

## Childhood Trauma Treatment Program

### APA Accredited Psychology Internship Training Program

This is a full-time professional exempt position, totaling 2,000 internship training hours over the course of one calendar year. Hours are accrued Monday through Saturday. We will have 2 interns for this year.

Location: Hybrid model of treatment with both on site (required minimum 3 days per week) and remote provision of services to increase patient access to care.

Start Date: September 7, 2027; Training position is 52 weeks in duration.

Schedule: Interns maintain a 40 hour per week schedule, accruing hours Monday through Saturday with six hours of direct patient service occurring after 6pm, or four hours of direct patient service on Saturday. Our interns typically provide 15-20 billable patient service hours per week. Interns will receive two hours of individual supervision, two hours of didactic on a variety of topics (listed below), and one hour of peer supervision per week. Interns will provide one hour of supervision to one Advanced Practicum student under the supervision of a Licensed Clinical Psychologist. Thus, interns will also receive 60 minutes of supervision of supervision per week to support their supervisory duties. Finally, interns will complete approximately 4-6 psychological testing assessments and community engagement experiences, as assigned, throughout the training year.

Clinical Services: Provision of outpatient therapy and assessment to children, adolescents, and families. Many of these cases are children and adolescents with significant histories of abuse and neglect and may be involved with the foster care system (DCFS). Some cases are children and adolescents (age 14 and under) who display problematic sexual behaviors (PSBs). Interns also provide psychological assessments, as well as specialized assessments focused on trauma and PSB.

Additional Clinical Exposures: A.) Community engagement and psychoeducation - As assigned; Interns receive training to facilitate various evidenced-based psychoeducation and prevention based programming, including Circle of Security, Resource Parent Curriculum, and more; B.) Supervisory experience - Weekly; Interns will supervise one Advanced Practicum Clinical Psychology student under the supervision of a Licensed Clinical Psychologist; C.) CTTP clinical didactic and case consultation – Weekly; Interns will participate in collaboration and consultation with staff and cohort of CTTP wherein didactic topics are rotated on a monthly schedule followed by team building and case consultation. Once per month, interns will provide an article presentation.

#### Didactic Rotation Topics:

- Psychological Testing Lab/Assessment Supervision - Diagnostic lab providing supervision on administering, scoring, interpreting various measures, and giving feedback.
- Empirically Supported Treatments (ESTs) – Didactic focused on understanding and using empirically-supported treatments (EST) with our patient population.
- Intercultural Considerations - Didactic exploring DEI topics as these apply personally and professionally
- Core Child Trauma Topics - Didactic to increase knowledge related to the effects of trauma and intergenerational trauma on our patient population.
- Professional Development - A growth focused discussion of topics related to professional development and entering the field as a clinical psychologist.
- Expressive Therapies – Sharing of art and play based therapy techniques for the treatment of childhood trauma.

#### Group Supervisions:

- Peer mentorship - Weekly; Meeting between all levels of training, including interns and practicum students.
- Supervision of Supervision - Weekly; A group supervision experience focused on the provision of supervision.

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***Childhood Trauma Treatment Program***  
**APA accredited Doctoral Internship Program in Clinical Psychology**  
**2027-2028 Training Year Internship Program Information and**  
**Application Brochure**

**Advocate Health**

**Sponsor Institution's Mission, Values, and Philosophy**

Our internship program is sponsored by Advocate Health. In April of 2018, Advocate Health merged with Aurora Health in Wisconsin. Then, in 2022 Advocate Aurora Health and Atrium Health combined to create Advocate Health, the third largest nonprofit integrated health system in the U.S. Combined, we have a combined footprint across six states – Alabama, Georgia, Illinois, North Carolina, South Carolina and Wisconsin – with 11 hospitals and more than 200 sites of care, maintaining a strong organizational presence in Chicago and Milwaukee.

Advocate Health's mission is to help more people live well. The system values excellence, compassion, and care. Advocate Health is on a journey towards zero serious safety events, being a national leader in health outcomes, and providing affordable care to consumers. Further, Advocate Health is committed to diversity and inclusion and by cultivating an atmosphere of acceptance and compassion, creates a welcoming environment where our patients can heal, our team members can thrive.

