PEDIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH INSTITUTE

Psychology Externship Training Program

Developmental Pediatrics Psychology Rotation

2027-2028

Children's Hospital Colorado (CHCO)/University of Colorado School of Medicine offers a psychology externship training program in the assessment of developmental disorders, including autism spectrum disorder. Developmental Pediatrics' mission is to empower people across the neurodevelopmental spectrum and their families through compassionate, innovative, and evidence-based care and support, to foster each person's independence; resilience; and physical, behavioral, and mental health. We encourage inquiries and applications from all qualified individuals. Please see the requirements below.

Number of Positions: 2 (1 for English speaking externs, 1 for Bilingual Spanish/English speaking externs)

Time Commitment: 15-18 hours per week including writing time

Required for English Language Position:

- Likely Mondays 8am-2pm at CHCO NORTH Campus (fall semester)
- Mondays or Wednesdays 4-6:30PM (telehealth) (fall semester)
- Wednesdays 8am-1pm at CHCO NORTH Campus (spring semester)
- Remaining spring semester hours TBD
- *There is also an option to complete this externship in Colorado Springs.*

Required for Spanish-English Bilingual Position:

- Likely Thursdays 8am-12pm at CHCO SOUTHEAST AURORA Campus OR Fridays 8am-12pm at CHCO Anschutz Campus
- Mondays or Wednesdays 4-6:30PM (telehealth) (fall semester)
- Wednesdays 8am-1pm at CHCO NORTH Campus (spring semester)
- Remaining spring semester hours TBD

Dates: August 2, 2027 – May 31, 2028

*Please note: MANDATORY ORIENTATION is held during the first week of the externship.

*End date may be flexible based on supervisor and training director approval.

Requirements:

- Be enrolled in at least the 3rd year of an APA accredited Doctoral Program in Clinical, Counseling, Health, or School Psychology (so must be at least a 2nd year at the time of application)
- Have completed coursework in cognitive assessment
- Have experience with child and/or adolescent assessment and treatment
- Competence in independent administration of at least 2 of the following: WPPSI-IV, WISC-V, DAS-2, Bayley-4
- Have proof of malpractice coverage: must be provided by the extern's training institution or by the extern prior to the start date
- Be available to start the externship on June 21, 2027
- Bilingual applicants must have fluency with medical/psychological language and concepts

**Those applicants selected for externship will be subject to drug screening and criminal background checks (there may be associated costs so speak with your program as these fees are not covered by CHCO). Unacceptable results on the criminal background check or drug screening will result in dismissal from the program.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

A completed application consists of the following materials:

1. Cover Letter
2. Curriculum Vitae
3. 2 letters of recommendation
4. Attestation of Professional Conduct
5. Extern Application Face sheet

Children's Hospital Colorado

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Emailed by *February 1, 2027*, at *5pm* to the following:

1. CHCO Psychology Training Program email
   Email: CHCOPsychTrainingprogram@childrenscolorado.org
2. If you have questions, please email Kelbie Burdis-Beers, Operations Coordinator
   Email: Kelbie.Burdis-Beers@childrenscolorado.org

Recruitment Timeline

February 1, 2027 @ 5pm:	Application deadline (early submissions encouraged!)
February 4-19, 2027:	Interviews scheduled (early interviews available with early, complete submissions)
March 4, 2027:	Positions offered (prompt confirmation of acceptance/declination requested)

Supervision

The goal of supervision is to support the extern in Developmental Pediatrics clinical settings and during developmental assessments and intervention/treatment with the goal of building competence and functional clinical autonomy with these populations. Supervision is largely in vivo with supervisors providing direct oversight. Individualized supervision will be provided weekly. Group supervision and additional consultation will also be provided.

Telehealth

Developmental Pediatrics provides some evaluation and intervention services through telehealth (video conferencing), as well as in-person visits. Experiences in both modalities will be available for the extern.

DUTIES OF PSYCHOLOGY TRAINEES

Psychology externs will provide direct clinical care to children and adolescents in the context of a multidisciplinary neurodevelopmental assessment clinic. The focus of this externship is specialized training in assessment of autism. Clinics are dynamic interdisciplinary experiences that include psychologists, developmental pediatricians, and allied health professionals. Externs will achieve specialization in autism, intellectual developmental disorder, and genetic and other medical conditions associated with developmental disabilities. All duties will occur under the supervision of a licensed psychologist. Externs are expected to work part-time at 15-18 hours per week to gain both a range and depth of experience. Expectations include being an active participant in 1-2 interdisciplinary team evaluations per week, with one of these including writing a comprehensive report. The extern's role may include review of the electronic medical record, case presentation, test selection, administration and scoring of cognitive measures and gold-standard autism-specific measures, integration of testing results, case conceptualization, and report writing. Externs will also rotate through one or more treatment settings which may include group therapies for children with autism and/or parent education groups on behavioral principles. These duties are subject to change to meet the needs of the department and as training opportunities arise.

