

Intern Brochure

2020-2021

Aim:

The aim of the Nevada Psychology Internship Consortium (NV-PIC) is to prepare and retain high quality and culturally competent psychologists to provide integrated public behavioral health care for the people of Nevada.

The Nevada Psychology Internship Consortium (NV-PIC) represents the collaborative effort of three sites within one state agency, the Division of Public and Behavioral Health, to share resources and faculty for providing a diversified educational program for psychology interns. Training takes place at three training sites in or around Reno, Las Vegas, and Carson City.

Accreditation Status

The Nevada Psychology Internship Consortium (NV-PIC) is fully accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA). NV-PIC has been accredited since May 2017.

Questions related to the program's accreditation 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
Email: apaaccred@apa.org

APPIC Membership Status

NV-PIC is a participating member of APPIC and participates in the APPIC match. NV-PIC abides by all APPIC policies, including the APPIC policy that no person at this training facility will solicit, accept, or use any ranking-related information from any intern applicant.

Program Structure

NV-PIC offers one-year, full-time doctoral internships beginning and ending in August. The start date for the 2020-2021 cohort is August 3, 2020. The Consortium provides a range of clinical and didactic experiences of the necessary depth and breadth required for future professional practice within psychology. Interns have a primary placement at one of three sites while receiving additional training experiences with faculty from other sites within the consortium. Across training sites, interns are expected to complete a minimum of 2,080 hours of training during the internship year, of which at least 25% (500 hours) are spent in the provision of direct face-to-face clinical services. Interns are expected to achieve the internship objectives, as stated below, and to abide by the APA Code of Ethics, the requirements of the NV-PIC training program, and the policies and procedures of their primary training site.

NV-PIC trains psychologists who are effective consumers of research and who utilize scholarly inquiry to inform their practice. NV-PIC offers generalist training, and specialized training that varies across training sites. More information about each training site and the resources and opportunities offered by each is provided below.

NV-PIC has a comprehensive Due Process and Grievance procedure which outlines the procedure for addressing concerns about intern performance as well as interns' concerns about training. These procedures are provided in hard copy to all interns during orientation and are available for download at www.nv-pic.org under the menu item Policies and Procedures.

Supervision

All interns receive a minimum of 4 hours per week of supervision by licensed psychologists.

Interns receive a minimum of 2 hours of individual supervision each week from a licensed psychologist at their site. Supplemental weekly individual supervision may be provided by other faculty. Licensed supervisors provide interns with experientially-based clinical training. All NV-PIC interns are observed directly (either live or electronic) by at least one supervisor during each evaluation time period.

Group supervision is conducted two hours a week with all interns across consortium sites via high quality, secure video technology. Group supervision focuses on case presentation, supervision, topic-focused discussion, intern-led didactics, and professional development

Research

Each intern is expected to complete at least one research or program evaluation project during the year, as approved by their primary supervisor. The focus of the research project is specific to public behavioral health and includes a proposal for a programmatic change to enhance service delivery. Interns will be guided through the research process by NV-PIC's Research Coordinator, a licensed psychologist. The Research Coordinator will meet at least monthly with the interns to discuss progress, offer guidance and assistance, and to ensure the project is on schedule.

Other research opportunities vary by site.

Stipend, Benefits, and Resources

The annual internship stipend across all consortium sites is \$28,000. Interns are employed by the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE). WICHE is an intergovernmental organization which provides consultation to the NV-PIC program and serves as the fiscal agent for the internship. Health benefits and 120 hours of paid time off (PTO) are provided to each intern. Interns also receive eleven paid Nevada state holidays and are eligible for up to three days of Professional Development Release Time, which can include conferences, trainings, dissertation time, graduation, or other, as approved by supervisors and the Training Director.

NV-PIC interns have access to numerous resources. Funding for travel within the state of Nevada is provided for interns to complete required training experiences. Assessment and other necessary training materials are provided at each training site. Each intern has access to administrative and IT support.