**Doctoral Internship Program Mission Statement**

The Childhood Trauma Treatment Program (CTTP) was founded in 1976 to provide services in Cook, Will and DuPage Counties. From the outset, CTTP has treated the profound psychological trauma of children subjected to sexual abuse and maltreatment, typically at the hands of family members or others within their extended family system. This clinical model has always incorporated intensive, Evidence-Based Practice to provide counseling, treatment, and healing for children, adolescents, and their caregivers with an emphasis on prevention of abuse. The core mission of CTTP's expert clinicians is to provide focused services to children, adolescents, and families who have experienced significant and complex trauma, including sexual abuse, neglect, physical abuse, emotional abuse, as well as exposure to domestic violence or community violence, traumatic loss, and/or are demonstrating problematic sexual behaviors, many of whom are involved in the foster care system; to train clinicians to develop skills to provide trauma-focused clinical services; and to prevent child sexual abuse through consultative services and educational workshops.

CTTP is part of the Advocate Children's Hospital group of comprehensive services for children and adolescents. Outpatient services are offered at free standing clinics and at or near every hospital campus including Advocate Children's Hospital in Oak Lawn, IL, which is CTTP's home.

**Internship Philosophy**

The internship training program provides experience treating children, adolescents, and families that have experienced trauma and maltreatment. In addition to these clinical experiences, interns receive

individual and group supervision, didactic presentations of theoretical understandings and therapeutic approaches, and exposure to professional models. From these clinical and training experiences, we believe our program provides the growth, support, and development necessary to be an effective doctoral level outpatient mental health care provider and enter their postdoctoral positions.

CTTP has provided training for graduate level students since 1982. We became accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA) for our Doctoral Clinical Psychology Internship Program in Clinical Psychology in 1999. Notably, we participated in a reaccreditation survey and site visit throughout 2022-2024, receiving the maximum reaccreditation of 10 years August 15, 2024. Our next site visit is scheduled for 2034.

Training with CTTP, interns receive focused experience in the practice of clinical psychology, and particularly in providing assessment and outpatient treatment services to children, adolescents, and families that have experienced trauma and/or are within the foster care system. This training includes a focus on the assessment and psychotherapy treatment of foster care populations, traumatized or maltreated children and their families, and children and adolescents with problematic sexual behaviors.

The doctoral clinical psychology internship training program integrates four elements into a comprehensive learning experience: a clinical skills knowledge base, clinical activity, personal awareness, and professional development. CTTP fosters a learning environment in which there is a balance of challenge, support, and flexibility with an expectation of maturity, openness, and responsiveness. The program is based on a training philosophy that seeks to develop a creative learning environment with the interns. We believe that an important part of the training process is to support the intern's identity development from student to intern, to becoming a doctoral level clinician. The training program works from an adult learning model in which expectations of competency and performance are established for the intern. These training expectations are intended to guide the interns in their clinical experiences, supervision, didactic seminars, and professional community activities so they meet the overall training objectives.

### **Internship Training Model**

To achieve our mission statement, we follow a Practitioner-Scholar internship training model that incorporates scholarly inquiry, psychological science, and clinical practice. In our program, psychological practice is based on the science of psychology, which, in turn, is influenced by the professional practice of psychology. Training for practice is sequential, cumulative, and graded in complexity. We require interns to rotate presenting relevant clinical research articles and literature at group supervision sessions. Finally, we expect interns to apply relevant clinical literature and research in their clinical work and evaluate them on this specific dimension.

### **Meet the Faculty**

*Sara Skinner, PsyD: Lead Psychologist/Training Director*

Dr. Skinner is the Lead Psychologist and Training Director at Advocate CTPP, where she oversees the APA-accredited Doctoral Clinical Psychology Internship Training Program and provides leadership to a team of licensed psychologists. She is passionate about cultivating the next generation of psychologists through supportive mentorship, high-quality supervision, and evidence-based training.

Dr. Skinner earned her masters and doctoral degrees in Clinical Psychology from The Chicago School of Professional Psychology and completed both her doctoral internship and postdoctoral residency at Advocate Health. She also holds a bachelors degree in Psychology with a minor in Human Development from DePaul University.

A rostered Child-Parent Psychotherapy (CPP) provider, Dr. Skinner specializes in trauma-informed care for infants, children, adolescents, and families. Her clinical interests include attachment, infant mental health, child maltreatment, foster care and adoption, behavioral concerns, and strengthening caregiver-child relationships through evidence-based, family-centered interventions. Her therapeutic approach is rooted in attachment science, developmental psychology, and systems theory, integrating evidence-based practices with individualized, family centered care to promote resilience and healing.

