

## Internship Admissions, Support, and Initial Placement Data

As required by the APA Commission on Accreditation, below is the current Internship Admissions, Support, and Initial Placement Data for the Kansas City VA.

**Date Program Tables are updated: August 1, 2024**

<b>Program Disclosures</b>	
Does the program or institution require students, trainees, and/or staff (faculty) to comply with specific policies or practices related to the institution's affiliation or purpose? Such policies or practices may include, but are not limited to, admissions, hiring, retention policies, and/or requirements for completion that express mission and values?	No
If yes, provide website link (or content from brochure) where this specific information is presented:	NA
<b>Internship Program Admissions</b>	
<b>Briefly describe in narrative form important information to assist potential applicants in assessing their likely fit with your program. This description must be consistent with the program's policies on intern selection and practicum and academic preparation requirements:</b> The Kansas City VA Medical Center (KCVA) is pleased to offer three psychology internship positions for the 2025-2026 training year! Two positions are available in our Generalist Training Track and one position is available in our PTSD Training Track. Interested applicants are welcome to apply to more than one training track. The philosophy of training at KCVA is best described as a "scholar-practitioner" model. The training experiences have a strong clinical focus. Knowledge and use of empirically supported processes and interventions and models of evidence-based practice are expected and encouraged in all aspects of the program. The training program at the Kansas City VA Medical Center provides all interns the opportunity to work closely with Veterans and their families under supervision of licensed psychologists with a broad range of interest and expertise. One of the goals of this internship is to provide the necessary skill set that will enable the intern to function effectively in a professional role in a variety of employment settings. The primary goal of the program is to provide an emphasis on both breadth and intensity of training that allows interns to have a solid, well-rounded training experience. Our focus is on helping interns better learn to understand and assist individuals who are experiencing significant psychological problems. Additionally, the	

<p>experiences provided in our program require a broad array of clinical skills that are important in helping individuals in many different settings outside of a VA Medical Center.</p> <p>We also value a developmental approach to training in which tasks of increasing difficulty and complexity are given to interns throughout the course of their internship as they demonstrate their ability and readiness to take on new responsibilities. Supervision is expected to match the needs of the intern in a way that facilitates professional development and progression. Thus, the intensity of supervision diminishes over the course of the rotation and internship as the intern matures into a role approaching colleague rather than student. By the internship's end, we expect to play more of a consultant role for the interns, rather than that of a supervisor monitoring every decision and move. Continued professional growth is fostered through ongoing examination of current research to inform clinical practice and through encouraging interns to learn and utilize treatments that he or she may not have been exposed to in the past. Supervision will also generally be matched to the needs of the intern and the intensity of this supervision is expected to diminish as the intern transitions into the role of a psychologist.</p> <p>A special focus of our internship is fostering the growth and integration of interns' personal and professional identities. We emphasize the need for balance in our lives. This results in our insistence on a 40-hour work week and encouraging our interns to pursue interests outside of psychology, such as recreation, exercise, family, and friendships. Professional identity development, especially in the areas of employment location and selection, is assisted by seminars about job searches, licensure, program development, mental health administration, and supervision. Additionally, the Director of Training spends significant time with the interns through weekly group supervision and additional individual meetings when requested, encouraging and facilitating completion of the dissertation, exploring possible career paths, and assisting in conducting appropriate, timely and successful postdoc/job searches. In addition, psychology staff are very open to providing informal assistance in these areas. Finally, the atmosphere in Mental Health at KCVA is quite collegial. We value our interns highly, appreciating them both as professional colleagues and as fellow human beings.</p> <p>KCVA strives to create a therapeutic environment for, and ensure ethical treatment of, patients with from all backgrounds and characteristics. Thus, an important goal of the psychology training program is to increase trainees' knowledge and skills in working with a wide range of clients from different cultural backgrounds.</p>	
<p><b>Applicants must meet the following prerequisites to be considered for our program:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Education. Applicant must be enrolled in an APA, CPA, or PCSAS accredited doctoral program in clinical or counseling</li> </ol>	

