

Provide description of Externship:

WEILL CORNELL BRAIN AND SPINE CENTER, DEPARTMENT OF NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY, DIVISION OF NEUROPSYCHOLOGY: EXTERNSHIP IN CLINICAL NEUROPSYCHOLOGY (LIFESPAN)

Please join us for a virtual open house to meet the attendings and learn more about this unique externship placement. This open house will be held on: December 12, 2023 from 6:00pm to 7:30pm. Zoom link: <https://weillcornell.zoom.us/j/95844522291>

Our Neurosurgery Attendings, who include far more supratentorial specialists than most programs, respect and frequently utilize Neuropsychologists within the Neurological Surgery Department for both clinical assistance and research. This setting allows us to offer diverse experience for neuropsychology externs, under the supervision of two to three full-time Neuropsychologists.

We are recruiting **seven to nine doctoral**-level externs for a full two-day-a-week placement (16 hours) focused on neuropsychological evaluations, cognitive remediation, and research. Specifically, externs will work with diverse patient populations across the lifespan (ages 4 through geriatrics) presenting with varying neurological, medical, and neurodevelopmental disorders, including, but not limited to: Parkinson's disease and movement-related disorders, epilepsy, brain tumors, brain cysts, Chiari malformations, cerebrovascular disorders, dementia, paraneoplastic syndromes, craniofacial disorders, neuromuscular and genetic disorders, as well as post-COVID-19 neuropsychiatric sequelae.

Externs may have the opportunity to take part in evaluating patients who require elective neurosurgery (i.e., tumor resection, epilepsy surgery, deep brain stimulator implantation, VP shunt) and Wada testing, as well as intra- and extra-operative functional language mappings. Additionally, given the international reputation of Weill Cornell Medicine, our patients consist of a global, culturally, linguistically and ethnically diverse patient base. Bilingual students that would like experience learning to administer Spanish-language measures across the lifespan can receive supervision by a Spanish-speaking neuropsychologist, if interested.

Externs will also have the opportunity to participate in both individual and group cognitive remediation therapy with patients experiencing cognitive and emotional difficulties following treatment and intervention for neurological and neurosurgical disorders.

For the upcoming academic 2024-2025 year, and in light of ongoing COVID-19 practice modifications, clinical services are conducted in person, remotely, or a combination of both, depending on the safety guidelines of the university at that point in time. Currently, the externship follows a hybrid model requiring both virtual and in-person experiences for neuropsychological assessment and treatment.

Externs may participate in a number of didactic programs that include: Neurosurgery Grand Rounds, Neurology Grand Rounds, Epilepsy Conference, Interventional

Neuroradiology/Cerebrovascular Rounds, Pediatric Fellow Case Conference, and Tumor Board, among others are available. Neuropsychology and Cognitive Remediation Seminars will be provided.

Additionally, there is also an opportunity to be involved in the multiple research studies that are currently being conducted (**ideal for potential thesis or dissertation projects**).

General information about externship site:

Supervisors: Amanda Sacks-Zimmerman, Ph.D., ABPP- CN & Heidi A. Bender, Ph.D., ABPP- CN

Training directors, (degree): Amanda Sacks-Zimmerman, Ph.D., ABPP-CN & Heidi A. Bender, Ph.D., ABPP-CN, Ph.D.

Length of externship (in months): 12 (combined summer and academic year externship highly preferred)

Mandatory Orientation Dates: June 13 & June 14, 2024

Start Date Summer Externship: June 3, 2024

End Date Summer Externship: August 23, 2024

Start Date Academic Year Externship: June 3 3, 2024 – August 29, 2025

How many hours a week are expected of extern?: 16

Specialty tracks: Neuropsychology, Bilingual (English/Spanish if interested)

of externs to be accepted for 2024-2025: 7-9

Minimum level of readiness (any prior experiences or level of training required for applicants: Prior neuropsychological coursework/training is preferred. Applicants must be currently enrolled as a doctoral student in psychology and have completed the first year of doctoral study.

Do you provide a stipend? No If so how much? N/A

On-Site Location: 525 East 68 Street, New York, NY

Any questions should be directed to Dr. Amanda Sacks-Zimmerman: ams9095@med.cornell.edu and Dr. Heidi A. Bender: hab9075@med.cornell.edu

Interviews:

When do you expect to begin interviews?: Interviews will be conducted in compliance with the published guidelines.

Interview process (provide information about interview process- time frame, how decisions are made) Also, do you conduct individual and/or group interviews; case presentation, other information?: All interviews will be conducted virtually, during which a case presentation/data summary may be discussed.

What application materials are required: cover letter, CV, 2 letters of reference, letter of readiness from the applicant's program, neuropsychological assessment report (if available), and

list of neuropsychological measures applicant has experience administering. It is preferred that letters of recommendation be submitted with the rest of the materials in a single PDF document.

Intervention and Assessment:

Intervention training experiences offered: Estimate average number of individual patients that students will carry; estimate number of groups and other types of interventions. Offer description: Opportunity to provide integrated treatment interventions (i.e., cognitive remediation and cognitive behavioral therapy). The opportunity to co-lead intervention group(s) may be available, 1-2 per week

Assessment training experiences commonly offered. Describe: Comprehensive neuropsychological evaluations across the lifespan

Expected number of full assessment batteries completed during externship (defined as administration of a battery of standardized tests): 1-2 per week

Estimate # of integrated assessment reports per year: At least 1 per week

If offering Rorschach, which scoring systems used: N/A

Supervision:

Estimate hours/week of individual supervision: 2

Estimated hours/week of group supervision: 1-2

Estimated hour/week of didactics: 1-2

Estimated co-therapy hours with supervisors: As available

Context of didactics (seminars, Grand Rounds): seminars, grand rounds, surgical conferences

Estimated informal open door "curbside" supervision: as needed

Describe direct supervision: assessments will be observed in the beginning of externship for as long as appropriate for each student's level of experience and comfort as well as one to one oversight

Support:

If you have only one extern, would you be to have the extern participate in a peer support consortium with other sites- live or "SKYPE"?: N/A

Is the agency readily accessible through public transportation?: Yes

Wheelchair accessible: Yes

Are home visits required as part of the trainee's duties?: No

Is a transportation stipend provided?: No