

Psychology Practicum Placement

2021-2022



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

SickKids[®]

Clinical practicum placements for psychology graduate students

Procedures and requirements for MA and PhD students interested in a practicum placement in the Department of Psychology at The Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids).

Criteria for application:

1. Applicant must be enrolled in a *CPA-accredited* graduate program in clinical psychology (MA or PhD level).
2. Students must have completed a graduate course in child or adult assessment and/or intervention.
3. Students must have completed graduate level courses in child psychopathology, child development, or learning disabilities.
4. Completion of a course in ethics is preferred.

Deadlines for application:

For fall or summer placements, applications must be submitted by February 1 of each calendar year.

Application process:

- Submit a PDF document containing a cover letter and CV to the email below.
- The cover letter should contain the following information:
 - Brief description of previous training and skills.
 - Reason for applying to SickKids.
 - Desired focus: Assessment vs. intervention.
 - Number of hours and days per week requested.
 - Duration of placement (September to April or May to August).
 - Specific rotations/programs of interest.
- Submit a maximum of reference letters:
 - Referees are to submit letters directly to practicum coordinator (email below). Any file format is acceptable.
- Please **do not submit** university course transcripts.
- Receipt of application will be acknowledged by email.

No applications will be considered if received after the stated deadlines.

Applications will be reviewed by staff available to offer placements and you will be contacted directly if an interview is going to be scheduled.

Notification of placement offers will be made in mid-March.

- Practicum students will usually work with and under the supervision of 1 psychologist/program.

- On occasion, a placement may be offered with shared supervision between 2 staff psychologists.
- The number of placements offered may vary each year based on supervisor availability.

In addition to direct clinical work, students will have the opportunity to attend interdisciplinary rounds, case conferences and professional development offered within a specific program and within the larger Department of Psychology. This includes monthly Psychology Rounds, Psychology Education Day and didactic seminars offered in the Department of Psychology.

COVID-19 Impact on Training

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the residency program and faculty have navigated the uncertain landscape with flexibility prioritizing clinical care, training and safety. Responses to the global pandemic continue to evolve and, at the time of writing this brochure, a hybrid model of care (combination of in-hospital and virtual) is being provided. At the time of writing, ambulatory (out-patient) clinical services are not operating at full capacity due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It is unclear the degree to which similar arrangements will be in place for the 2021-2022 training year.

From mid-March until July 2020, practicum placements were suspended in keeping with the Toronto Academic Health Science Network (Education Committee) directives and when possible, limited remote training took place remotely through secure videoconferencing technology. Activities included individual intervention and supervision and multidisciplinary team meetings. As of July 2020, limited face-to-face training has been available with patient, staff and trainee safety being paramount.

While the program cannot predict with any degree of certainty how the pandemic may impact future training cycles, faculty and departmental leadership are committed to being transparent with information, collaborating with trainees to develop disruption contingency plans guided by training goals, and to document adjusted goals and expectations (including supervision arrangements). Should disruptions occur in the future, potential and current practicum students will be notified as soon as information becomes available.

Practicum students are expected to comply with any and all federal, provincial, and SickKids organization regulations including but not limited to wearing Personal Protective Equipment, maintaining appropriate physical distancing, abiding by travel restrictions, quarantining, and other Infection Prevention and Control procedures within the context of providing clinical services, or otherwise.

For more information, contact: Dr. Robyn Westmacott
psychology.practicum@sickkids.ca

Possible Practicum Rotations (O/P = outpatient; I/P = inpatient)

Neuropsychology: Assessment and Programming	Patient Populations Served	Age	O/P Ax	I/P Ax
<p>Craniofacial Program & Neonatal Neurology</p> <p>Dr. Naddley Désiré</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children with complex craniofacial conditions: syndromic and non-syndromic craniosynostosis, cleft lip and palate, encephaloceles, Binder and other congenital syndromes Children with neonatal brain injury and associated medical conditions (e.g., prematurity, very low birthweight; hypoxic-ischemic encephalopathy; neonatal arterial ischemic stroke, cavernous sinus venous thrombosis, and TBI. 	<p>4-18+</p> <p>4-18</p>	<p>√</p> <p>√</p>	
<p>Epilepsy Surgery & Epilepsy Classroom</p> <p>Dr. Elizabeth Kerr</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Epilepsy patients being considered for surgery 	<p>4-18</p>	<p>√</p>	<p>√</p>
<p>Epilepsy Surgery & Metabolic/Genetics</p> <p>Dr. Eva Mamak</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Epilepsy patients being considered for surgery Genetic/Metabolic disorders 	<p>0-18</p>	<p>√</p>	<p>√</p>
<p>General Neurology</p> <p>Dr. Katia Sinopoli</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-surgical epilepsy Neuroinflammatory diseases (e.g., multiple sclerosis, CNS vasculitis) Neurofibromatosis Type1 	<p>4-18</p>	<p>√</p>	
<p>Haematology/Oncology</p> <p>Dr. Sharon Guger Dr. Laura Janzen</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cancer (largely acute lymphoblastic leukemia, brain tumours) 	<p>3-18</p>	<p>√</p>	
<p>Stroke</p> <p>Dr. Robyn Westmacott</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Neonatal and childhood stroke; Arterial ischemic stroke, cerebral sinovenous thrombosis or other neurovascular conditions such as moya moya disease 	<p>3-18+</p>	<p>√</p>	

Transplant & Regenerative Medicine Dr. Anna Gold	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children with congenital or acquired organ deficits (heart, lung, liver, kidney) or intestinal failure 	2-18	√	√
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Diagnostic/Learning and Academic Interventions	Patient Populations Served	Age	O/P Ax	I/P Ax
Attention Deficit - Hyperactivity Disorder and related disorders Dr. Jennifer Crosbie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children with suspected attention-deficit/hyperactivity and related disorders 	6-18	√	
Cardiology Dr. Renee Sananes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children with complex congenital and acquired heart conditions 	3-18	√	

Intervention: Clinical/Health Psychology	Patient Populations Served	Age	O/P Ax	I/P Ax
Chronic Pain Dr. Danielle Ruskin Dr. Catherine Munns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children and adolescents with chronic pain conditions (e.g., neuropathic pain after injury, headache, neuromuscular disease), with disability problems secondary to pain, and pain as a presenting sign of depressive, anxiety, or somatoform disorders 	3-18	√	√
Diabetes Dr. Ruth Slater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children and adolescents with Type 1 Diabetes and their families Parents & caregivers involved in Mindful Self-Compassion group across medical populations 	5-18+	√	
Eating Disorders Dr. Margus Heinmaa Dr. Melissa Lieberman Dr. Brooke Halpert	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children and adolescents experiencing eating disorder psychopathology 	6-18	√	√
Haematology/Oncology Dr. Maru Barrera	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children, siblings and caregivers coping with cancer treatment and/or bereavement 	2-18	√	√

<p>Pediatrics/Oncology/ Cystic Fibrosis</p> <p>Dr. Joel Tourigny</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and adolescents experiencing mental health issues in the context of their chronic health conditions • Children presenting with somatic disorders or behaviours interfering with medical treatment 	<p>2-18</p>	<p>√</p>	<p>√</p>
<p>Team Obesity Management Program</p> <p>Dr. Elizabeth Dettmer Dr. Andrea Regina</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and adolescents with complex obesity 	<p>6 -18</p>	<p>√</p>	