NV-PIC Training Sites

The consortium includes the following training sites: Northern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services (NNAMHS); Rural Clinics, Carson City (RCCC); and, Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services (SNAMHS). A description of each site and the internship experience by site is below.

Northern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services (NNAMHS) – INACTIVE for 2020-2021

APPIC Program Code: 2323-11

General Information:

Northern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services (NNAMHS) provides comprehensive care primarily to individuals with serious behavioral health disorders. NNAMHS provides inpatient and outpatient services to adults, serving over 1,600 clients annually. Inpatient care is provided at the Dini-Townsend Psychiatric Hospital, which has a 20-bed Inpatient Unit and an inpatient Rapid Stabilization Unit (RSU) with a 10-bed capacity.

Several community programs provide outpatient behavioral health services. Outpatient programs at NNAMHS include:

- Medication Clinic
- Assisted Outpatient Treatment
- Psychosocial Rehabilitation Program
- Peer Support Programs
- Housing and Residential Programs
- Psychiatric Case Management
- Mental Health and Family Mental Health Courts
- Outpatient Psychological and Counseling Services

The staff at NNAMHS is comprised of a variety of disciplines including psychologists, licensed clinical social workers, marriage and family therapists, licensed alcohol and drug counselors, psychiatrists, psychiatric residents, advanced practice nurses, registered nurses, case managers, mental health technicians, and consumer service advocates. There are four psychologist positions at NNAMHS, three primarily assigned to outpatient services and one primarily assigned to inpatient services at the Dini-Townsend Psychiatric Hospital.

Internship Experience:

Interns at NNAMHS work in outpatient and inpatient settings, serving adults experiencing a wide range of serious mental health problems. Interns receive supervision from staff psychologists. Our internship contributes to the development of competent clinical psychologists skilled in diagnosis, psychological treatment, psychological testing, and systems consultation. Interns learn risk assessment, crisis intervention, interviewing and assessment skills, and other screening techniques. Psychological treatment includes individual as well as group therapy. Work in the inpatient and outpatient settings offers interns an opportunity to work closely with a variety of behavioral health professionals. The inpatient units at the Dini Townsend Hospital embrace a recovery model. Treatment approaches include empirically supported strategies, including CBT, DBT, ACT, motivational interviewing, and solution-focused therapy. Interns work with socioeconomically disadvantaged individuals who suffer from a wide range of psychological difficulties including trauma, depression, psychosis, personality disorders, and substance use disorders. Some degree of flexibility accommodates individual intern interests in terms of the types of clients seen, development and implementation of particular treatment groups, and types of assessment activities.

Additional available experience includes work with Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division/ Developmental Services located at the adjacent Sierra Regional Center (SRC) in Sparks, NV. SRC provides community-based services to children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities such as autism, seizure disorders, cerebral palsy, and traumatic brain injury. SRC offers interns additional training and experience in areas of evaluation, consultation, and clinical services to individuals, families, staff, and support teams with an emphasis on supporting community inclusion and attaining personal outcomes. Under the supervision of SRC psychological services team, much of the intern experience at SRC will be focused on conducting evaluations using a variety of assessment instruments and batteries that inform decisions around eligibility for services and programs, examine differential diagnoses, and integrate/synthesize findings and recommendations.

Contact Information

Site Director: Bill Jackson, Ph.D.

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Rural Clinics

APPIC Program Code: 2323-14

General Information:

The Rural Clinics agency provides behavioral health care to underserved individuals with serious behavioral health needs located within one of the 15 rural counties in Nevada. The intern will be working out of the Carson City clinic. Located at the foot of the Sierra Nevada Mountains and approximately 30 minutes from the Reno area, Carson City serves as the State's capitol and is home to just over 50,000 residents. Rural Clinics, Carson City (RCCC) employs two full time psychologists and one psychological assistant as well as several master's level clinicians, psychiatric nurses, psychiatric case managers, psychiatrists, and psychiatric nurse practitioners. RCCC often serves as a training site for practicum and interns of various disciplines.

