



Practicum Training Program

Eligibility

The TCSPP Counseling Centers Practicum Training Program is open to any TCSPP student from the Clinical Psy.D., Forensic Psy.D., Forensic MA, Post-Master's Psy.D. or MFT program who is in good standing in their academic program is eligible to apply for practicum. We take students at beginning, intermediate, and advanced practicum stages. We have practicum training programs at both our West Los Angeles and Irvine Counseling Center sites.

Students must commit to 20-24 hours per week and be available every Wednesday from 10am-1pm for Didactic Seminar and Staff Meeting. Students who wish to participate in our Assessment Seminar must also be available from 1pm-3pm on Wednesdays. All students who apply to the West LA center and who do not have prior clinical experience must also be available on Wednesdays from 9am-10am for first year group.

Our centers are open Monday through Thursday from 9am-9pm and Friday and Saturday from 9am-5pm. Students will be able to preference their schedules before the practicum year begins.

Application

All applicants must submit the following documents to be considered for practicum placement:

1. Cover Letter explaining why you believe the TCSPP Counseling Center practicum training program is a good fit for you
2. Resume
3. Three Letters of Reference. Applicants with previous clinical experience should include at least one letter from a clinical supervisor familiar with your work

Applications will be accepted beginning in mid-January and acceptances are done on a rolling basis until positions are filled. Selected applicants will be invited for in-person interviews.

Applicants should submit their materials via email as follows:

TCSPP Counseling Center at West Los Angeles:

Daun Baker, Ph.D.
Associate Provost, Office of Training
dbaker@thechicagoschool.edu

TCSPP Counseling Center at Irvine:

Julie Wilnier, Ph.D.

Director, Irvine Counseling Center

jwilnier@thechicagoschool.edu

Appointments

We accept between **20 to 25 practicum students at our West Los Angeles location and 10 to 12 students at our Irvine location.** Our training year begins during the first week in August and runs for a full year.

Vacation and Holidays

The TCSPP Counseling Center is closed the week between Christmas and New Year's Day as well as on the following national holidays.

Martin Luther King Day	January 18, 2016
Easter Sunday	March 27, 2016
Memorial Day	May 30, 2016
Independence Day	July 4, 2016
Labor Day	September 5, 2016
Veteran's Day	November 11, 2016
Thanksgiving Holiday	November 24, 25, 2016

Practicum students are entitled to take an additional five days of vacation. Vacation days should be approved by your individual supervisor and Director of Counseling Centers at least one month prior to the start of your vacation. It is expected that ***vacation days are not taken during the first two months or last two months of the training year.***

Locations

The TCSPP Counseling Center at West Los Angeles is located within a geographically-desirable area with easy access by freeway or public transportation. West Los Angeles is a vibrant community filled with great eateries, movie theaters, and shopping. Our center's location also reflects the great diversity of Los Angeles County as our surrounding neighborhood is within the heart of "Persian Square" and just blocks from "Sawtelle Japantown" West Los Angeles is also home to the J. Paul Getty Museum, the Museum of Tolerance, the Ahmanson Museum.

TCSPP Counseling Center at Irvine is conveniently located adjacent to our Irvine campus, which is situated in a lovely business and shopping center which includes a market, variety of restaurants and other services. ICC is across the street from UC Irvine and freeway close.

Philosophy

The intent of our practicum training program is to give students the opportunity to provide a broad range of mental health services in a community mental health setting and provide supervision and training to help move students to the next step in their academic and/or professional career. Eligible students will also have the opportunity to do psycho-diagnostic testing. Training is developmentally sequenced, experiential, and utilizes multiple intervention

modalities. All training is supported by intensive supervision, seminar experiences, and a commitment to life-long learning.

Our practicum training program is designed to prepare ethical and multi-culturally sensitive professional clinicians who can move with competence, creativity and flexibility into a variety of positions providing clinical, consultation, and outreach services to adults, adolescents, children, families, couples and groups in outpatient settings. Self-reflection and interpersonal dialogue are highly valued aspects of our training. Supervisors and seminar facilitators encourage, but never require, self-disclosure of personal information that may facilitate or hinder clinical practice or collegial relationships.

We are looking for applicants who are curious, eager to learn and engage, and flexible in their thinking. As an organization we value and respect cultural and individual differences, and we seek practicum students with expressed interest in continued personal and professional growth in these areas.

