

## Doctoral Internship in Health Service Psychology

Howard University is a comprehensive, research oriented, historically Black private university providing an educational experience of exceptional quality to students of high academic potential with particular emphasis upon the provision of educational opportunities to promising Black students. Further, the University is dedicated to attracting and sustaining a cadre of faculty who are, through their teaching and research, committed to the development of distinguished and compassionate graduates and to the quest for solutions to human and social problems in the United States and throughout the world.

The Howard University Counseling Service (HUCS) is highly committed to the training of doctoral level interns in psychology. The philosophy of the internship training program offered at the Howard University Counseling Service is to prepare psychologists who want to work with racially and culturally diverse and underserved populations using a practitioner-scholar model. Our APA accredited program offers depth and diversity, providing extensive as well as intensive supervision to prepare interns for their chosen professions in psychology. At the HUCS interns are encouraged to work in close liaison with their supervisors and are respected as professional colleagues. Interns are expected to engage in some degree of self-disclosure as part of the learning process. Our program includes training and supervision in the following areas:

- *Individual Counseling and Psychotherapy*
- *Group Counseling*
- *Psychodiagnostics*
- *Intake Interviewing*
- *University Outreach Programs*
- *Rotational Placements in Inpatient Psychiatry and Assessment  
Rotation in D.C Public Charter schools.*

The training program places emphasis on ethnic and individual differences. The international faculty, staff and student population at Howard University and the surrounding community provide a culturally rich learning environment for the UCS intern. Howard University offers fully integrated training and seminars to develop the intern's sensitivity in working with people from diverse backgrounds. The UCS intern will learn the significance of cultural and ethnic influences on personality development and coping skills and how to apply psychodynamic treatment approaches to varied populations.

Applicants must be enrolled in a doctoral program in counseling or clinical psychology. All formal course work and comprehensive examinations for the doctorate must be completed. Candidates must have completed 400 intervention hours. We offer a competitive stipend, health benefits, annual and sick leave, release time for professional development, and support (if the budget allows) for approved professional development activities.

To apply to the internship program candidates must submit the AAPI Online by November 4th which includes the APPIC online application, letter of interest, updated curriculum vitae, official copies of all

graduate transcripts, and three letters of recommendation. Letter should be included in your online application.

For more information, please contact Jessica Desalu, Ph.D at [Jessica.Desalu@howard.edu](mailto:Jessica.Desalu@howard.edu) or visit HUCS at <https://studentaffairs.howard.edu/opportunities/clinical-psychology-training>

You may contact the APA Commission on Accreditation at 202 336-5979 or 750 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002-4242. *This internship site agrees to abide by the APPIC policy that no person at this training facility will solicit, accept, or use any ranking-related information from any intern applicant.*

## Internship Admissions, Support, & Initial Placement Data

The information and tables below are updated by September 1 of each year.

### Program Disclosures

<p>Does the program or institution require students, trainees, and/or staff (faculty) to comply with specific policies or practices related to the institution’s affiliation or purpose? Such policies or practices may include, but are not limited to, admissions, hiring, retention policies, and/or requirements for completion that express mission and values.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>If yes, provide website link (or content from brochure) where this specific information is presented: <b>Not Applicable</b></p>	

### Internship Program Admissions

<p>Briefly describe in narrative form important information to assist potential applicants in assessing their likely fit with your program. This description must be consistent with the program’s policies on intern selection and practicum and academic preparation requirements:</p>
<p>The Howard University Counseling Service (HUCS) Doctoral Internship Training Program uses a practitioner-scholar model to prepare interns to be well-rounded, entry level psychologists with special competencies in working with diverse populations. A minimum of 400 intervention hours is required of applicants. Also, a strong background in psychological assessment is preferred; given the required assessment rotation in D.C. Public Charter schools. Interns complete one full year of specialized training in the substantive area of clinical/counseling psychology A degree of self-disclosure during supervision and training seminars is expected as part of the learning process. The workload is as follows: Direct Service Activities, Training Activities, Administrative Activities, Professional Development, Teaching, and Supervision. Our program utilizes a psychodynamic theoretical orientation, brief and long-term therapy models, and includes special training in group counseling and therapy. Most direct service hours take place at Howard University Counseling Service</p>

