



## Child Mind Institute - Neuropsychology Externship

### **Externship Description:**

The Child Mind Institute (CMI) offers psychology graduate students a yearlong externship in neuropsychology in our Learning and Development Center. The neuropsychology externship program is designed for graduate students in clinical, school-clinical, neuropsychological, and clinical health psychology programs. Applicants should at least be entering their third year of training. Preference is given to clinical psychology students who are or will be taking neuropsychological assessment classes or who are enrolled in a specialized neuropsychology program or track.

The Learning and Development Center is dedicated to giving children the tools and support they need to manage their learning difficulties and succeed in school. Our dedicated team of clinicians, which includes two board certified neuropsychologists, provides diagnostic evaluations, neuropsychological testing, and personalized education plans that consider a child's learning strengths and deficits. Most important, our clinicians write comprehensive, user-friendly reports that offer recommendations for families and schools that may serve as baselines from which to measure a child's future progress.

### **Learning and Development Center (Neuropsychology) Faculty:**

- Matthew Cruger, PhD; Senior Director, Learning and Development Center
- Kenneth Schuster, PsyD; Clinical Neuropsychologist; Director of Clinical Training
- Laura Phillips, PsyD, ABPdN; Clinical Neuropsychologist
- Adam Zamora, PsyD; Clinical Neuropsychologist
- Daryaneh Badaly, PhD; Clinical Neuropsychologist
- Alex Bellantuono, PhD; Clinical Neuropsychologist

### **General Information:**

*Director of the Program:* Matthew Cruger, PhD, Senior Director, Learning and Development Center

*Training Director:* Kenneth Schuster, PsyD, Director of Clinical Training

*Website:* [TBA](#)

*URL for Externship Brochure:* <https://nynjadot.apa.org/job/child-mind-institute-neuropsychology-externship-new-york-new-york-0033/hash/0ddaeb9b993a2827f77bdf449315d1ee>

*Length of externship (in months):* 12

*Start Date:* July 6, 2021 [Mandatory orientation on July 6, 2021 for all externs]

*End Date:* June 30, 2022

*How many hours a week are expected of extern?:* 20 (2.5 days per week, Fridays required)

Specialty tracks: None

# of externs to be accepted for 2021-22: 2

Minimum level of readiness (any prior experiences or level of training required for applicants): 3rd year doctoral student or higher

Preferences: Experienced in administration of IQ and other cognitive measures, along with academic achievement measures. Preference given to those who have worked with children with neurodevelopmental disorders (e.g., ADHD, learning disorders, language disorders).

### **Interviews:**

When do you expect to begin interviews? Interviews will be scheduled beginning January 20, 2021; Interviews will occur between January 25 and February 26, 2021.

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?: Interviews will take place during the week. Applicants will have one interview with two staff members, during which time they should be prepared to discuss their interest in the training experience, training goals, and prior testing experience. Applicants should also be prepared to present an assessment case.

What application materials are required (i.e., CV, transcript, how many reference letters, case summary, test report, other)?: To apply to the Neuropsychology Externship, please electronically submit a cover letter; up-to-date CV (including a list of assessment measures in which applicants are familiar, have some experience, and are proficient); eligibility letter; two letters of recommendation; and a de-identified testing report. *Please note that the new consortium guidelines require that all of these documents are submitted as a single PDF.* Please address the cover letter to Matthew Cruger, PhD; Senior Director, Learning and Development Center; and Kenneth Schuster, PsyD; Director of Clinical Training. If you have any questions regarding the Neuropsychology Externship, please contact Laura Phillips, PsyD, ABPdN (Laura.Phillips@childmind.org). For general Child Mind Institute psychology externship questions, please contact Kenneth Schuster, PsyD, Director of Clinical Training (Kenneth.Schuster@childmind.org).

Applicants may only apply to UP TO TWO externships at the Child Mind Institute (applications submitted separately). Applicants must indicate the externship or externships that they are applying to in their cover letters. Applications may be submitted beginning January 11, 2021 in accordance with Consortium Guidelines. Interviews will be held by invitation and scheduled on a rolling admission basis. Notification of acceptance will begin on March 8, 2021 at 9am. Please note that students that submit applications for two externships will receive only one offer during the first round. Information as to whether a second offer will follow will not be provided.

### **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: There are opportunities to work individually with school-age students and young adults on organizational skills, planning, time management and related executive functioning skills. Typically, an extern will carry two cases at one time.

Assessment training experiences commonly offered. Describe: The externship will primarily involve performing neuropsychological, psychodiagnostic, developmental and psychoeducational evaluations. Patient populations include children and adolescents with various learning disabilities, ADHD with comorbid learning problems, and children with various neurological conditions affecting cognitive development and learning. The extern will be required to administer, score, and write reports based on test results obtained. Externs will also participate in intakes and feedback relevant to these testing cases. Our training approach is based on a developmental model that involves close mentorship and partnership. You will be working closely with our neuropsychologists in the first phase of the externship, observing the different staff perform evaluations and seeing many different children for different portions of an evaluation. Later, you will administer tests with a supervisor present to guide you in the development of your professional clinical and to help develop your mastery of many neuropsychological instruments. You will then also be assigned personal assessment cases that you will see through the entire

evaluation: intake, assessment, and feedback. We aim to have you observe and participate with many different cases and to give you time to work independently on your own cases.

Expected number of full assessment batteries completed during externship (defined as administration of a battery of standardized tests): 4-8

Estimate # of integrated assessment reports per year: 4-8

### **Supervision:**

Estimate hours/week of individual supervision: 1

Estimated hours/week of group supervision: 1

Estimated hour/week of didactics: 1-2

Estimated co-therapy hours with supervisors: Externs permitted to observe supervisor testing sessions. Externs will administer tests under supervision during training. Externs will conduct intake and feedback sessions with a supervisor present.

Context of didactics (seminars, Grand Rounds): In addition to a year-round, Institute-wide training series, neuropsychology externs will participate in a bi-weekly didactic series focused on neuropsychological assessment, neurodevelopmental disorders, and intervention. Case conference will take place approximately 1-2 times per month. Additionally, externs attend lectures through our Visiting Professor Series, which are instructed by renowned experts in mental health, and externs have the opportunity to meet as a group with each visiting professor.

Estimated informal open door "curbside" supervision: Supervisors have open-door policy and make themselves available to the extent that schedules allow.

Describe direct supervision: Students will observe full team of neuropsychologists in their assessments for the first 1-2 months of the training year, after which supervisors will directly observe students in administration of at least one full neuropsychological battery. All intakes and feedbacks will take place with supervisor present. Supervisor closely supervises writing of neuropsychological assessment report, which also follows a developmental model.

### **Additional Information:**

- **Presentations:** Externs may assist in faculty presentations to professional and community groups as well as monthly parent support/education groups. Externs may also have the opportunity to participate in research and conference presentations. Together we decide what role externs take, depending on the individual extern's level of experience and comfort in that subject area. It has varied from simply observing our presentations to taking the lead on them.
- **Additional:** Opportunities may be available to be involved in research projects, which may be suitable to satisfy a Master's thesis or similar requirement.

### **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"?: No.

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.