Postdoctoral Fellowship in Paediatric Clinical Neuropsychology

2027-2029





Department of Psychology
The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, ON, Canada

Pediatric Neuropsychology Fellowship Coordinator: Eva Mamak, Ph.D., ABPP-CN
Director of Training: Hannah Gennis, Ph.D., C.Psych

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Fellowship at a glance

Start Date:		September 7, 2027
Location		Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, ON, Canada
Member of APPCN?		Yes
Member of NMS match?		Yes
Application Deadline:		January 7, 2027
Full time/Part time		Full Time
Research Requirements:		At least one publication/Presentation with work completed during fellowship
Age range		0-18 (optional rotation in adult neuropsychology is possible)
Rotations/Programs		Neurology, Stroke, Epilepsy Surgery, Neonatal Neurology, Genetics/Metabolics, Neurosurgery, Solid Organ Transplant, Hematology/Oncology, Brain Tumor, Leukemia/Lymphoma, Sickle Cell Disease, Long term follow up for cancer, Cardiology, NF1, General neuropsychology clinic.
Salary		$69,000 CAD in year 1, $71,000 CAD in year 2, possible $5000 educational stipend each year.
Benefits		• Modified health and dental benefits • 3 weeks paid vacation • 9 statutory holidays • 1 week paid professional development time • $500 professional development funds per year
Eligibility		• Graduates of CPA/APA Accredited clinical or school psychology programs with accredited internship • Internship level training in paediatric psychology and neuropsychology • Background in functional neuroanatomy, clinical neurology, basic neuroscience and/or neuropathology • **All degree requirements must be completed before the start date**
Training Cohort		• 2 neuropsychology fellows (one per year) • Health/Clinical psychology fellows (number varies) • 3 pre-doctoral residents • Numerous practicum students
SickKids NMS Match Number:		**8443 - Pediatric Neuropsychology**
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Overview

One (1) Postdoctoral fellowship position in paediatric clinical neuropsychology is offered through the Department of Psychology at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, Ontario. The two-year, full-time training position begins on **September 7, 2027**, with the second-year conditional on successful completion of first-year requirements. Employment is contingent upon meeting the Hospital for Sick Children's Occupational Health Requirements and completion of the requirements of the doctoral degree.

Virtual interviews will be scheduled between **January 11-22, 2027**, for 60-90 minutes. Interviews outside this time period will be considered based on the availability of both the candidate and interview committee.

Our program has been a member of the **Association of Postdoctoral Programs in Clinical Neuropsychology (APPCN)** since 2008 and training conforms to the **Houston Conference Guidelines for Specialty Education and Training in Clinical Neuropsychology.** The fellowship adheres to a scientist-practitioner model and training prepares fellows for independent practice in pediatric neuropsychology, registration with the **College of Psychologists and Behavior Analysts of Ontario (CPBAO),** and board certification through the **American Board of Clinical Neuropsychology (ABCN).**

The philosophy of the fellowship mirrors that of The Hospital for Sick Children in that the needs of the patient and family are primary. An evidence-based practice approach is used and clinical research is closely integrated with patient care activities. Conceptualizing the child's neuropsychological needs and challenges within a developmental framework is integral to practice.

The Department of Psychology at SickKids exists as an independent department within a Child Health Services cluster model of service provision. It includes over 30 psychologists, 11 psychometrists, and numerous research staff and trainees providing clinical services and conducting research within the hospital. There are 15 staff pediatric neuropsychologists who regularly provide clinical supervision in our training program. Five are board certified (ABPP-CN). In addition to specialty training in Pediatric Neuropsychology (2 positions), the Department offers clinical training at the Postdoctoral level in Pediatric Health Psychology (at least 1 position), residency level (3 positions, accredited by the Canadian Psychological Association), and graduate practicum level.