As an educator and supervisor, Dr. Skinner is committed to creating a collaborative learning environment that encourages curiosity, reflective practice, cultural humility, and clinical excellence. She strives to help trainees develop the skills, confidence, and professional identity needed to thrive as compassionate and effective psychologists.

*Muneet Malhi, PsyD: Core faculty/Individual Supervisor*

Dr. Malhi earned her doctoral degree in Clinical Psychology from Adler University, Chicago. She completed her internship with the Asian Pacific Developmental Center in Aurora Colorado and joined CTPP to complete her Post-Doctoral Fellowship. Prior to her training in clinical psychology, Dr. Malhi lived in Canada and completed her Bachelor of Science in Chemistry and Psychology at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, AB Canada.

Dr. Malhi's clinical interests include maltreatment and trauma, foster care and adoption, attachment loss and disruption, traumatic loss and grief, racial/ethnic trauma and identity development, anxiety, depression, and parental support. Dr. Malhi works from a Systems Theory perspective. She firmly believes that all individuals are shaped by the context of their environments. A child's thoughts, feelings and behaviors are all influenced by the social environments in which they are raised. In therapy, Dr. Malhi work with families to dissect the systems they live in and interact with to understand the impact of these systems on their development. Dr. Malhi relies on Evidence Based practices when intervening in systems.

Dr. Malhi provides individual supervision and consultation at CTPP. She also provides didactic training on a variety of topics, including Intercultural Issues in Psychology and the use of Evidence Based Practice. Dr. Malhi is certified in Circle of Security Parenting and is the lead facilitator for the CoS groups run throughout the training year, providing students with an opportunity to cofacilitate

this powerful curriculum. She is also responsible for community outreach at CTTTP and focuses on community initiative and prevention programming.

*Ashley Choi, PsyD, Core faculty/Assessment Coordinator/Individual Supervisor*

Dr. Choi received her doctorate in Clinical Psychology from Wheaton College, where she completed a concentration in Clinical Child Psychology. She completed her doctoral internship at the Advocate Childhood Trauma Treatment Program and her postdoctoral fellowship at Boston Medical Center's Center for Multicultural Training in Psychology.

Dr. Choi's clinical interests include foster care and adoption-related concerns, child and adolescent trauma treatment, and attachment difficulties. She has extensive experience conducting neuropsychological assessments across a variety of settings and is trained in evidence-based treatment modalities, including Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT) and the Attachment, Regulation, and Competency (ARC) framework. She is committed to providing culturally responsive care and approaches assessment through a trauma-informed lens, with particular attention to how early experiences and systemic factors shape developmental outcomes and testing performance.

Dr. Choi provides individual supervision, offering direct case oversight, consultation, and evaluation of our internship cohort. She serves as the Assessment Coordinator and Supervisor and is an approved DCFS assessment provider for the state of IL. She also oversees the Assessment Lab to support the multifaceted assessment training of the interns throughout their training year.

\*Of note, as of August 2026: All licensed clinical faculty of CTTTP are certified Theraplay® Practitioners, bringing a structured, evidence-based approach to training students in play therapy. Certification ensures faculty capacity to model and teach interventions grounded in attachment theory, child development, and relational neuroscience, giving students both the confidence and competence to integrate Theraplay-informed techniques into their own clinical practice.

*Kimberly Gilmer*

Ms. Gilmer is the Patient Service Supervisor at CTTTP and is responsible for supervising the day-to-day operations of the clerical, administrative, and patient services activities of the clinic ensuring effective and efficient operation from staff members. Ms. Gilmer also works closely with the CTTTP clinical team to coordinate provider scheduling, registration, and insurance collection while also working with clinical and non-clinical staff to meet patient needs, service expectations and quality metrics.

### **Internship Program Goals and Intern Evaluations**

The training competencies are assessed by rating the elements for each competency. By the end of the training program and last evaluation, interns are expected to demonstrate at or above preparation for practice at the entry level (or intermediate/satisfactory level or above) among each of the nine competencies.

#### **Competency 1: Assessment**

The development of clinical application skills in assessment methods, including selecting measures and collecting data that informs the identified goals of the assessment, while taking into consideration the diversity and multicultural perspectives of the patient. Also supporting the understanding of scoring, interpreting, conceptualization and utility of the data.

