioning in children, adolescents, and young adults. In this outpatient setting, the patient population presents with a wide variety of functional impairments secondary to neurological, neurodevelopmental, psychiatric, and comorbid conditions. This may include cerebral palsy, epilepsy, headaches, head injury, congenital malformations, CNS tumors, autism, learning disabilities, ADHD, language impairments, and mood disorders. Trainees may also have the opportunity to participate in clinical research and behavior interventions (Applied Behavior Analysis, Social Skills Training) for children with autism spectrum disorder. The student works under close supervision of Dr. Emily Kurlansik, Psy.D., BCBA NCSP, Pediatric Neuropsychologist, Board Certified Behavior Analyst, and Certified School Psychologist, Div. of Pediatric Neurology. Students must be available on Thursdays.

Applications are being accepted for the **2024-2025** academic year.

For more information, please contact:

Dr. Luba Nakhutina at luba.nakhutina@downstate.edu - Adult track

Dr. Emily Kurlansik at emily.kurlansik@downstate.edu - Pediatric Track

Interested applicants are required to submit:

1. letter of interest
2. letter of readiness
3. CV
4. Writing sample (i.e., clinical report)
5. 2 letters of recommendation