with a diverse undergraduate, graduate, and professional student population; but HUCS interns also complete 3 rotational placements. The first rotation is at Howard University Hospital (HUH) Inpatient Psychiatry Unit. Interns train at HUH a half day each week for 4 months. On this rotation they learn about inpatient treatment from the HUH psychiatry team and HUH supervisor. The HUH inpatient rotation is in-person training with Covid-19 health and safety protocols in place. The second rotation is an assessment rotation which takes place in D.C. charter schools- every Monday for 4 months interns will conduct psychological assessments within various charter schools. Interns will be expected to produce 3 to 4 integrated reports during the 4-month rotation. The third rotation is a two-month rotation based on individual choice. In the past, interns have chosen rotations in research, trauma, assessment, group, administration, etc. Each component of the internship program (individual therapy, group counseling, outreach, teaching, assessment, inpatient psychiatry) includes a separate supervision focused on that respective component.

Professional development is supported throughout the internship year. We strive to fund two conferences during the training year. The two conferences are focused on group. A diversity/cultural competency workshop and a DSM-V Workshop are typically also offered during the training year.

Qualifications include the following:

- Enrollment in an APA-accredited doctoral program in clinical or counseling psychology.
- Completion of required doctoral practica and comprehensive examinations.
- To apply to the internship program, candidates must submit the AAPI Online (Application for Psychology Internship) by November 4th which includes:
  - APPIC Uniform Application
  - Letter of interest
  - Updated Curriculum Vitae
  - Official copies of all graduate transcripts
  - Three letters of recommendation. Letters should be included in your online APPIC application

Does the program require that applicants have received a minimum number of hours of the following at time of application? If Yes, indicate how many:

Total Direct Contact Intervention Hours: **N Y** Amount: **400** Total Direct Contact Assessment Hours: **N** Amount:

Describe any other required minimum criteria used to screen applicants:

- Enrollment in an APA-accredited doctoral program in clinical or counseling psychology.
- Completion of required doctoral practica and comprehensive examinations.
- Strong assessment background preferred

**Financial and Other Benefit Support for Upcoming Training Year**

Annual Stipend/Salary for Full-time Interns	\$43,888	
Annual Stipend/Salary for Half-time Interns	Not Applicable	
Program provides access to medical insurance for intern?	Yes	
If access to medical insurance is provided:		
Trainee contribution to cost required?	Yes	
Coverage of family member(s) available?	Yes	
Coverage of legally married partner available?	Yes	
Coverage of domestic partner available?		No
Hours of Annual Paid Personal Time Off (PTO and/or Vacation)	150	
Hours of Annual Paid Sick Leave	160	
In the event of medical conditions and/or family needs that require extended leave, does the program allow reasonable unpaid leave to interns/residents in excess of personal time off and sick leave?	Yes	
Other benefits (please describe):	-Health benefits include medical, dental, vision, and flexible spending accounts. -Retirement plans are also available in the benefits package. -Each intern is provided with an individual office and a work computer. -Release time for personal psychotherapy is available.	

\*Note. Programs are not required by the Commission on Accreditation to provide all benefits listed in this table.

**Initial Post-Internship Position**

(Provide an Aggregated Tally of the Preceding 3 Cohorts)

	2021-24	
Total # of interns who were in the 3 cohorts	9	
Total # of interns who did not seek employment because they returned to their doctoral program/are completing doctoral degree	1	
	PD	EP
Academic Teaching	0	0
Community mental health center	0	0
Consortium	0	0
University Counseling Center	0	0
Hospital/Medical Center	1	1
Veteran Affairs Healthcare System	0	0
Psychiatric Facility	0	0
Correctional Facility	0	0
Health Maintenance Organization	0	0
School District System	0	0
Independent Practice Setting	2	4
Other	0	0

Note: "PD" = Post-doctoral residency position; "EP" = Employed Position. Each individual represented in this table should be counted only one time. For former trainees working in more than one setting, select the setting that represents their primary position.