**Competency 2: Intervention**

The development of skills related to the therapeutic relationship, including the capacity to develop evidence-based intervention plans specific to the service delivery goals, the application of clinical services, including with an ethical basis, adaptation, and ongoing evaluation.

**Competency 3: Professional Values, Attitudes, and Behaviors**

The intern's overall comportment as this relates to the values and attitudes of psychology, including integrity, behaviors and manners, professional identity, accountability, lifelong learning, and concern for the welfare of others. Also relating to one's willingness to engage in self-reflection regarding one's personal and professional functioning, activities to maintain and improve performance, well-being, and professional effectiveness, and openness and responsiveness to feedback and supervision.

**Competency 4: Supervision**

The overall knowledge of various supervision models and practices, as well as application of this knowledge in direct practice with psychology trainees, such as role-played supervision with others, and peer supervision with other trainees.

**Competency 5: Individual and Cultural Diversity**

The intern's willingness to explore their own personal/cultural history, attitudes, and biases, and how these may affect how they understand and interact with people different from themselves; as well as knowledge of the current theoretical and empirical knowledge base as it relates to addressing diversity in all professional activities including research, training, supervision/consultation, and service.

**Competency 6: Consultation and Interprofessional/Interdisciplinary Skills**

The intern's knowledge and respect for the roles and perspectives of other professions, including application of this knowledge through direct or simulated consultation with individuals and their families, other health care professionals, interprofessional groups, or systems related to health and behavior.

**Competency 7: Communication and Interpersonal Skills**

The intern's ability to develop and maintain effective professional relationships and the demonstration of a professional skillset in both oral, nonverbal, and written communication.

**Competency 8: Ethical and Legal Standards**

The intern's knowledge of and act in accordance with each of the APA Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct, relevant laws, regulations, rules, and policies governing health service psychology at the organizational, local, state, regional, and federal levels, and relevant

professional standards and guidelines, including recognizing ethical dilemmas as they arise, and applies ethical decision-making processes to resolve the dilemmas.

### **Competency 9: Research**

The intern's demonstration of the ability to evaluate and disseminate research or other scholarly activities at the local or regional level.

Interns are formally evaluated twice per training year by our faculty to assess their achievement and demonstration of these nine competencies. These evaluations are presented to and discussed with the intern, and a copy is sent to their graduate training school. Interns receive ratings, as well as written comments, and it is expected by the end of the training program interns will achieve satisfactory to superior ratings in the nine training competencies.

## **CHILDHOOD TRAUMA TREATMENT PROGRAM DOCTORAL INTERNSHIP TRAINING COMPONENTS & EXPECTATIONS**

The intern gains clinical understanding and professional competence by providing clinical services, community presentations, and additional clinical exposures. The intern also receives individual and group supervision and a variety of didactic and workshop seminars on numerous clinical topics.

### **Assessments Services:**

The intern is expected to complete multiple brief evaluations and approximately 4-6 comprehensive psychological assessments during the internship year. Some of the assessments completed will be specialized psychological assessments focused on trauma and/or problematic sexual behaviors. A full psychological battery may include clinical interviews and collateral contacts, as well as measures evaluating behavioral, emotional, and cognitive functioning, the impact of past traumatic experiences, and problematic sexual behaviors, as deemed appropriate to address referral questions.

### **Psychotherapy Treatment Services:**

The intern will deliver approximately 15 hours of direct service to a diverse cultural, socioeconomic, and clinical patient population in an outpatient setting each week, including family and individual therapy. Although previous training in providing trauma treatment can be helpful for incoming interns, it is not required prior to beginning internship. We ask that applicants have an interest, open mind, and passion for learning about trauma treatment. Comprehensive training in the treatment of children and adolescents who have experienced trauma, abuse, and problematic sexual behaviors will be provided during orientation and throughout the internship year.

A majority of the population we serve are survivors of complex childhood trauma and maltreatment, including survivors of neglect, physical abuse, sexual abuse, witnessing domestic violence, witnessing substance abuse, and traumatic grief/loss, as well as children and adolescents (under age 14) who present with problematic sexual behaviors. Our patient referrals come from a variety of sources including Advocate Health providers, foster care agencies, or the general community. Therefore, our patients may be involved with the foster care system, may have Medicaid, or may have commercial insurance. Our agency is committed to serving the underserved and we value providing these essential services to communities and populations that lack enough quality mental health treatment. Interns are

expected to approach cases with a collaborative and systemic approach and form partnerships with the child's parents/caregivers, foster parents, and caseworkers.