Goals

The Chicago School Counseling Centers' practicum training program seeks to provide a broadly based training program to facilitate the practicum student's advancement toward their next level of training. The specific goals of our practicum training program are to develop students who:

- Have gained a body of **clinical experience**, supported by developmentally-sequenced **experiential learning**.
- Have an understanding of the importance of **outreach and consultation** and have increased knowledge about how to provide these services.
- Work in **multidisciplinary** environments, have the knowledge, skills, and awareness for **multi-culturally competent** work, and are learn to integrate **multiple theoretical perspectives** into their therapeutic interventions.
- Learn to integrate **science into practice** and value the contributions of practice to psychological science.
- Gain knowledge about how systems impact clinical work
- Have a clearer understanding of their **professional identity**.

The program takes advantage of multiple theoretical orientations and a diverse supervisory staff, and relies on a wide variety of clinical services to assure breadth.

Statement of Non-discrimination

The Chicago School of Professional Psychology Counseling Center acknowledges its ethical and statutory responsibility to afford equal treatment and equal opportunity to all persons, and thus complies with all applicable laws and directives which promulgate non-discrimination and equality of opportunity. In keeping with the spirit and letter of the law, The Chicago School of Professional Psychology Counseling Center prohibits discrimination against its employees, interns, practicum students, and applicants based on race, gender, religion, age, national ancestry of origin, sexual orientation, disability, marital status, sources of income, military discharge status, or other impermissible reason; sexual harassment is also prohibited. The Chicago School of Professional Psychology

Counseling Center admits interns and practicum students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to staff at the center. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, or national and ethnic origin in the administration of its policies or recruitment policies. The Chicago School of Professional Psychology Counseling Center also bars retaliation against an employee, intern, practicum students, or applicant who files a complaint of discrimination against the administration and/or staff members.

TCSPP Services Counseling Center Services

Services provided by TCSPP Counseling Centers fall into three main categories: clinical, outreach/consultation, and training. Practicum student activities within each area are outlined below.

Clinical Services

Practicum students with supervisor consultation will learn to manage their client load to keep direct clinical service at approximately 8-10 hours per week. Direct Service may include individual (adult, adolescent, or child), couple, family, or group therapy.

Psycho-diagnostic Testing

Eligible students will also be able to participate in our psycho-diagnostic testing program.

Outreach/Consultation

Each practicum student will develop and implement one Outreach Presentation within the training year. The practicum student will respond to requests from the community, and/or develop and market a presentation program to address clinical issues or meet community needs.

Training

Orientation: Three days of intensive training designed to introduce practicum students to our TCSPP Counseling Centers, our various service delivery areas, and to outline the expectations for the training year. There is also time to meet staff and peers, and for logistics such as setting up computer and email systems and settling into office spaces.

Supervision

All practicum students will receive one hour of individual supervision and two hours of group supervision per week. Individual supervision will focus on the student's own cases. Group supervision will be limited to eight participants and will include supervisees from a variety of clinical backgrounds and training levels. Additional opportunities for adjunctive supervision as needed for groups, consultation, and outreach activities are also available. Students may be encouraged but not required to explore personal experiences that could facilitate or hinder the practicum student in providing clinical services.

Didactic Trainings: Professional Issues: Two-hours; addresses current topics in professional psychology and topics of interest to our training cohorts.

Additional Learning Supports: One-hour weekly Staff Meeting with all practicum students and permanent staff.

Sample Practicum Schedule

Service Provision	Hours/Week
Individual, Couple, Family, or Group Therapy	6-8
Intake	2-4
Supervision	
Individual	1
Group	2
Staff Meeting	1
Didactic	2
Charting/Administrative Tasks	2-4
TOTAL	16-22
Miscellaneous	
Outreach	1-2
Psycho-diagnostic testing	2-4
Assessment Seminar	2

Attendance

All practicum students submit a preferred weekly schedule prior to the commencement of training. Attendance is mandatory at all supervision sessions, our weekly Didactic Trainings and Staff Meetings which are held on Wednesdays from 10am-1pm. Students who wish to do testing must attend the weekly assessment seminar, held Wednesdays from 1pm-3pm

Schedules

All accepted practicum students submit a preferred schedule prior to the commencement of training. Practicum students may select from the following options:

Monday through Friday: 9am-1pm, 1pm-5pm, 5pm-9pm, 9am-5pm, 1pm-9pm

Saturday: 9am-1pm, 1pm-5pm, 9am-5pm Saturday.

We do our best to accommodate Practicum students' preferences but because of limited office space, we may not be able to give you your first choices.