The professional staff at RCCC provide services in person and also through telehealth to clients based in more remote areas of the state. RCCC staff also provides behavioral health on-call coverage via telehealth to emergency rooms in rural hospitals throughout the state. Staff at the Carson clinic are involved in several community partnerships including Mobile Crisis, Mental Health Court, and Juvenile Justice Diversion. The clinic provides outpatient services to approximately 900 children, adolescents, and adults per year.

Internship Experience:

Interns placed at RCCC work as part of an interdisciplinary team at an outpatient community behavioral health clinic. The intern provides intervention and assessment services to clients in-person in Carson City and to individuals located in more rural and frontier communities throughout Nevada through telehealth. Interns provide individual, group, and family therapy, conduct initial intake assessments and provide comprehensive psychological assessments. The intern will also conduct assessments and therapy with individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities via a rotation at the Rural Regional Center (RRC) which is adjacent to RCCC. The intern placed at RCCC receives in-person supervision from one primary psychologist supervisor, as well as in-person and/or tele-supervision from other Rural Clinic psychologists.

Interns receive training to meet the needs of a smaller community by learning to practice as a generalist working with a wide array of clients. Common presenting issues include but are not limited to: trauma, depression and anxiety, psychosis, co-occurring issues, family distress, interpersonal skill deficits, and general distress related to issues of poverty, stigma, and isolation. Interns at RCCC are expected to work with clients across the age spectrum but may be provided some flexibility to focus their caseload predominantly on adults or youth and families, if desired. Additionally, the intern may have the opportunity to receive some exposure to community-based activities such as community outreach, education and prevention or criminal justice diversion programs.

In addition to work at RCCC, the intern placed at this site will also work at the Rural Regional Center (RRC), a State of Nevada agency in Carson City that provides services and support to individuals with intellectual disabilities or related conditions. RRC provides an array of psychological services from eligibility assessment, individual and group counseling, skill-based instruction and psychological and behavioral consultation. Interns will have the opportunity to conduct individual psychotherapy, provide psycho educational groups, administer psychological test batteries, write psychological reports, consult with interdisciplinary teams, and attend clinical staff meetings.

Finally, interns may gain some opportunities to witness and/or participate in the state-legislative proceedings, including policy work on issues specific to psychology or behavioral health in general.

Contact Information

Site Director: Don Campbell Psy.D. Email address: dcampbell@health.nv.gov Phone number: (775) 784-5021

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Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services (SNAMHS) Clinical-generalist track
APPIC Program Code: 2323-12 Clinical-forensic track APPIC Program Code: 2323-15

General Information:

The Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services (SNAMHS) is a behavioral health system that consists of an 88-bed civil inpatient psychiatric hospital, a 78-bed forensic inpatient hospital, and four outpatient community mental health clinics. SNAMHS provides psychiatric and behavioral health services to a diverse population of underserved adults in Southern Nevada, primarily in Las Vegas. SNAMHS provides services to over 14,000 clients each year, including:

- Inpatient Services at Rawson-Neal Psychiatric Hospital for civilly committed patients
- Inpatient Forensic Services at Stein Forensic Hospital for patients committed for adjudicative competency concerns
- Assistive Outpatient Treatment (AOT)
- Specialty Courts (Mental Health Court, Drug Court)
- Housing and Residential programs
- Consumer Drop-In Centers
- Medication management, counseling, and supportive services at outpatient clinics

The Department of Forensic and Civil Psychology at SNAMHS provides a variety of services including:

- Psychological evaluation and testing (e.g., malingering, personality, cognitive, and differential diagnosis)
- Clinical interviews
- Evidence-based group and individual interventions (e.g., DBT)
- Developing and implementing positive behavior support plans and individualized token economy programs
- Risk assessments
- Participation on interdisciplinary team meetings
- Client-specific consultations
- Implementation of a token economy system
- Training for hospital staff

Psychologists on forensic units conduct specialty evaluations, including adjudicative competence and comprehensive risk assessments. The psychology team also provides training and support for the competency restoration program and facilitates rational decision-making groups for patients. Psychology outpatient services at SNAMHS can include initial comprehensive assessments and diagnostic evaluations, psychological testing, evidence-based group interventions, and individual psychotherapy interventions.

