

# **Children's Neuropsychological Services, LLC** Neuropsychology Advanced Practicum 2019 - 2020

Children's Neuropsychological Services (CNS) is seeking (2) trainees for advanced practicum in pediatric neuropsychological assessment. Our primary objective is to provide practicum students with a well-rounded practicum experience in pediatric neuropsychological assessment. We believe in integrating science-based theory with the philosophy of "testing for success" results in the best assessment outcome. Our approach to assessment relies heavily on two basic tenets: life-span development and prevention. Within this context, our training aims to foster growth of independent practice skills within a highly collegial environment.

# **Training Overview**

Advanced practicum students will receive extensive supervised experience in conducting pediatric neuropsychological evaluations in an outpatient private practice setting. The majority of the students' time will be spent conducting direct neuropsychological assessment with individuals ranging from 4 to 24 years of age. Our patient population is diverse and will expose the practicum students to a range of neurodevelopmental or acquired disorders, including ADHD, Learning Disorders, Autism Spectrum Disorders, Sports-Related Concussion, TBI, and neuromedical conditions. Patients are typically referred from pediatricians, neurologists, psychiatrists, psychologists, other health service providers, and school professionals. Within a highly supportive environment, practicum students will be expected to participate in *all* aspects of the evaluation at their training level, including interview, case review/preparation, standardized assessment, report writing, feedback, and consultation to referral source. Training, supportive supervision, shadowing, and co-clinical service will be provided as needed as the practicum students work to develop their skills towards independent practice levels. This will be individually tailored to meet the needs of the practicum student. Practicum students may also have the opportunity to provide consultation and/or participate in school meetings if interested, but this is not required. Didactic trainings, supervision, and case presentations will comprise the remainder of the practicum time.

# **Supervision**

Supervision and peer mentorship will be provided formally or informally on a daily basis. At a minimum, the practicum student will receive 2 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hours of direct supervision by Dr. Mautz and/or a licensed CNS clinician each week. Dr. Matthew Conway will also be available for consultation with practicum students. Supervision will occur formally in-person and informally as needed (via teleconference/phone) and focus on the process of assessment, report writing skills, providing effective feedback, maintaining ethical practice is clinical neuropsychology, and application of special educational law. The practicum student should work closely with their academic director of training and Dr. Mautz to ensure all advanced practicum training goals are being met and documented according to standards set forth by the students' academic department and state licensure board.

# **Eligibility and Expectations**

Qualified applicants should have a good working knowledge of child development, be able to document previous experiences working with school-aged children, and must have strong report writing skills. It is expected that all required coursework has been completed in psychological/cognitive assessment and psychopathology. While previous neuropsychological assessment experience would be ideal, candidates with high learning potential, experience working with children, and eagerness to learn and apply neuropsychological knowledge will be considered. Those with experience conducting assessments with gold standard autism assessment instruments (e.g. ADOS-2) would be desirable but not required. Compensation may also be available for practicum students to receive formal assessment training in administering the ADOS-2.

All students will be expected to complete 1 neuropsychological assessment per week with a total year caseload of 35-45 cases. Assessments will be conducted on a committed day of the week to be determined, and practicum students are expected to work towards developing autonomy in practice throughout the academic year, including conducting medical record reviews, clinical interviews with children/parents, test administration/scoring, and providing neuropsychological feedback to parents, youth, and referring providers.

Students will also be encouraged to participate in our weekly didactic/seminar series. Specifically, seminars are held at CNS on Wednesdays throughout the year and include Neuroanatomy, Behavioral Neurology, and Cognitive Neuroscience seminars. These seminars include national speakers who present through a teleconference format. Practicum students will also be expected to present on one clinical research topic in neuropsychology and present one case presentation throughout the training year. Additional trainings will be provided in one-on-one or small groups as needed in order to develop assessment skills, learn new assessment instruments, and accurately score/interpret neuropsychological test instruments. Technician support for scoring neuropsychological instruments may also be available during the first weeks of training as needed.

# **Eligibility Criteria and Application Materials**

Applicants must submit the following: cover letter (specifying your interest in working with children and/or in neuropsychological assessment), Curriculum Vitae, graduate transcripts, list of psychological/neuropsychological tests administered, 3-letters of recommendation, and 2 deidentified assessment reports. If you do not have previous assessment reports to provide, please indicate this and an explanation in your cover letter. Please also specify the extent of assessment experience in your cover letter, including number of patients evaluated, number of reports written, experience in conducting clinical interviews, and providing evaluation feedback.

We are participating fully in the Practicum Training Collaborative (PTC), thus, we will be following the formal application deadline and inform dates set forth by the PTC. **Deadline**: January 7, 2019 **Inform Date**: February 11, 2019

# **Compensation and Case Load**

It will be expected that the advanced practicum students will see approximately 35-45 cases. Compensation will be provided at \$250 per case

All application materials should be submitted electronically to:

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