

## **ADULT AND CHILD POST-DOCTORAL NEUROPSYCHOLOGY FELLOWSHIP AT THE DEPARTMENT OF PEDIATRICS, MCGOVERN MEDICAL SCHOOL**

The Department of Pediatrics, McGovern Medical School is offering a two-year Post-Doctoral Fellowship in adult and child neuropsychological assessment beginning on September 1, 2020. The Fellowship is offered through the APPCN Resident Matching Program (<https://natmatch.com/appcnmat/>). The appointment will be as a Post-Doctoral Fellow in the Children's Learning Institute, Department of Pediatrics, McGovern Medical School (CLI).

### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The goal of the program is designed to provide supervised training, research, and didactic experiences leading to advanced skill in neuropsychological assessment and consultation with patients and health care professionals, as well as eligibility for state licensure in Texas for the practice of psychology and board certification in clinical neuropsychology by the American Board of Professional Psychology.

In order to meet these goals the Fellow will:

1. Spend approximately 80% of their time in the provision of clinical neuropsychology services in both inpatient and outpatient settings.
2. Participate in weekly didactics (at least 2 hours per week).
3. Undergo weekly face-to-face supervision (at least two hours per week).

**Clinical training.** Clinical training in neuropsychological assessment involves supervision in the administration and scoring of neuropsychological and psychological instruments, as well as interpretation of the data the instruments provide and writing of reports to present conclusions relevant to the referral question. Inpatient training takes place at Memorial Hermann Hospital in the Texas Medical Center. Outpatient training takes place at the Outpatient Neuropsychology Clinic within the CLI.

*Inpatient training:* The bulk of the assessments at Memorial Hermann Hospital occur on active adult and pediatric epilepsy monitoring units where patients are evaluated for possible functional surgery to address medically intractable seizure disorder. Fellows may also participate in mapping of eloquent cortex for the purpose of surgical planning.

*Outpatient clinic:* The outpatient clinic evaluates both adult and pediatric patients with cognitive dysfunction secondary to a variety of medical etiologies, including brain tumors, memory disorders, metabolic disorders, stroke, head injury, and a history of functional surgery for seizure disorder among others. Children with developmental disorders are also evaluated (i.e., mostly different types of learning disabilities).

**Learning activities.** The Fellow is required to participate in at least two hours per week of didactics. Available for this purpose are the weekly joint UTHealth/Baylor College of Medicine specialty didactic in neuropsychology, the weekly Adult and Pediatric Epilepsy Case conferences, the UTHealth Postdoctoral Certificate Training Program, numerous grand rounds presented by Neurology, Pediatric, and Neurosurgery, as well as other Departments and journal clubs available at UTHealth and the other institutions in the Texas Medical Center.

**Scholarly activity.** The Fellow will be expected to produce an original research project. This may be done in conjunction with Dr. Breier, who is a co-investigator on several NIH-funded studies of brain function, or with anyone else in the Texas Medical Center.

**Salary.** The stipend starts at \$50,004 per year.

## **FACILITIES AND RESOURCES**

The primary training locations are Memorial Hermann Hospital in the Texas Medical Center and The Neuropsychology Clinic at the University Center Tower (UCT), about two blocks south of the Medical Center. There is an office in Memorial Hermann Hospital where testing materials and a computer are kept. The Fellow will have their own office with a computer at the Clinic at UCT. All computers have access to the UT servers where records are kept. All computers also have automated scoring material on them. Fellows also have access to the Texas Medical Center Library and the library's online journal and other services.

## **STAFF**

The Clinical Services Program at CLI includes a number of staff neuropsychologists licensed in the state of Texas, including Linda Ewing-Cobbs, Ph.D., who is the Director of Clinical Services. The primary supervisor for the Adult and Child Neuropsychology Fellowship is Joshua Breier Ph.D., a Professor in the Department of Pediatrics in the McGovern Medical School and a Licensed Psychologist in the State of Texas. Dr. Breier is part of the Clinical Services Program at CLI and has over 20 years' experience in the practice of neuropsychology. There is a neuropsychology technician at the Clinic and there are often neuropsychology externs and fellows rotating through from other programs in the area.

## **EVALUATION AND REMEDIATION**

Fellows will meet with the Training Director every four months for a formal evaluation. In addition, an annual performance evaluation is required by UTHealth. If the Training Director identifies areas that require remediation (e.g., completing neuropsychological evaluations in a timely manner, clinical interviewing and/or feedback skills, completing an original research project), the Fellow and training director will collaborate to develop a remediation plan. The remediation plan will include clearly-defined objectives, a timeline for meeting the objectives, and consequences if the objectives are not met. A copy of the agreed-upon remediation plan will be placed in the Fellow's file.

## **GRIEVANCE PROCESS**

The Children's Learning Institute Division is dedicated to creating a professional and collegial environment. Grievances the Fellow may have concerning clinical training or treatment during training should first be addressed with the Training Director, Dr. Breier. If the grievance is with the Training Director or the Fellow feels uncomfortable reporting the concerns to a faculty member at CLI, concerns should be brought to the attention of the Human Resources Department (713-500-3130).

## **APPLICATION**

The fellowship is offered through the APPCN Resident Matching Program. To be considered, applicants must have completed an APA or CPA-accredited doctoral program and a one-year APA-or CPA-accredited predoctoral internship with rotations in neuropsychology prior to the scheduled start of the fellowship. Applicants are expected to have had formal training in neuropsychological assessment of adults and children, including standardized test

administration and scoring, interpretation, and report preparation, both in graduate school and on internship.

The deadline for submission of application materials is February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Application materials should include a letter of interest, Curriculum Vitae, 3 letters from supervisors – including one from your graduate school program director and your internship director, as well as a recent clinical supervisor – a graduate school transcript, and 2 recent reports that have been redacted.

Interviews: You are welcome to visit Houston for an interview and to see the outpatient and inpatient offices. However, a visit is not required and a phone interview is acceptable. Please send all application materials to:

Joshua I. Breier, PhD  
Center for Clinical Neurosciences  
7000 Fannin St., Suite 2431  
Houston, TX 77030

If you are interested in this position, please call Dr. Breier at 713-500-3838 to talk further about the position. If you get the answering machine, leave a callback number and time.

The Fellowship meets Texas' licensure requirements. This includes that at least 1500 hours must be completed in not less than 9 months and not more than two years. The Fellow will use the title of Fellow or Trainee.

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