The psychology department has regularly scheduled staff meetings that focus on continued training, case consultation, program development, and administrative tasks. We provide monthly trainings open to all staff called Tuesday Talks.

Internship Experience:

Interns at SNAMHS develop skills and competencies in the assessment and treatment of serious mental illness (SMI), co-occurring disorders, and personality disorders. Interns develop and enhance their skills in the areas of professional development and clinical consultation.

Interns at SNAMHS will enhance their skills in diagnostic assessment, consultation, and treatment for a diverse, urban population. Interns have access to SNAMHS' extensive library of psychological testing materials. Interns are provided supervised experiences by licensed psychologists in clinical assessment, individual and group therapy, development of research projects, and psychoeducational workshops. Supervision for DBT, CBT and mindfulness-based individual and group interventions are available. Interns function as members of interdisciplinary treatment teams and provide consultation and crisis intervention support. Interns learn to consult with direct care staff and to write and implement behavior plans.

In addition to NV-PIC didactics, interns at SNAMHS participate in weekly site didactic trainings and case presentations with early career psychologists, postdocs, practicum students, and undergraduate field placement students facilitated primarily by Dr. Bradley. Previous didactic topics have included: expert testimony, civil commitment, malingering, PAI, motivational interviewing, and board complaints/malpractice lawsuits. Interns have generally had an opportunity to observe expert testimony and participate in testimony preparation. Interns provide a Tuesday Talks training during the year. There are opportunities to participate in outreach events throughout the year.

The SNAMHS internship offers one position each on two separate tracks: one clinical-generalist position and one clinical-forensic position.

SNAMHS Clinical-Generalist Track (APPIC Program Code: 2323-12) – 1 position

The intern on the clinical-generalist track at SNAMHS works primarily with patients in our civil psychiatric hospital, Rawson Neal, engaged in activities to support the patients and treatment team. The intern provides psychological assessments, intervention services, and consultation services, as described above. The intern placed at Rawson Neal may have opportunities to work with outpatient and forensic patients as well.

SNAMHS Clinical-Forensic Track (APPIC Program Code: 2323-15) – 1 position

The intern on the clinical-forensic track at SNAMHS works with patients who were referred by the court for adjudicative competence concerns. The interns working with the forensic population learn case law related to adjudicative competence and learn how to conduct thorough record reviews, write forensic evaluations, interview forensic patients, and conduct psychological and forensic testing when applicable. Interns have the opportunity to learn forensic assessment instruments such as the ECST-R, M-FAST, SIMS, SIRS, MCAT-CA, and TOMM, to name a few. Interns also learn to conduct comprehensive risk-assessments for self-harm and violence.

Contact Information

Site Director: Shera D. Bradley, Ph.D. Email address: sbradley@health.nv.gov

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Mailing address: 6161 West Charleston Blvd, Las Vegas, Nevada 89146

Nevada Area Attractions

NV-PIC is a consortium program with sites across the diverse landscapes and cultures of Nevada. Interns are placed at one site for the full internship year but have the opportunity to travel and experience the diverse and unique ecosystems of Nevada. In addition to experiencing the beauty of Nevada, interns who choose to stay in Nevada following internship would have ample opportunities for loan repayment, as Nevada Behavioral Health Service Programs are competitive for National Health Service Corps loan repayment or loan forgiveness (<http://nhsc.hrsa.gov/>).