Services provided

This externship placement provides students with the opportunity to work in a regionally and nationally prominent pediatric health care facility affiliated with the Denver Anschutz Medical Campus.

Type of clients served on this externship

Children and adolescents, ages 1-18, and their families served in Children's Hospital Colorado Department of Developmental Pediatrics. Clients are representative of the Denver Metropolitan Area.

General Information:

Supervised by: Emily Werner, Ph.D. and Maritza Cobian, Psy.D.

Supervision format: Individual, Small Group

Ratio of hours (supervision to clinical hours): 1:4

Number of psychology trainees on site: 2 postdoctoral fellows, 1 psychology intern, 2-3 field placement externs

Number of hours/week externs work for this rotation: 15-18

Pay: None at this time

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Department of Developmental Pediatrics Faculty

Liz Coan, Psy.D is an Associate Professor at University of Colorado where she works as a Clinical Psychologist in the department of Developmental Pediatrics at Children's Hospital Colorado. Dr. Coan specializes in the assessment and treatment of neurodevelopmental disorders. Dr. Coan is the Director of Psychology training program in Developmental Pediatrics and is the Director and founder of the Primary Care Autism Program, which is an education and training program for Primary Care Providers. She has prior experience as an Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapist and has worked with children with developmental differences for approximately 20 years.

Emily Werner, Ph.D. is a licensed psychologist with the Department of Developmental Pediatrics at Children's Hospital Colorado. Dr. Werner's primary clinical responsibilities are multidisciplinary assessment of developmental delays, autism spectrum disorder, intellectual disability, attention and learning disorders, behavioral disorders, and genetic conditions in the toddler, preschool and early school age populations. She supervises psychology externs, interns and postdoctoral students, as well as residents within the Department of Pediatrics. Dr. Werner also specializes in providing therapy to young children with autism spectrum disorder using the Early Start Denver Model and is involved in research on the use of this model in a parent coaching format, as well as research on the use of CBD with children and youth with ASD.

***Maritza Cobian Psy.D**. is a licensed clinical psychologist at Children's Hospital Colorado and an Assistant Professor in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Colorado, School of Medicine. Dr. Cobian received her doctorate in Clinical Psychology from Pacific University in Oregon. She completed her pre-doctoral psychology internship at Nationwide Children's Hospital, and post-doctoral psychology fellowship at Children's Hospital Colorado. Dr. Cobian's primary clinical work in Developmental Pediatrics includes developmental evaluations with children and adolescents with suspected autism or other related neurodevelopmental conditions. She also provides Spanish language parent training intervention for caregivers of children with autism and disruptive behaviors. She is the primary supervisor for bilingual psychology externs within the Section of Developmental Pediatrics. Pacific University in Oregon. She completed her pre-doctoral psychology internship at Nationwide Children's Hospital, and post-doctoral psychology fellowship at Children's Hospital Colorado. Dr. Cobian's primary clinical work in Developmental Pediatrics includes developmental evaluations with children and adolescents with suspected autism or other related neurodevelopmental conditions. She also provides Spanish language parent training intervention for caregivers of children with autism and disruptive behaviors. She is the primary supervisor for bilingual psychology externs within the Section of Developmental Pediatrics.

Jamie Blume, Psy.D. is a licensed clinical psychologist in Developmental Pediatrics at Children's Hospital Colorado. Her primary interests include: multidisciplinary assessments to evaluate for intellectual, developmental, and behavioral conditions in young children, including evaluation of autism spectrum disorder, ADHD, and disruptive behavior disorders; parent training in principles of Applied Behavior Analysis; and providing family-based therapy to improve social, communication, and life skill deficits in children with intellectual/developmental disorders using therapeutic components of ABA, Early Start Denver Model, and PCIT. She serves as the primary clinical supervisor for psychology interns, externs, and postdoctoral fellows rotating through the ABC Clinic in Developmental Pediatrics.

Rebecca Wilson, Psy.D. is Chair of Psychology for Children's Hospital Colorado. She is an Associate Clinical Professor of Pediatrics at Children's Hospital Colorado and the University of Colorado School of Medicine. She serves as Director of Psychology for Developmental Pediatrics and is the psychologist for the eXtraordinarY Kids Clinic, an interdisciplinary clinic specializing in sex chromosome conditions and the disorders associated with them. Her prior academic work focused upon the phenotype and genotype associated with Fragile X Syndrome. Dr. Wilson also serves as training director for The Developmental Pediatrics Psychology Pre-Doctoral Internship and Postdoctoral training programs. She specializes in comprehensive evaluations of complex neurodevelopmental disorders. Dr. Wilson's current research focuses on the psychological, behavioral and social-communication concerns associated with sex chromosome conditions.

*Faculty member provides services in Spanish.



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