Goals of the Fellowship

Fellows are exposed to a wide array of patient populations (aged 0-18 years) in both inpatient and outpatient settings. A primary goal of the first year is to develop a working model of neuropsychological assessment, consultation, and intervention that allows for accurate, thorough, yet efficient service delivery in the fast paced and complex setting of an academic health sciences center. Goals of the second year are to obtain registration as a psychologist (CPBAO) or eligibility for registration outside of Ontario, and to further develop clinical and research skills by working with a broader range of supervisors, patient groups, and multi-disciplinary teams. By the end of the second year, fellows should be eligible to apply for board certification (ABCN). Graduates of our program have entered into positions in academic medical centers, private practice and multi-disciplinary community clinics.

Training Activities

Postdoctoral fellows are involved in direct clinical service for at least 75% of their time and participate in focused research and educational activities for the remaining 25% of their time. The focus of training is on advanced practice in pediatric clinical neuropsychology, including comprehensive neuropsychological consultation, intervention, functional neuroanatomy, ethical practice, individual/cultural diversity, writing integrated reports, multi-disciplinary and school consultation, and clinical research. The fellow receives high-level training in conducting neuropsychological evaluations, providing feedback (including recommendations and education) to family, staff and school personnel, providing supportive psychological services and/or neuropsychologically informed intervention, participating in multi-disciplinary teams, and assisting with treatment and discharge planning. Fellows receive supervision from various staff neuropsychologists in their work with a diverse range of patients across multiple programs and in conducting applied research.

Rotations

The first year of training consists of three, four-month rotations chosen to meet the fellow's training needs, balancing exposure to patients of varying ages, levels of functioning, and focal vs. diffuse deficits. There are opportunities to conduct assessments with special patient populations (e.g., severe sensory, motor or behavioral needs requiring non-standardized assessments) and combined neuropsychological and autism spectrum disorder (ASD) diagnostic assessments.

The second year of training allows for more depth of training in a particular population, allowing increased depth of training. Second-year fellows work with greater autonomy, often providing supervision to others. Evaluations are typically conducted through the outpatient Psychology Clinic, but inpatient consultations may be provided.

While rotations are often specific to a particular primary supervisor, there are opportunities for joint supervision within specific clinics with more than one clinical supervisor (e.g., Epilepsy Surgery, Neonatal Neurology, Cardiology, etc.). Neuropsychological services include assessment, direct intervention, and consultation.

Primary rotations are available within the following programs:

- Neurology
    - Stroke
    - Epilepsy Surgery Program
    - Epilepsy Classroom
    - Neonatal Neurology
    - Neurology General Consultation
    - Neuropsychological intervention: The NeuroOutcomes Lab (//lab.research.sickkids.ca/neurooutcomes/)
- Genetics/Metabolics
- Neurosurgery
- Cardiology
- Solid Organ Transplant
- Rheumatology
- Neurofibromatosis Type 1
- Hematology/Oncology
    - Brain Tumor
    - Leukemia/Lymphoma
    - Sickle Cell Disease
    - Long-Term Follow-Up for Cancer

A sample of a Postdoctoral program of rotations follows:

	YEAR 1 (Y1)				**YEAR 2 (Y2)**
Dates	Sept Y1-Dec Y1	Jan Y1-Apr Y1	May Y1-August Y1		Sept Y2-August Y2
Assessment Neuropsych Rotation	General Neurology	Neurosurgery	Epilepsy Surgery		Haematology Oncology
Research	Stroke	Stroke	Stroke		Stroke
Primary College of Psychologists and Behavior Analysts of Ontario (CPBAO) Supervisor: **Fellowship Coordinator**					
Intervention/ Secondary CPO supervisor	Health Psychology	Health Psychology	Health Psychology		i-INTERACT-North Program

Other Training Opportunities

Additional training opportunities may include:

- Adult Neuropsychology rotation (appropriate previous experience is required)
- Provision of lectures and presentations within the hospital or for community groups
- Providing supervision to more junior trainees (residents and/or practicum students) to develop competency as a supervisor.
- Mentored journal-article peer reviews.
- Clinical psychology or Health Psychology competency for the College of Psychologists and Behavior Analysts of Ontario is also a possibility in the training program (appropriate previous experience is required)

Supervision

Fellows are assigned a primary supervisor and receive at least two hours of individual face-to-face supervision per week. Regularly scheduled, one-to-one supervision involves case review, setting and monitoring of training goals, and professional development. Supervision follows a developmental model and fellows work with a variety of faculty members throughout the fellowship for broad exposure to different styles of clinical practice and supervision.