One of our internship sites (SNAMHS) is located in the heart of Las Vegas. Las Vegas is well known for its world-class entertainment, day-spas, auto shows, nightclubs, retail, golfing, and fine dining. This 24-hour city offers wildlife habitats, fine art, and museums (dedicated to Neon, 'The Mob,' natural history, and more). Downtown Las Vegas has a cultural center which includes The Smith Center for Performing Arts, a nonprofit organization that hosts a variety of performances to include world-renowned Broadway shows, family-friendly events, local theatre, dance companies from all over the world, the Nevada Ballet Theatre, the Las Vegas Philharmonic, amongst others. Recreation within the natural wonders of the nearby Nevada desert includes breathtaking landscapes and spectacular rock formations, such as Red Rock Canyon in the Mohave desert, Lake Mead, the Valley of Fire, and Mount Charleston. The Las Vegas Ski & Snowboard Resort is located on Mt. Charleston, which is the 8th highest peak in Nevada at 11,916 feet. Snow season generally lasts from November through April. Daytrip destinations include: the Grand Canyon, Lake Havasu, the Extraterrestrial Highway and Area 51, Mojave National Preserve, Zion National Park, and Dixie National Forest.

Two of our internship sites are located in the northern region of the state, one in Carson City (RCCC) and one in the greater-Reno area (NNAMHS). Carson City, the state capital, small in size but big in stature, is home to many historical sites. Close by are Lake Tahoe to the west, Virginia City to the east, Reno to the north, and Genoa to the south. Reno, "the Biggest Little City in the World," is 30 minutes away from Carson City and a two- to four-hour drive from major metro areas in northern California (including Sacramento and San Francisco). Northern Nevada is a year-round recreation destination. Activities include skiing, snowboarding, fishing, boating, hiking, wilderness camping, mountain biking, horseback riding, swimming, water sports, and golf. Area outdoor recreation venues include the Truckee River, a variety of lakes, including beautiful Lake Tahoe, and the mountains known as the Sierra Nevada. Lake Tahoe has long been considered the "Jewel of the Sierra," not only for its contribution to the scenic majesty of the area, but also for the adventure that can be found in the region, which includes the largest concentration of ski slopes in the United States and endless hiking and mountain biking trails, including Lake Tahoe's famous rim trail.

Known for its legal gambling and world-class casinos, Nevada has a rich arts and cultural scene as well. Annual events in Las Vegas include the City of Light Jazz Festival, World Series of Poker tournament, Annual Academy of Country Music Awards, Vegas Uncork'd, Rock 'n' Roll Marathon, Electric Daisy Carnival, Motor Trend Auto show, Cirque Du Soleil, Wrangler National Rodeo Finals, Life is Beautiful festival, UNLVino, and the Word Food Championships. In Northern Nevada, Artown in Reno includes a month of live music on the river and other venues around town. Other annual community events include the Reno River Festival, Street Vibrations, Hot August Nights, The Great Reno Balloon Race, National Championship Air Races, Best of the West Rib Cook-off, Virginia City Camel Race, Carson Valley Days Festival, Street Vibrations, Reno Rodeo, and the Burning Man Festival held just a few hours east.

Application Process and Selection Criteria

The Consortium will offer three full-time positions, one position at RCCC and one position for each of the tracks at SNAMHS (two positions total for SNAMHS). Students interested in applying for the internship program should submit an online application through the APPIC website (www.appic.org). NV-PIC is listed in APPIC under Program Code 2323.

A complete application consists of the following materials:

1. A completed online AAPI (APPIC's standard application)
2. Cover letter (part of online AAPI) stating your preferred training site(s) and why you are interested in those sites specifically. Applicants can indicate their interest in more than one site within the consortium in one cover letter.
3. A current Curriculum Vitae (as part of the online AAPI)
4. Three standardized reference forms, at least two of which must come from individuals who have directly supervised your clinical work (as part of the online AAPI)
5. Official transcripts of all graduate coursework (as part of the online AAPI)
6. REQUIRED supplementary materials: Include a writing sample, such as an integrated assessment report or a clinical case conceptualization. Please redact appropriately.
7. OPTIONAL voluntary materials: Applicant Affirmative Action Information Form – Interns who match with NV-PIC are the employees of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE). It is the policy of WICHE to provide equal employment opportunity to all qualified applicants. As an Affirmative Action Employer, WICHE is required to invite all applicants to complete certain forms. Completion of the forms is voluntary and will not subject you to any adverse treatment. The information on these forms is confidential and will be maintained separately from your application. If you choose to do so, please visit NV-PIC's website (<http://nv-pic.org/application-procedure>) to download the form, and upload it with your application. Remember that completion of this form is voluntary and in no way affects the decision regarding your application for employment.

