

# Forensic Psychiatry and Psychology Fellowships

The University of Washington (UW) and the [Washington Department of Social and Health Services \(DSHS\)](#), jointly sponsor year long fellowships in forensic psychiatry and psychology. The fellowships are run in parallel as part of a consortium. Psychiatry resident applicants must be PGY5 and above and psychology applicants must have completed their doctoral degree from an APA-accredited institution. Our program has a large and diverse faculty with advanced training in forensic mental health. The fellowship is designed to promote a wide variety of experiences in mental health law, criminal and civil forensic practice, consultation, treatment of the mentally ill offender, and research. Fellows will select a primary training track and have the opportunity for minor rotations in the other programs.

## Training Tracks:

### *Forensic Psychiatry*

This track offers specific training in the pre-trial evaluation of mentally ill offenders (including competency to proceed, mental state at the time of the offense, and risk assessments); assessment and treatment of mentally ill offenders; rotations in several civil forensic settings; evaluations of juvenile offenders; consultation to correctional staff and treatment of inmates in a community detention facility; consultation and education activities with community mental health services providers, attorneys, courts, and rehabilitation facilities; scholarly research activities and professional education. This program is administered through the Washington Institute for Mental Illness Research and Training (WIMIRT). Questions specific to this program should be directed to Gregory Leong, M.D., (253) 756-2974; [LEONGGB@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:LEONGGB@dshs.wa.gov)

### *Adult Forensic Psychology*

This track offers specific training in the pre-trial evaluation of mentally ill offenders (including competency to proceed, mental state at the time of the offense, and risk assessments); assessment and treatment of insanity acquitees; possible rotations in several civil forensic settings; evaluations of juvenile offenders; evaluation of inmates in community detention facilities; consultation and education activities with community mental health services providers, attorneys, courts, and rehabilitation facilities; scholarly research activities and professional education. This program is administered through [the Washington Institute for Mental Illness Research and Training \(WIMIRT\)](#). Questions specific to this program should be directed to Julie Gallagher, Psy.D. (253) 756-2514; [GallaJA@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:GallaJA@dshs.wa.gov)

### *Juvenile Forensic Psychology*

This track offers training in conducting pre-adjudication evaluations for juvenile courts (including competency to proceed, mental state at the time of the offense, and risk assessments), coordinating the care of and providing psycho-educational services to juveniles adjudicated incompetent to proceed, consulting with attorneys, and, when possible, providing court testimony. Training also includes inpatient treatment of adolescents with severe emotional, behavioral, and thought disorders (including individual, group, and family therapy with an emphasis on community involvement). Therapeutic approaches include behavior and milieu management, psycho-educational skills development, adventure-based recreational therapies, and Dialectical Behavior Therapy. Questions specific to this program should be directed to Ivan Kruh, Ph.D. (253) 879-7923; [KruhIP@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:KruhIP@dshs.wa.gov)

### *Sex Offender Evaluation*

This track offers training in conducting annual review evaluations of individuals who have been civilly committed as sexually violent predators. These evaluations involve a review of treatment progress, assessment of whether the individual's risk to sexually reoffend has changed and whether release to a less restrictive alternative placement is in the individual's best interest. Training may include providing deposition and court testimony. Research opportunities are available on a limited basis. Questions specific to this program should be directed to Bruce Duthie, Ph.D. (253 583-5936; [DuthiRB@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:DuthiRB@dshs.wa.gov))

### **Primary Clinical Training Sites:**

[Western State Hospital \(WSH\)](#) is a roughly 1,000-bed psychiatric hospital serving the western half of Washington State. WIMIRT is also located on the campus. The majority of the forensic psychiatry and adult forensic psychology fellows' time will be spent in the [Center for Forensic Services \(CFS\)](#), which has specialized wards for forensic evaluation, competency restoration treatment, and the treatment of insanity acquittees. There is also an Outpatient Services Program dedicated to conducting forensic evaluations in jails and in the community. During the year the psychology fellow will have the opportunity to affiliate with pre-doctoral interns from WSH's APA approved internship program and supervise psychology practicum students. The forensic psychiatry resident will have an opportunity to supervise and teach general psychiatry residents coming to WSH for their forensic psychiatry rotation.

