Clinical Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Pediatric Neuropsychology

Spanish Bilingual/Multicultural Track

Columbia University Irving Medical Center and NewYork-Presbyterian’s (CUIMC/NYP) Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry are accepting applications for the Spanish Bilingual/Multicultural Track of the Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Pediatric Neuropsychology beginning September of 2020. We are recruiting applicants for two-year, full-time clinical post-doctoral fellowship positions based at the Promise Clinic. The mission of the Promise Clinic is to provide comprehensive neuropsychological assessment and advocacy to multicultural youth from marginalized and vulnerable communities in New York City. The Promise Clinic is staffed by four post-doctoral fellows, four education coordinators, one program manager, and four neuropsychologist supervisors, including one bilingual neuropsychologist.

This post-doctoral fellowship is informed by the Houston Conference guidelines and the training program utilizes a developmental model to provide comprehensive and ethical bilingual/multicultural neuropsychological services to meet the unique needs of Latinx youth. The clinic cares for marginalized families with reduced access to systems and care that reside around Columbia University Irving Medical Center/NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital including Washington Heights, Harlem and the South Bronx. Many of the families evaluated have been exposed to trauma secondary to discrimination, community violence and/or immigration status. Individuals are often referred for assessment to differentiate English language acquisition versus language/learning delays. This fellowship track provides focused training in Spanish bilingual/multicultural assessment by emphasizing diversity related issues relevant to neuropsychological assessment, improving proficiency in Spanish and clinical terminology during intake and feedback, familiarizing the trainee with Spanish language assessment measures, as well as increasing their understanding of the impact of linguistic/cultural influences on the conceptualization of cases. In addition, fellows will learn to provide individualized and targeted recommendations regarding language of instruction and special education services/interventions to each case. Upon the completion of fellowship, the trainee will be expected to independently demonstrate competent and ethical evaluations with Spanish bilingual and multicultural cases.

The clinic primarily evaluates individuals presenting with neurodevelopmental conditions, including Learning Disorders, ADHD, Autism Spectrum Disorders, and behavioral/psychiatric difficulties. Training on administration Autism assessments is provided. There are also opportunities to work with patients who present with various complex medical conditions such as pediatric cancers, sickle cell disease, seizure disorders, genetic disorders, and neonatal complications. Fellows regularly collaborate with multidisciplinary treatment teams, including psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, medical residents and fellows, physicians, educational advocates and lawyers, teachers and other related service providers. Additionally, fellows receive training in educational/legal advocacy, as well as how to interface and collaborate with community based organizations and school systems, including conducting school observations and attending IEP meetings. Additional responsibilities include participating in ongoing research culminating in conference submissions with a Spanish bilingual/multicultural focus, contributing to didactics series and cross-service presentations, and supervision of pre-doctoral child psychology extern(s). Spanish Bilingual/Multicultural track fellows also have the opportunity to participate in broader academic workgroups such as the Mental Health Disparities group, as well as participate in program development for Spanish Bilingual/Multicultural training. Learning opportunities within the clinic and the broader academic community at CUIMC/NYP include participating in weekly clinic didactics, case conferences, Grand Rounds in Psychiatry, Neurology, and Hematology/Oncology, multicultural journal club, fact finding training exercises, and specialty seminars (e.g., neuroanatomy and psychopharmacology). Individual and group supervision are provided for all fellows on a weekly basis.

Upon completion of the fellowship, trainees are expected to have developed competencies in the following areas:

- Advanced skills in Spanish language and cross-cultural neuropsychological evaluations, intervention and consultation.
- Advanced understanding of brain-behavior relationships.
• Scholarly activity with a bilingual/multicultural focus.
• Completion of New York State licensure.
• Eligibility for board certification in Clinical Neuropsychology.

Qualifications of applicants:

• Candidates must be fluent in Spanish and have experience providing clinical services (e.g., therapy, intake, feedback, and/or assessment) in Spanish
• Completion of all doctoral requirements (including dissertation) prior to starting post-doctoral fellowship.
• Graduation from APA or CPA accredited doctoral programs and pre-doctoral internships (preferred).
• Prior coursework and clinical experiences in areas related to neuropsychology, neuroanatomy, child development, and clinical psychology.
• Fellows must have obtained their limited permit prior to starting this position.
• Candidates must possess excellent clinical and written communication skills.

Salary and benefits are competitive. Interested applicants should send a CV, three letters of reference, a graduate transcript and one sample neuropsychological report by December 23, 2020. Confirmation of completion (or progress toward the doctorate) should be forwarded by the candidate's Director of Clinical Training to Meghan Tomb, PhD. Please contact the main clinic number, 212-342-1600, for more information.

All material for the Spanish Bilingual/Multicultural Track should be sent via email to:

L. Cristina Calderón, PsyD (lc3232@cumc.columbia.edu) and
Meghan Tomb, PhD (mt2718@cumc.columbia.edu)

*Please cc our program manager, Ana Garcia at ag498@columbia.edu on all email correspondence

If needed, applications may be mailed to:

Ana Garcia
Promise Clinic
Columbia University Irving Medical Center/NewYork-Presbyterian
635 W. 165th St., Room 636A
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