Group professional support/supervision meetings with the Coordinator of Postdoctoral Training occur once or twice per month to address advanced topics in neuropsychology, including professional/ethical standards, professional practice issues, and preparing for ABCN board certification. In addition to formal supervision, fellows receive ongoing mentorship and coaching in developing a career path and establishing a professional identity.

Didactics

A variety of formal and informal educational opportunities exist. Rotation-specific readings will be suggested by individual supervisors. More formal didactics are provided to ensure a broad knowledge-base in clinical neuropsychology, and include:

Required:

- Paediatric Neuropsychology / Assessment Didactics (weekly)
- Psychology Department Rounds (monthly)

Optional

- Clinical Health Evaluative Science (CHES) Rounds (weekly)
- Neuroscience and Mental Health Program (SickKids Research Institute) Symposia (monthly)
- Paediatric and Neurology Grand Rounds (weekly)
- Clinical and research rounds associated with individual rotations (e.g., Neurology, Neurosurgery, Hematology/Oncology, Psychiatry)
- Adult Neuropsychology journal club and case presentations

Equity, Diversity & Inclusion at SickKids

SickKids believes that an equitable and inclusive culture empowers staff and trainees to freely explore and express their ideas without fear, which has consistently led to new ideas and innovations. The goal is to transform health-care systems to authentically reflect the communities we serve by engaging in community partnerships to improve the health experience of racialized communities and other communities who have traditionally faced oppression. Postdoctoral fellows are encouraged to become involved in EDI Committees, initiatives, and learning opportunities in directions that further their own personal development.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy

The SickKids Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Strategy aims to advance equitable inclusion of diverse people and communities across SickKids' care, research and education initiatives so that all can feel acknowledged, valued and respected. Aligned with our SickKids 2030 Strategic Plan, the EDI Strategy provides a path to boldly embed EDI in all that SickKids does and create safe and brave spaces for meaningful change (EDI2030). Developed through engagement and consultation with patients, families, staff and community partners, this plan sets the stage for a more equitable and culturally safe future as SickKids.

Safe Consultation

Integrating with the hospital culture of SickKids can be both a daunting and rewarding experience. The Department of Psychology is committed to ensuring trainees feel welcomed, included, supported and heard. In addition to having access to the Fellowship Coordinator, Director of Training and staff, fellows will have access to Inclusion Networks at SickKids. This initiative comes from the Office of Health Equity and Inclusion and the organization's EDI Steering Committee and is a part of our ongoing efforts to create positive environments. Safer Spaces allow individuals who are members of specific communities, and allies, to network, establish a sense of community and create affirming spaces at SickKids.

Employee Wellness

SickKids is committed to supporting its staff in their movement toward wellness in a variety of ways (WhyWorkAtSickKids) including:

- *Employee Assistance Program:* The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) is a confidential and voluntary support service that can help you develop strategies to help you with personal or work-related concerns, tensions and stress before they lead to more serious difficulties. EAP is available at no cost to employees and their families.

- *Employee Relations:* The Employee Relations group provides support to all staff who work at SickKids when dealing with difficulties in the workplace such as interpersonal conflict or issues related to discrimination, breaches of the Code of Conduct, the Respect in the Workplace policy and the Prevention of Workplace Violence and Harassment policy.

- *Peer Support Program:* A confidential resource, offering individual mental health outreach and trauma support 24/7 to staff in need. Peers can connect with their colleagues in a variety of ways (e.g., meeting one-to-one or providing support via telephone, email or text).

- *Spiritual & Religious Care Department:* The SickKids Spiritual Care Department Consists of Four Pillars: Chaplaincy, Clinical Pastoral Education, Counselling, and The Mindfulness Project. Visit the site to find information about the four pillars, religious observances, and related events.

