



# DIRKSEN CENTER

## FOR NEUROBEHAVIORAL HEALTH

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### **Dirksen Center Advanced Pre-doctoral Practicum**

#### **Clinical Setting**

The Dirksen Center for Neurobehavioral Health (DCN) offers a one-year advanced practicum position in pediatric neuropsychological assessment; dates are flexible. DCN has 3 neuropsychologists who have completed specialized training in neuropsychology, including 2-year fellowships in clinical neuropsychology.

DCN specializes in outpatient assessment, diagnosis, and treatment planning for children ages 18 months to 23 years who present with a broad range of medical, neurodevelopmental, psychiatric, and academic concerns. There are also 3 child psychologists on staff who offer psychotherapy and parent training/education on an outpatient basis and within the primary care setting.

#### **Clinical Training**

The main focus of the neuropsychology practicum is to provide doctoral students in clinical psychology experience with neuropsychological assessment with a variety of clinical presentations. The student will learn a variety of neuropsychological and psychological tests, discuss how data relate to medical/neurologic status, obtain clinical experience with various patient populations and ages, hone report writing skills, and draft appropriate recommendations treatment and educational planning. Additionally, the student will have the option of participating in an early developmental clinic, which runs twice monthly, for assessment of children ages 18 months – 4 years. The student will be trained in the standardized assessment of a variety of neuropsychological instruments and will participate in test selection, clinical interview, test administration, interpretation of data, report writing, and feedback under the supervision of one or more of our clinical neuropsychologists.

Clinicians and students interact frequently with other care providers, including other DCN staff, referring physicians, psychologists, therapists, and educators in order to maximize the accuracy of the assessment, case conceptualization, diagnoses, and effectiveness of recommendations.

#### **Supervision and Didactics**

One hour of direct 1:1 supervision is required on a weekly basis and will be scheduled at a regularly occurring time. Additionally, *ad hoc* supervision is encouraged before and during the assessment process. Psychologists meet weekly for case discussions (required) and at least monthly as part of a journal club with rotating leadership (optional).

The practicum is supervised by 3 neuropsychologists, one of whom will be the student's primary supervisor.

#### **Application**

Interested students should email a letter of interest, CV, list of tests with which the student is proficient, and one letter of recommendation to [info@dirksencenter.com](mailto:info@dirksencenter.com). The recommendation letter may be emailed separately to the same email address if preferred.

#### **Contact Information**

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