All application materials must be received by **November 15, 2019** to be considered. Applicants who are invited to interview will be notified by email on or before the **December 15** deadline. In-person interviews will be held January 13, 14, and 15, 2020 in Las Vegas, NV. If you apply to Rural Clinics, your in-person interview will be in Las Vegas. Optional open houses will be held on January 16 and 17 at Rural Clinics.

Videoconference/phone interviews will be provided on January 6 and 7, 2020 in cases where in person is not an option. Applicants are encouraged but not required to visit the consortium sites to which they applied.

NV-PIC requires that applicants are in good-standing and currently enrolled in a psychology doctoral program and have completed the following by the application deadline:

1. A minimum of 400 doctoral intervention hours
2. A minimum of 75 doctoral assessment hours
3. A minimum of 5 integrated reports
4. Successful dissertation proposal by the application deadline

NV-PIC also invites applicants who have experience or special interest in working with underserved or diverse populations. Nevada ranks 51st in the nation for mental health services. In addition to the requirements noted above, NV-PIC takes into consideration the potential commitment or interest of any prospective intern to remain in Nevada following internship. Developing a strong behavioral health workforce is an important consideration for the state, and an interest in remaining in Nevada to join the workforce is considered a benefit in a potential intern.

Questions regarding the application or interview process may be directed to NV-PIC's Training Director, Dr. Emily Slife (dphnvpic@health.nv.gov).

All interns who match to NV-PIC sites must provide proof of eligibility to work in the United States. NV-PIC does not sponsor work visas. Interns must successfully pass a fingerprint-based background check before beginning employment and must provide results from a tuberculosis (TB) screening test from the previous 12-months. Instructions for providing this information or completing the background check and TB screening will be sent out to all who match after the match is complete. NV-PIC will reimburse these costs. Please note: if HR has a concern about the results of a background check, employees have 30 days to explain. Many factors are considered and HR handles this on a case by case basis based on the state division's policy.

In addition, all NV-PIC interns who see Medicaid clients are required to register with the Nevada Board of Psychological Examiners. Information on board registration, including cost, can be found at: <http://psyexam.nv.gov/Forms/PsychologicalAssistant/>. NV-PIC will reimburse the cost of registration.

Consortium Contact Information

For more information about NV-PIC, feel free to contact:

Emily Slife, Ph.D., NV-PIC Training Director – dpbhnpic@health.nv.gov or go to www.nv-pic.org.

NV-PIC Aim and Competencies

Overarching Aim:

The Nevada Psychology Internship Consortium (NV-PIC) represents the collaborative effort of three behavioral health agencies within the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health to share resources and faculty for the purpose of providing a broad and general training for psychology interns. NV-PIC offers one-year, full-time internship positions at treatment centers across Nevada. The aim of the Nevada Psychology Internship Consortium (NV-PIC) is to prepare and retain high quality and culturally competent psychologists to provide integrated public behavioral health care for the people of Nevada.

By the conclusion of the internship year, interns are expected to have achieved competence across the following 10 areas:

1. Research
2. Ethical and Legal Standards
3. Individual and Cultural Diversity
4. Professional Values, Attitudes, and Behaviors
5. Communication and Interpersonal Skills
6. Assessment
7. Intervention
8. Supervision
9. Consultation and Interprofessional/Interdisciplinary Skills
10. Public Behavioral Health

Behavioral Health Program

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