- Physical Wellness: The hospital provides workplace benefits including massage therapy, as well as on-site massage as available. There are hospital-wide, free running and walking clubs with an on-site, free employee wellness centre and stretching. There is also on-site bike storage and staff showers.

Research



The Hospital for Sick Children is an active and exciting research environment. Fellows work with at least one research mentor as a member of a specialized research team, working on grant-funded or clinical research projects. Demonstration of scholarly activity is a required exit criteria for the fellowship. This may be accomplished through presentation at a national or international conference, and either one manuscript submitted for publication in a peer-reviewed journal or a grant proposal submission.

Ongoing research at SickKids involves characterizing the impact of various adverse insults on development, understanding the core neurocognitive deficits associated with neurodevelopmental disorders or acquired brain injury, and identifying the relations between neuroimaging measures of brain structure/function and neurocognitive outcome. Opportunities to collaborate in research presentations or peer reviews of research (e.g., mentored journal article peer reviews) are also available.

Evaluation

Formal written progress evaluations are prepared by the Neuropsychology staff at the conclusion of each rotation. Fellows also evaluate supervisors and rotations. Fellows whose performance is not at an expected level of competence will be advised regarding the problem areas in their performance, and a specific plan to remediate those weaknesses will be developed.

Salary and Benefits

Salary is $69,000 CAD in the first year and $71,000 CAD in the second year, with possible additional annual educational stipend of $5,000 CAD. Fellows are eligible for the modified SickKids benefits package (health and dental), as well as 3 weeks of paid vacation, nine statutory holidays recognized by the hospital, and one week paid professional development leave per year. There is also a $500/year professional development fund which may be used by Fellows. Fellows have access to shared office space similar to that provided to staff neuropsychologists, a computer with internet connection, a private phone line (MS Teams Voice or equivalent) and access to electronic medical journals through the SickKids internal library.

Eligibility

Applicants should be graduates of CPA/APA accredited clinical or school psychology programs and have completed a CPA/APA accredited internship in clinical psychology. It is expected that applicants will have internship-level training in paediatric psychology and neuropsychology. Applicants with prior coursework in Functional Neuroanatomy, Clinical Neurology, Basic Neuroscience, and/or Neuropathology are preferred. Applicants with fluency in other languages or experience with under-served populations are especially encouraged to apply. Any offer from the Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids) is contingent upon completing and passing a Vulnerable Sectors Check. Further, applicants must be legally entitled to work in Canada at the start date (SickKids does have access to some support for international applicants). **All degree requirements must be completed before the start date.**

Our program is an APPCN Match Participant; applicants must therefore register with National Matching Services, Inc. (www.natmatch.com) to participate in the APPCN Resident Matching Program. This residency site agrees to abide by the APPCN policy that no person at this facility will solicit, accept or use any ranking-related information from any fellowship applicant.

SickKids National Match Services Number: **8443 - Pediatric Neuropsychology**

Application

Deadline for submission of applications is 11:59 p.m., EST, on January 7, 2027.
Applicants should submit their materials (e.g., letter of interest, application form, CV) electronically as a single .pdf file. Transcripts and letters of reference can be sent separately. All material should be emailed to: eva.mamak@sickkids.ca

- Letter of interest including clinical and research goals.
- Application Form – The Hospital for Sick Children Clinical Neuropsychology Fellowship (see link on website)
- Curriculum vitae.
- Official graduate transcripts listing courses, grades and degrees.
- Three (3) letters of reference (two clinical supervisors and one academic/research mentor).
- A letter or e-mail from the internship Training Director confirming that a CPA/APA-accredited internship will be completed by September 1, 2027.
- If dissertation has not been defended at the time of application, a letter or e-mail from the CPA/APA-accredited graduate program Training Director confirming that the doctoral degree will be awarded before September 1, 2027.

In accordance with federal privacy legislation (Personal Information Protection and Electronics Documents Act – https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/p-8.6/index.html), only information that is required to process your application is collected. This information is secured and is shared only with those individuals involved in the evaluation of your residency application.

Contact:

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For a list of core training faculty and interests, please see: Residency Training Brochure