

## **THE ACADEMY OF PSYCHOLOGICAL CLINICAL SCIENCE**

### **Application Information for Internship Programs**

(Last updated April, 2022)

The Academy of Psychological Clinical Science was created in response to challenges and opportunities confronting scientific clinical psychology, now and in the foreseeable future. These challenges force clinical scientists to reexamine, refine, and reaffirm their commitment to their values, mission, responsibilities, and goals. They also encourage clinical science training programs to build alliances based on shared values and to work together to shape the future of the discipline. In the process, such alliances should help member programs improve the quality of their training and the scientific contributions of their faculties and students.

#### **Mission**

The broad mission of the Academy is to advance clinical science. Clinical science is a psychological science directed at the assessment, understanding, amelioration, and prevention of human problems in behavior, affect, cognition, or health, and at the application of knowledge in ways consistent with scientific evidence. Emphasis on the term "science" underscores a commitment to empirical approaches to evaluating the validity and utility of testable hypotheses and to the advancement of knowledge by this method as well as the inculcation of these values in the practice of evidence-based treatments and assessment procedures.

The Academy seeks member programs, at both the doctoral and internship levels, that are strongly committed to research training and to the integration of such training with clinical training. The development and application of clinical science are ongoing and dynamic processes. This evolution of clinical science is being facilitated by the Academy.

#### **Goals**

The primary goals of the Academy are:

- **Training:** To foster the training of students for careers in clinical science research, who will skillfully produce and apply scientific knowledge.
- **Research and Theory:** To advance the full range of clinical science research and theory and their integration with other relevant sciences.
- **Resources and Opportunities:** To foster the development of and access to resources and opportunities for training, research, funding, and careers in clinical science.
- **Application:** To foster the broad application of clinical science to human problems in responsible and innovative ways.
- **Dissemination:** To foster the timely dissemination of clinical science to policy-making groups, psychologists, and other scientists, practitioners, and consumers.

The Academy understands that these goals will likely manifest somewhat differently at the internship level since the primary focus of the internship year is clinical training. Although some Academy internship member programs may require or provide the option for conducting research during the internship year, it is not a requirement for membership.

## **Applying for Membership in the Academy**

The application involves a narrative response to the areas outlined below. There is no minimum length requirement, but the final narrative should not exceed 5 pages single spaced using an 11- or 12-point font. In most cases, one paragraph would be sufficient in responding to each area. \*As indicated below, you may use responses from a recent (past 3 years) APA self-study of your internship program.

1. General Philosophy - A brief statement of how the program values clinical science training. As noted above this is not limited to conducting research. If relevant, you may include your response to the APA Standards of Accreditation (SoA) II.B.1. (Specific Aims).
2. Intervention and Assessment – How the program uses principles of clinical science in intervention and assessment training in including interview skills and the use of psychometric instruments. If relevant, include your response to the SoA II.A.2.f-g.
3. Didactics - How the program incorporates principles of clinical science in its didactics and seminars. If relevant, you may include your response to the SoA II.C.2. as well as the listing of seminar descriptions.
4. Dissemination – How the program supports dissemination of clinical science principles among its trainees and faculty (not limited to presenting or publishing formal research). The dissemination of clinical training that supports clinical science principles is equally valued.
5. Selection – How clinical science training is considered in its selection practices. Programs are not expected to attract and match predominantly with applicants with clinical science training but there needs to be some evidence that the program values clinical science training. You may include information about how many interns routinely match from APCS graduate programs.
6. Outcomes – The program’s success with regard to clinical science training. This should include data or stats supporting that the program’s graduates going into positions that are consistent with clinical science training. This could include trainees who pursue careers as researchers and/or teachers in university and medical settings; as leaders influencing practice, including disseminating empirically validated treatments, evaluating treatments in practice settings, supervising the practice of other; and as leaders influencing policy and education. You may include distal data from SoA II.D.1.b (Internship Program Alumni).
7. Staying Current - How the program responds to changing science over time. You may include your response to the SoA II.D.2 (Quality Improvement).
8. Research – How the program supports ongoing research or dissertation completion by its interns and, if applicable supports new research or program evaluation through the internship program.

**The Narrative response must include and reference supporting documents including but not limited to:**

1. A link to your program website
2. A didactic schedule with descriptions and references (you may include the listing of seminar descriptions from SoA II.C.2).
3. Full or abbreviated vitas of supervising faculty
4. A selected listing of interns’ doctoral programs for the past five cohorts, highlighting clinical science programs.
5. A list of the program graduates for the past five years that indicates the initial placement setting, current placement setting, and clinical science related activities (e.g., grants,

publications, presentation, and engagement in evidence based clinical work). You may include information from your response to SoA II.D.2, including data from Tables 3 and 4.

*\*These documents could be originals developed for the APCS application or from the program's most recent accreditation self-study (from the past 3 years).*

### **Application Fee and Deadline**

*The Academy reviews applications as they are received.*

We will waive the typical application fee of \$200 for all internship programs. If the application review is positive, newly admitted programs will be invoiced for prorated dues, which are \$450 annually.

Programs that intend to apply should contact Tim Strauman ([tjstraum@duke.edu](mailto:tjstraum@duke.edu)) to make arrangements for material submission to the review committee.

Member programs will be re-reviewed every seven (7) years, or earlier if significant changes in a program or other factors indicate that an earlier review is appropriate.