



\*\*The term “focus” should be used to describe opportunities in areas of training which are not recognized specialties. Training programs should strive to provide explicit explanations of the type of training provided in these non-specialty areas.

## Common Definitions and Criteria Across All Recognized Specialties

- Broad and general training forms the core of education and training in health service psychology. Programs are accredited by the APA-CoA or Canadian Psychological Association. Programs integrate the broad and general training with those educational and training activities related to recognized specialties as determined by the specialty and described in a specialty taxonomy. In addition, each specialty will have education and training guidelines consistent with its specialty area. Specialty training may be acquired at the doctoral, doctoral internship, postdoctoral, or post-licensure stages as defined by the specialty.
- By definition, postdoctoral education and training is a Major Area of Study in a specialty recognized by the Commission for the Recognition of Specialties and Subspecialties in Professional Psychology (CRSSPP) and requires that 80% or more of time be spent in the specialty area. At the postdoctoral training stage, as per above, it is recognized that training in the Major Area of Study will be consistent with the education and training guidelines set forth by the specialty.
- A course is typically defined as 3 semester-credit hours (or equivalent) in a health service psychology training program accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA) or the Canadian Psychological Association (CPA).
- A practicum is typically defined as the equivalent of one academic year (e.g., 9 months, in semester or quarter systems) consisting of supervised training for at least 8 hours per week, or its equivalent, with at least 50% of time in the provision of clinical services.
- Consistent with what is described in *CoA Standards of Accreditation*, supervision should be provided by persons with competencies in the specialty demonstrated by appropriate training, credentials, and qualifications for training in the specialty as defined by the specialty.
- Additional training experiences can also include, but are not limited to, research experiences, lab meetings, brown bags, lecture/colloquia series, and grand rounds, as defined by the specialty.
- For definitions of continuing education (CE) and continuing professional development (CPD) see the APA [Quality Professional Development and Continuing Education Resolution](#). A continuing education (CE) course is defined as an organized program by the American Psychological Association or Canadian Psychological Association, a State Psychological Association, or other major provider of CE (e.g., Society of Behavioral Medicine).

\* Taxonomy; [www.apa.org/ed/graduate/specialize/taxonomy.pdf](http://www.apa.org/ed/graduate/specialize/taxonomy.pdf)

## Specialty Specific Definitions and Criteria

<sup>1</sup>Hannay, JH, Bieliauskas, LA, Crosson, BA, Hammeke, TA, Hammsher, K. deS., & Koffler, SP. (1998). Proceedings of the Houston Conference on Specialty Education and Training in Clinical Neuropsychology, Archives of Clinical Neuropsychology, 13, 157-250.

### Examples of Program Descriptors for Each Stage of Training

#### Doctoral<sup>2</sup>

The clinical psychology doctoral program at X University is accredited by the APA and offers a *Major Area of Study* in Clinical Neuropsychology. Students in this training program will be required to enroll in at least three neuropsychology courses covering the foundations of brain behavior relationships and practice of clinical neuropsychology, and will complete a dissertation in the area of neuropsychology. Within the Department of Psychology, there is additional didactic training in specific areas of clinical neuropsychology in which the neuropsychology students will take part. Clinical training will include at least two clinical neuropsychology practica, with at least 50% of each being dedicated to the provision of clinical neuropsychology services to various patient populations.

#### Internship<sup>2</sup>

Our APA-accredited internship program offers an *Experience* in Clinical Neuropsychology, with 25% of the intern's time dedicated to training in clinical neuropsychology. In addition to clinical training, the program offers didactic experiences focused in the area of neuropsychology. Alternatively, should an intern elect, our program offers an *Exposure* in Clinical Neuropsychology, which includes the option of participating in the aforementioned didactics and/or supervised clinical training in neuropsychology for 10% of the training year.

#### Postdoctoral residency

The X University Neuropsychology Postdoctoral Residency program offers a Major Area of Study in Clinical Neuropsychology with two Focus Areas, Adult Neuropsychology and Pediatric Neuropsychology. This program is designed to conform to guidelines set forth by the INS-APA Division 40 Task Force and the Houston Conference on Specialty Education and Training in Clinical Neuropsychology. Therefore, the program is a 2-year, full-time program with specified requirements in clinical application, research, and didactic programming. This 2-year residency is intended to be the final neuropsychology training experience that will prepare residents for independent practice in neuropsychology and eventual board certification in clinical neuropsychology.

#### Post- licensure training

Our online educational program provides an *Exposure* to clinical neuropsychology through our offering of APA-approved continuing education (CE) courses in Neuropsychology of Epilepsy and Epilepsy Surgery (16 CE credits) and Behavioral and Cognitive Neurology (24 CE credits).

<sup>2</sup>Example taken from Sperling, SA, Cimino, CR, Stricker, NH, Heffelfinger, AK, Gess, JL, Osborn, KE, & Roper, BL (2017). Taxonomy for Education and Training in Clinical Neuropsychology: past, present, and future, The Clinical Neuropsychologist, 31:5, 817-828, DOI: 10.1080/13854046.2017.1314017.