One of our program strengths is the variety of conditions and diagnoses our interns gain experience with. Our interns receive experience in differential diagnosis, and the evaluation and treatment of a variety of conditions and diagnoses, including those related to complex trauma, maltreatment, attachment disorders, PTSD and trauma conditions, ADHD, ODD, child and adolescent problematic sexual behaviors, parenting and relational problems, depressive and anxiety disorders, and child and adolescent bipolar disorder.

As part of providing clinical services to individuals within the foster care system, our interns also provide therapeutic case management services to offer increased support to patients and their caregivers and families. These therapeutic case management services may involve advocating for their patients; writing letters to caseworkers and others to manage the needs of these cases; providing collateral telephone contacts with teachers, caseworkers, physicians, and others; and obtaining leadership experience by leading clinical case staffings with various members within the patient's system.

### **Clinical Treatment Orientation:**

Another program strength is the wide variety of clinical interventions our interns gain exposure to. Our agency embraces an integrative clinical perspective and doctoral interns are trained in a wide variety of intervention techniques, including cognitive behavioral techniques, psychodynamic techniques, various empirically based manuals and workbooks, and directive and non-directive expressive techniques. We incorporate providing psychoeducation to caregivers and patients, empirically supported treatments, systemic work, expressive and play therapies, and the use of trauma and attachment disorder treatment perspectives. The main empirically supported treatments used are *Attachment, Regulation, and Competency* (by Drs. Kinniburgh and Blaustein), *Trauma-Focused CBT* (by Drs. Cohn, Deblinger, & Mannarino), and *Child-Parent Psychotherapy* (by Dr. Lieberman & colleagues). Specific individual and group supervision is provided on the integration of each of these empirically supported treatments.

### **Additional Clinical Exposures:**

Interns will have the following additional clinical exposures during the training year:

- **Community Engagement and Psychoeducation:** As assigned; Interns will receive training to facilitate various evidenced-based psychoeducation and prevention based programming, including Circle of Security, Resource Parent Curriculum, and more.
- **Supervisory experience:** Weekly; Interns will supervise one psychology Advanced Practicum student under the supervision of a licensed clinical psychologist. To support this supervisory duty, interns will receive 60 minutes per week of supervision of supervision.
- **CTTP clinical case consultation:** Weekly; Interns will participate in collaboration and consultation with staff and cohort of CTTP for team building and case consultation. Once per month, interns will provide an article presentation.

### **Didactic Rotation Topics:**

- Psychological Testing Lab/Assessment Supervision – Bi-weekly, A diagnostic lab providing an supervision on administering, scoring, interpreting various measures, and giving feedback.
- Empirically Supported Treatments (ESTs) – Monthly, A didactic focused on understanding and using empirically-supported treatments (EST) with our patient population. As part of this group supervision, interns are required to present cases and discuss integration of EST as it relates to case conceptualization, treatment goals, and treatment interventions.
- Intercultural Considerations – Monthly, A didactic focused on exploring of DEI topics as these apply personally and professionally.
- Core Child Trauma Topics – Monthly, A didactic to increase knowledge related to the effects of trauma and intergenerational trauma on our patient population.
- Professional Development – Monthly, A growth focused discussion of topics related to professional development and entering the field as a clinical psychologist.
- Expressive Therapies – Quarterly, Sharing of art and play based therapy techniques for the treatment of childhood trauma.

### **Supervision:**

We consider the supervision we provide as one of the strengths of our program. Our supervisors are attentive, dedicated, and available. We believe that supervision is a crucial component in the development of a confident and competent professional.

### **Individual Supervision:**

- Our interns have two individual supervisors who share their caseload. Thus they receive two hours each week of individual supervision with the assigned supervisor.
- To support our interns with their supervisory duties, interns will also receive 60 minutes per week of supervision of supervision.

### **Group Supervisions:**

- Peer mentorship/group supervision - Weekly; During this group, interns and practicum students will come together for case conference, peer mentorship, and collaborative interaction. Our interns will also provide a mentorship role for our practicum students through an article presentation of their choice, once per month.
- Supervision of Supervision - Weekly; A group supervision experience focused on the provision of supervision.

