PEDIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH INSTITUTE

Psychology Externship Training Program

Pediatric Psychology Consultation: Kidney Transplant & Urology

2027-2028

Children's Hospital Colorado/University of Colorado School of Medicine offers a psychology externship training program in Pediatric Health Psychology. While this externship position specifically provides consultation and clinical care in Pediatric Urology, Dialysis, and Kidney Transplant, externs will learn cross-cutting skills related to clinical practice that addresses the psychological aspects of illness, injury, and the promotion of health behaviors in children, adolescents, and families in a pediatric health setting. Externs will gain experience delivering developmentally sensitive, equity-informed consultation in high-acuity outpatient and inpatient medical settings. We encourage inquiries and applications from all qualified individuals. Please see the requirements below.

Number of Positions: 1

Time Commitment: 15-20 hours per week

- Required: Wednesdays and Fridays

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, Clinical Health, or School Psychology
- Have experience with child and/or adolescent assessment and treatment
- 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

**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.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Have previous experience in a medical setting (e.g., externship, research coordinator, volunteer) or completed at least one year of a CHCO externship.

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

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

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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 during exposure to new patient populations, assessment tools, and intervention strategies, and to build feelings of competence and functional autonomy in areas of strength. A developmental model of supervision will be implemented, which will include live supervision and co-treatment opportunities. Supervisors on this rotation are committed to a developmental model of supervision and are known for fostering professional identity, clinical independence, and inclusive training environments. Mentorship is focused on empowerment, systems-level thinking, and strengths-based reflection. Externs will receive support in developing clinical, consultation, and advocacy skills needed for future roles in pediatric health care settings.

DUTIES OF PSYCHOLOGY TRAINEES

Psychology externs provide direct clinical care to children, adolescents, and families under the supervision of a licensed psychologist. Responsibilities include providing consultation in pediatric urology and pediatric transplant outpatient clinics, co-facilitating support groups for parents and children with complex urologic issues and kidney disease, short-term treatment with patients/families during dialysis treatment and inpatient hospitalizations, conducting pre-transplant psychological evaluations, and development of psychological resources/materials for patients and families. Externs may also participate in psychosocial program development, family-centered education efforts, and interprofessional meetings that shape care delivery across urology and transplant services. There are also opportunities for spearheading quality improvement projects based on extern interest.

Externship Components

Externs are exposed to a variety of treatment approaches, interventions, and modalities through instruction and observation to augment their previous clinical experiences. These training experiences are organized to provide direct clinical, assessment, and consultation experiences in pediatric psychology.

1. Familiarization with health and behavior assessments and interventions
2. Consultation to the pediatric urology and kidney transplant multidisciplinary teams
3. Communication of assessment data and recommendations for continued care or treatment of patients in pediatric urology and transplant
4. Co-facilitation of support groups for parents and children with complex urologic issues and kidney disease
5. Didactics: lectures and exposure to issues relevant to clinical and pediatric psychology
6. Opportunities to contribute to QI initiatives, patient-facing educational content, and clinical innovation projects within surgical psychology settings

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 University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, the Division of Child Psychiatry, the Division of Pediatric Urology, and the Division of Pediatric Nephrology.

Type of clients served on this externship

Children and adolescents, ages 0-25, and their families served in Children's Hospital Colorado. Patients are representative of Colorado and surrounding states.

General Information:

Supervised by: Cindy Buchanan, Ph.D., Elizabeth Christofferson, Ph.D., & Laura Reinman, Ph.D.

Theoretical Orientation: Behavioral; Cognitive-Behavioral; Family Systems; Developmental Framework

Supervision format: Individual; Group; Live Supervision

Ratio of hours (supervision to clinical hours): 1:8

Number of psychology trainees on site: 1 postdoctoral fellow, 1 psychology intern, 1 field placement extern

Number of hours/week externs work for this rotation: 15-20

Pay: None at this time

Children's Hospital Colorado

Children's Hospital Colorado Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
13123 E 16th Ave, B130, Aurora, CO 80045, 720-777-6200 | childrenscolorado.org

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