
Kansas City

School Psychology Internship

A Tradition of Training

NKC Schools has worked with local universities for many years to train students in school psychology. In 2014 we were delighted to welcome our first class of doctoral interns. We have been proud to work with partner sites in the KC Metro to offer great training experiences.

Summer Rotations

Interns are assigned to one of our summer sites for the last two months of their internship. Placement is based on intern preference whenever possible.

Crittenton Children's Hospital

Interns train at an inpatient psychiatric center for children and adolescents. Crittenton provides the opportunity to observe and practice evidence-based and trauma-informed therapeutic interventions for children, adolescents, and families in crisis.

KU Medical Center

Working with the Department of Developmental and Behavioral Sciences, interns complete evaluations for autism and other concerns, along with behavioral training and consultations to families.



Our goal is to provide extraordinary learning experiences that help school psychology interns become highly skilled practitioners. We provide training in a wide variety of settings with a diverse group of students and professionals. At the Kansas City School Psychology Internship, we focus on giving trainees a solid foundation in the essential skills, while also providing the wide range of experiences and specialized training that will allow interns to develop into confident professionals.

Our program is based in the North Kansas City School District (NKC Schools) and uses the competencies developed by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) and the American Psychological Association (APA) as guides and evaluation tools. Interns improve their skills through general experience and individualized growth plans that they create in consultation with their supervisor.

During the school year, each intern is assigned one school as a primary site. They work as part of their school's team, and are encouraged to develop rapport and professional relationships with building staff. Interns manage the



Optional Areas of Emphasis

- Multi-Tiered System of Supports
- Social Emotional Learning
- Mental Health
- Evidence-Based Interventions
- Early Childhood
- Equity and Social Justice
- Low Incidence Disabilities
- Autism
- Intensive Behavioral Supports
- Emergent Multilingual Students
- And many more...

evaluations for their school, and consult with teachers, administrators, and other professionals regarding individual students and class or school-wide initiatives.

Scheduling is very flexible but the allocation of time each week is roughly three days at the intern's home school, one day on the selected area(s) of emphasis, one half day per week at a secondary assignment, and the remaining time is dedicated to supervision and training.

During the summer months (June-July) interns spend their time in our clinical rotations. Our partner sites, Crittenton Children's Center, and KU Medical Center, allow interns the chance to engage in a variety of therapeutic and assessment activities in hospital or clinic setting. With close supervision and mentoring, interns gain more experience providing developmental assessments, or individual, group, and family therapy to clients in crisis.

District Demographics

NKC School District is home to over 21,000 students from a wide range of backgrounds. Our students speak over 110 different languages. Approximately 55% of our students identify as white, while 15% identify as Black, 15% Hispanic, and about 11% report a multiracial background. We have a wide variety of socioeconomic statuses across the district, with some schools qualifying for Title I funds. We also have a wide variety of religions, cultures, abilities, genders, and sexual identities that we recognize and work to celebrate in our district. We have active equity and diversity initiatives throughout the district at the staff and student level.



Intern Activities

All interns gain experience with managing caseloads, reviewing data for eligibility determinations, consulting with school teams on their Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS), and using standardized assessments.

Other common activities include behavioral consultations and functional behavioral assessments, developing behavior intervention plans, providing direct interventions such as group or individual counseling, advising teachers on appropriate IEP goals and services, and participating in building activities such as problem-solving, data review, or PBIS teams.

The internship program is directed by the district's Coordinator of School Psychology, a PhD-level licensed psychologist. A minimum of 4 hours per week of supervision (2 hours group and 2 hours individual) is provided throughout the year, in addition to 2 hours per week of didactic trainings on a variety of topics.

Increased levels of supervision and support are provided when new or challenging tasks are assigned. Toward the end of the year, supervision is aimed at supporting the intern as an independently functioning psychologist with the skills to seek out new knowledge and develop further areas of expertise.



Our first cohort (14-15) of doctoral interns, with Dr. August.

Internship Specifics

Interns work regular staff hours and maintain the same school schedule as certified employees. As staff members, they are provided with an office space, a macbook air laptop, and access to the assessment library. Interns participate in the district benefit program that includes health and dental coverage. The internship runs from August 2023 through July 2024 with a stipend of \$30,000, plus health, dental, and retirement benefits.



The class of 2021 faced the some of the biggest challenges yet, and came out smiling.

Applications

For the 2022-23 internship year we are APPIC members (Program Code #2421). We have been approved for a site visit by the APA Commission on Accreditation that will take place in 2023. We will continue to participate in the APPIC Match program and follow all match procedures.

Applications are due December 4th, 2022 through the AAPI portal. Interviews will take place virtually in January 2023.

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, 750 1st Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002; Phone: (202) 336-5979; E-mail: apaaccred@apa.org; Web: www.apa.org/ed/accreditation.

Contact Information

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Internship Admissions, Support, and Initial Placement Data 2021-22

Last update: 8/1/22

1. **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.

The Kansas City School Psychology Internship (KCSPI) currently offers 3 full-time internship positions. KCSPI bases its selection process on the entire application package submitted through AAPI; however, applicants who have met the following qualifications prior to beginning internship are considered preferred:

1. A minimum of 500 total assessment and intervention hours
2. Dissertation proposal defended
3. Experience or interest in provision of MTSS and supporting schools at systems-level
4. Experience or interest in promotion of equity and social justice
5. Current enrollment and good standing in an APA/CPA-accredited doctoral program in School Psychology

2. **Does the program require that applicants have received a minimum number of hours of the following at time of application?** No, we do not have a requirement for minimum hours.

3. **Describe any other required minimum criteria used to screen applicants:** We require that applicants are enrolled in a doctoral program in School Psychology.

4. Financial and Other Benefit Support for Upcoming Training Year

Annual Stipend/Salary for Full-time Interns	\$30,000
Annual Stipend/Salary for Half-time Interns	N/A
Program provides access to medical insurance for intern?	Yes
Trainee contribution to cost required?	No
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)	75 hours/10
Hours of Annual Paid Sick Leave	N/A (^{days} 10 days of leave listed above includes sick, personal, and vacation)

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): <i>In addition to personal leave days, interns are not required to work during district closures such as Winter Break and Spring Break. Interns follow the district staff calendar from August – May. Interns are enrolled in the state retirement system and are also provided dental insurance at no additional cost.</i>	
*Note: Programs are not required by the Commission on Accreditation to provide all benefits listed in this table	

5. Initial Post Internship Positions

(Provide an Aggregated Tally for the Preceding 3 Cohorts)

2019-2022

Total # of Interns in the 3 cohorts	10	
Total # of Interns who did not seek employment because they returned to their doctoral program/are completing doctoral degree	0	
	PD	EP
Community mental health center	0	0
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		
Academic health center	0	0
Other medical center or hospital	2	0
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	7
Independent practice setting	0	0
Not currently employed	0	0
Changed to another field	0	0

Other	0	0
Unknown	0	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.