Additional “external” clinical workshops and conferences on trauma, child and adolescent, and diversity and inclusion topics. We also prioritize attending an external workshop or conference on ethical practices and supervision.

### **Estimated Weekly Work Hours for Interns**

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| 15-20 hours | Direct contact providing clinical services with patients  |
| 10 hours    | Therapeutic case management activities; clinical documentation activities and report writing; collateral contacts associated with patients; preparation for |

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|-------------------------------------|---|
|                                     | supervisions; various other administrative functions and activities; preparation for clinical services  |
| 3 hours                             | Group supervision   |
| 2 hours                             | Didactic training   |
| 2 hours                             | Individual clinical supervision   |
| 2 hours                             | Community presentations, networking, other specialized internship training activities (as assigned)   |
| 3 hours                             | Psychological testing/assessment and use of clinical measures (administration, interpretation, report writing, additional assessment supervision) |
| <u>42 total work hours for week</u> |   |

Our interns are expected to generate 2000 training hours by the end of the training year.

To best prioritize and preserve our interns' self-care, we request that accepted interns agree not to work in employment positions which involve behavioral health and psychotherapeutic activities outside of the Childhood Trauma Treatment Program during the training year.

**Scheduling Expectations:** While interns have flexibility in tailoring their schedule to best fit their needs and preferences, there are various scheduling requirements to note.

- Advocate CTTTP Doctoral Clinical Psychology Training program is a 12-month commitment starting in September and ending in August (minimum of 50 weeks)
- Interns maintain a 40-hour per week schedule within the CTTTP hours of operation:
  - Monday-Thursday: 8:30am-8:00pm
  - Friday: 8:30am-6pm
  - Saturday: 8:30am-5pm
- Interns are required to be onsite at a minimum of 3 days per week within the above-mentioned hours of operation but are welcome to be onsite more than 3 days per week should this be a preference. Six of the intern's hours are required to be after 6pm or four hours on Saturday each week to accommodate pediatric patient schedules.

#### *Hybrid position*

CTTP is dedicated to the health and safety of our community, our faculty, our patients, and our interns. We work from a hybrid model as this provides increased access to services for patients throughout the state of Illinois. Telehealth services are provided via licensed Teams (licensed version paid for by AAH) for patients who are determined to be appropriate for telehealth services.

In addition, teleassessment services are also provided, as appropriate, using licensed Teams, Qglobal, MHS, and PARiConnect (all paid for by AAH) to conduct intake interviews, complete remote administration of psychological measures, and provide feedback. Outside of psychological assessments, interns are also encouraged to use remote administration of measures to evaluate progress.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### **Facilities:**

Our outpatient therapy office is located in Oak Lawn, a southwest suburb of Chicago. When in the office, interns have their own furnished office, as well as a work-provided laptop. The offices also have stocked play therapy rooms, expressive art materials, sensory items, therapeutic games, numerous bibliotherapy materials, and a vast library of books and/or manualized treatments. Our community outreach initiatives, are offered onsite, virtually, and/or at various community locations across Chicagoland, and for in-person sessions, interns are required to travel to these presentation locations, as assigned. Interns will receive administrative assistance and support during their internship, including billing assistance and support, an in-office computer, and office supplies.

**We encourage you to watch the virtual tour of our office featured on our website!**

### **About Chicagoland:**

The city of Chicago is home to world-class museums, Michelin-star restaurants, cultural events, an acclaimed arts and theater scene, shopping districts, and a beautiful lakefront with miles of bike paths and opportunities for sport and recreation. The diverse neighborhoods provide ample opportunity for interns to find a great fit to match their interests and hobbies and feel "at home." To learn more about Chicago please visit: <https://www.choosechicago.com/>

Oak Lawn, IL is considered southwest suburb of Chicago and was incorporated as a village in 1909. It experienced a big boom in population following World War II as veterans returned home and chose Oak Lawn as their residence. Today, Oak Lawn has an expansive park system and is known for its community and level 1 trauma hospital system (Advocate Christ Medical Center). Notable people with connections to Oak Lawn include, Dwayne Wade, Kanye West, and Pat Sajak. Beginning in 2002, Oak Lawn began a major redevelopment plan for the downtown area. Oak Lawn has a Metra commuter train station for easy access to downtown Chicago.