The [Child Study and Treatment Center \(CSTC\)](#) is a 47-bed hospital for children and adolescents; its grounds are contiguous with Western State Hospital. Within CSTC there is a 7-bed security unit that houses forensic patients and others with special security needs. During the year the fellow has an opportunity to affiliate with CSTC postdoctoral fellows and pre-doctoral interns from WSH's APA approved internship program.

The [Special Commitment Center \(SCC\)](#) is the first established civil commitment facility for sexually violent predators (SVPs) in the country. Although this fellowship is located on the mainland in Steilacoom, the SCC is housed on McNeil Island and regular travel via ferry is required. During the year the fellow has an opportunity to affiliate with pre-doctoral interns from WSH's APA approved internship program.

### **Secondary Training Opportunities:**

Fellows will have the opportunity for minor rotations in the other programs. In addition, fellows may accompany faculty who are conducting private evaluations in a variety of areas including personal injury, family law, workplace, and disability. They may also participate in outpatient treatment sessions.

### **Didactics:**

The forensic faculty teaches weekly 3-hour seminars over the academic year addressing the full range of forensic topics required by the ACGME and APA for accreditation. In addition, fellows are required to participate in a weekly journal club that reviews landmark cases and other essential readings in the field. Fellows also participate in training exercises (mock legal procedures) with law students from the Seattle University School of Law. When possible, fellows are also given the opportunity to gain direct experience providing expert testimony in criminal and civil court. Additional ongoing educational opportunities are offered covering: psychological assessment, neuroanatomy, developmental psychopathology, forensic report writing, and expert testimony.

**Research:**

Fellows complete a research project or a scholarly work under faculty supervision during the year. The fellow may join an ongoing project or choose to begin a project in his/her area of interest.

**Location:**

All of the fellowship programs are located in wooded and attractive Steilacoom, Washington, in the South Puget Sound area. Steilacoom is located minutes from Tacoma, one hour from Seattle, two hours from Portland, Oregon, and three hours from Vancouver, B.C. The scenic Puget Sound and surrounding mountains offer unparalleled recreational opportunities.

**Salary and Benefits:**

The stipend for the postdoctoral fellowship in psychology is \$37,008 per year. Benefits include vacation leave, sick leave, educational leave and funding for professional training as negotiated and medical/dental insurance.

The forensic psychiatry fellow will receive a salary commensurate with the appropriate PGY-level from the University of Washington. Benefits are the same as that for other psychiatry residents.

**Funding:**

Funding for the positions are in the budget of the sponsoring institutions but a guarantee is not possible until the governor has signed the requisite budget bill.

**Application Procedure:****Entrance requirements for Psychologists:**

1. Graduation from an APA approved doctoral program in psychology. If the candidate has not received the degree at the time of application, then s/he must supply letters from the director of his/her training program and dissertation chair (when applicable) attesting that the candidate is expected to receive the doctoral degree before the fellowship start date.
2. Evidence of completion of an APA approved predoctoral internship program or a letter from the director of the program attesting that the candidate is expected to complete their predoctoral internship before the start date.

**Entrance requirements for Psychiatrists:**

Applicants must be PGY5 and above.

**Application materials:**

1. Documentation that the above entrance requirements have been met.
2. Statement of interest and career intent.
3. Official transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate studies.
4. Three letters of recommendation.

5. Curriculum Vitae.
6. Sample of a completed and sanitized clinical report (forensic clinical evaluation is preferred).
7. Sample of a scholarly/academic paper.

**Deadline:**

Application materials will be accepted and reviewed as early as September 15 in the year preceding the fellowship. Applications must be complete by midnight, February 1 of the year of the fellowship start date.

**Contact Information:**

For more information or to apply contact. Send all application materials to the directors of training listed above care of:

Diane Pearson Harrison  
The Washington Institute  
9601 Steilacoom Blvd. SW  
Tacoma, WA 98498-7213  
(253) 756-2741  
[pearsond@u.washington.edu](mailto:pearsond@u.washington.edu)