<p>psychology for a Ph.D. or Psy.D. degree. The student must be within one year or less of completing all requirements for the Ph.D. or Psy.D and must have completed all graduate prerequisites for internship candidacy including completion of comprehensive exams by November 17, 2024.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Direct Hours. The KCVA requires a minimum of 400 direct clinical intervention and 50 direct assessment hours of supervised graduate-level externship experience.</li> <li>3. Commitment. Applicant must be able to accept a full-time appointment for a one-year training period and commits to completing the full internship training year.</li> <li>4. U.S. Citizenship. All VA appointees must be a citizen of the United States for consideration.</li> <li>5. U.S. Social Security Number. All VA appointees must have a U.S. social security number (SSN) prior to beginning the pre-employment, on-boarding process at the VA.</li> <li>6. Selective Service Registration. Male applicants born after 12/31/1959 must have registered for the Selective Service by age 26 to be eligible for U.S. government employment, including selection as a paid or WOC VA trainee.</li> <li>7. Fingerprint Screening and Background Investigation. All Health Profession Trainees (HPTs) will be fingerprinted and undergo screenings and background investigations prior to onboarding.</li> <li>8. Drug Testing. Per Executive Order 12564, the VA strives to be a Drug-Free Workplace. Health Professional Trainees (HPTs) are exempt from drug-testing prior to appointment; however, fellows are subject to random drug testing throughout the entire VA appointment period. You are required to sign an acknowledgement form stating you are aware of this practice prior to receiving your formal offer of employment. Please note that VA will initiate termination of VA appointment and/or dismissal from VA against any trainee who is found to use illegal drugs on the basis of a verified positive drug test (even if a drug is legal in the state where training) or refuses to be drug tested. Health Profession Trainees will be given the opportunity to justify a positive test result by submitting supplemental medical documentation to a Medical Review Officer when a confirmed positive test could have resulted from legally prescribed medication.</li> <li>9. Additional Forms. Additional pre-employment forms include the Application for Health Professions Trainees (VA 10-2850D) and the Declaration for Federal Employment (OF 306). These documents and eligibility can be found at the below link. Falsifying any answer on these required Federal documents will result in the inability to appoint or immediate dismissal from the training program.</li> </ol>	
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<b>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:</b>	
Total Direct Contact Intervention Hours	Yes, Amount = 400
Total Direct Contact Assessment Hours	Yes, Amount = 50
<b>Describe any other required minimum criteria used to screen applicants:</b>	
The program does not have additional screening criteria.	NA
<b>Financial and Other Benefit Support for Upcoming Training Year*</b>	
Annual Stipend/Salary for Full-time Interns	34,380
Annual Stipend/Salary for Half-time Interns	NA
Program provides access to medical insurance for intern?	Yes
<b>If access to medical insurance is provided:</b>	
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)	104
Hours of Annual Paid Sick Leave	104
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, with approval from OAA
Other Benefits (please describe):	NA
<small>*Note. Programs are not required by the Commission on Accreditation to provide all benefits listed in this table</small>	
<b>Initial Post-Internship Positions</b>	
(Provide an Aggregated Tally for the Preceding 3 Cohorts)	
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
Academic teaching	PD=0, EP=0
Community mental health center	PD=1, EP=0
Consortium	PD=0, EP =0
University Counseling Center	PD=0, EP =0
Hospital/Medical Center	PD=2, EP =0
Veterans Affairs Health Care System	PD=2, EP =1
Psychiatric facility	PD=0, EP =0

Correctional facility	PD=0, EP =0
Health maintenance organization	PD=0, EP =0
School district/system	PD=0, EP =0
Independent practice setting	PD=0, EP =0
Other	PD=0, EP =0
Note: “PD” = Post-doctoral residency position; “EP” = Employed Position. Each individual represented in this table should be counted only one time. For former trainees working in more than one setting, select the setting that represents their primary position.	