## APPLICATION and SELECTION PROCEDURES

Applicants must be currently enrolled in an APA-accredited clinical or counseling psychology doctoral program. Applicants must have completed at least two full practicum experiences that included therapy and psychological testing experiences. Applicants must have a Masters degree and have successfully completed all doctoral coursework in clinical or counseling psychology from an APA-accredited doctoral graduate school by the beginning of internship. Applicants will only be considered for this position if they submit a completed APPIC Application for Psychology Internship through the APPI Online. However, applicants should not include or disclose any arrest not leading to a conviction, juvenile record, or criminal history record information ordered expunged, sealed or impounded, under Section 5.2 of the Illinois Criminal Identification Act, 20 ILCS 2630 et seq.

**We encourage and welcome individuals of all cultures, ethnicities, diversities, races, and backgrounds to apply to our program.**

Our doctoral clinical psychology program is deeply committed to fostering an environment of diversity, equity, and inclusion. We believe that a diverse and inclusive community enriches the learning

experience, enhances cultural competence, and prepares our interns to serve a diverse society. We are dedicated to creating a supportive and respectful environment where all individuals, regardless of background, feel valued and empowered to thrive both personally and professionally.

Applicants that are a good fit for our site are applicants who are interested in learning about treating children, adolescents, and families impacted by trauma. Many of our interns have not necessarily had experience in foster care but have been exposed to trauma populations. We encourage those who have an interest and a passion for learning about this population to apply. Additionally, applicants who are friendly, interested in serving the underserved, work well with others, hardworking, eager to learn, and organized are good fits for our site.

**Applications must be fully completed and submitted no later than**  
**Monday, 11/20/2026.**

This is a firm deadline and applications will be considered late if they are received after this date. Our application is the fully completed APPIC Application for Psychology Internship that is submitted through the APPI Online. Please visit the APPIC Web site: <http://www.appic.org>  
Through the APPI Online applicants should include:

- a. A Curriculum Vitae
- b. Copies of all graduate school transcripts
- c. Three letters of recommendation from persons who are familiar with the applicant's professional clinical work.

If applicants have specific questions or issues related to their application or the APPI Online process, they may contact Sara Skinner, Psy.D. at [sara.skinner@aah.org](mailto:sara.skinner@aah.org) or call 800-216-1110.

Intern applications are reviewed by our faculty and selected applicants will be invited for virtual interviews. **All interviews for the 2027-2028 doctoral clinical psychology intern class will be conducted virtually, via Zoom.** During each of the interview dates, all applicants will participate in a 3-part virtual process: 1. A group informational and Q&A session with our current interns; 2. An individual interview with one of our faculty members; and 3. Another individual interview with two of our clinical psychologists, including the Training Director, Sara Skinner, Psy.D.

As part of our affirmative action policy, the CTPP is prohibited from discrimination against or harassment of any person seeking employment Advocate Health (at our internship training program). Please be aware that during the entire interviewing process, any information that is shared by applicants with interviewing staff or current interns may be used as part of the interviewing process.

Full admission to our internship training program is based upon the successful completion and results of all Advocate Health and the CTPP's application process and pre-employment requirements before training occurs, including the pre-employment screening procedures, pre-employment drug test screening, medical exam, and background checks. CTPP will consider applicants from foreign countries; however, we will require that they apply for a social security number so that background checks can be completed.

Eligibility requirements for the clinical psychology doctoral internship position:

1. **Drug Screening:** As part of the Advocate Health onboarding process, all matched interns must pass a 10-panel drug screening. Refusal to submit to testing will result in disqualification from the internship. The drug test occurs with matched interns in the spring as part of the Advocate onboarding process. Advocate Health's policy continues to be based on a commitment to provide a safe, healthy and secure work environment free from drug and/or alcohol abuse for our patients, team members and other individuals doing business with Advocate. We continue to test all matched interns for cannabis/THC, along with other controlled substances. A matched intern who tests positive for cannabis/THC will not be hired.
  2. **Physical Examination:** A full health physical examination is required during the spring onboarding process for all matched interns, with a focus on making sure the individual meets the minimum qualifications of the job. The intern applicant will receive or show evidence of having an MMR, Varicella, Hepatitis B immunizations, and an annual TB test. In addition, it is required that all employees of AAH, including doctoral interns, have received the COVID-19 vaccine and receive a yearly flu vaccine. **Passing:** Able to meet the minimum physical ability qualifications of the internship position with or without a reasonable accommodation.
  3. **Background Check:** For matched interns, during the spring onboarding process, we conduct fingerprinting background checks that includes the following: National and State criminal background checks that includes felony and misdemeanor convictions, a Social Security Number check, Health Care Worker Registry check, and a multi-jurisdictional check, including Office of Inspector General and Homeland Security. The intern may be disqualified for falsifying and/or omitting information. Criminal background will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis to determine if the intern is disqualified. However, applicants should not include or disclose any arrest not leading to a conviction, juvenile record, or criminal history record information ordered expunged, sealed or impounded, under Section 5.2 of the Illinois Criminal Identification Act, 20 ILCS 2630 et seq. Further, any applicants without a social security number must apply for a social security number so that background checks can be completed. The process of applying for a social security number must be initiated as soon as possible so that delays in the hiring process do not occur.
- The Doctoral Internship in Clinical Psychology of Advocate Childhood Trauma Treatment Program is an APA training program fully accredited by the Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation, American Psychological Association (APA).
  - Questions related to the program's accredited status should be directed to the Commission on Accreditation:
    - Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation,
    - American Psychological Association (APA)
    - 750 First Street, NE
    - Washington, DC 20002-4242
    - Phone 1-202-336-5979; email: [apaaccred@apa.org](mailto:apaaccred@apa.org)
    - Web: [www.apa.org/ed/accreditation](http://www.apa.org/ed/accreditation)

- The Doctoral Internship in Clinical Psychology of Advocate Childhood Trauma Treatment Program is a member of the Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC) and abides by their guidelines regarding the notification day procedures.
- This Internship site agrees to abide by the APPIC policy that no person or facility will solicit, accept, or use any ranking-related information from

### Internship Admissions, Support, and Initial Placement Data

**Does the program require that applicants have received a minimum number of hours of the following at time of application? If Yes, indicate how many:**

Total Direct Contact Intervention Hours    Yes    Amount: 250  
 Total Direct Contact Assessment Hours    Yes    Amount: 75

### Financial and Other Benefit Support for Upcoming Year\*

Annual Stipend/Salary for Full-time Interns \$42,640  
 Annual Stipend/Salary for Half-time Interns N/A

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Program provides access to medical insurance for intern?   | Yes  |
| If access to medical insurance is provided   |  |
| Trainee contribution to cost required?   | Yes  |
| Coverage of family member(s) available?  | Yes  |
| Coverage of legally married partner available?   | Yes  |
| Coverage of domestic partner available?  | Yes  |
| Hours of Annual Paid Personal Time Off (PTO and/or Vacation)   | 80 hours   |
| Hours of Annual Paid Sick Leave  | Included in above PTO  |
| In the event of medical conditions and/or family needs that require extended leave, does the program allow reasonable unpaid leave to interns/residents in excess of personal time off and sick leave? | Yes  |
| Other Benefits (please describe)   | Dental and vision benefits are provided at an extra cost and 401K program is available with match. |

### Initial Post-Internship Positions

(Provide an Aggregated Tally for the Preceding 3 Cohorts)

Interns That Completed Internship in the Years: 09/2022 – 09/2025

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Total # of interns who were in the 3 cohorts  | 6 |
| Total # of interns who did not seek employment because they returned to their doctoral program/are completing doctoral degree | 0 |

|                                | Post-Doc Residency | Employed Position |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Community mental health center | 3                  | 1                 |

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|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| Federally qualified health center           | 0 | 0 |
| Independent primary care facility/clinic    | 0 | 0 |
| University counseling center                | 0 | 0 |
| Veterans Affairs medical center             | 0 | 0 |
| Military health center                      | 0 | 0 |
| Academic health center                      | 0 | 0 |
| Other medical center or hospital            | 3 | 3 |
| Psychiatric hospital                        | 0 | 0 |
| Academic university/department              | 0 | 1 |
| Community college or other teaching setting | 0 | 0 |
| Independent research institution            | 0 | 0 |
| Correctional facility                       | 0 | 0 |
| School district/system                      | 0 | 0 |
| Independent practice setting                | 0 | 1 |
| Not currently employed                      | 0 | 0 |
| Changed to another field                    | 0 | 0 |
| Other                                       | 0 | 0 |
| Unknown                                     | 0 | 0 |