

Postdoctoral Training and the APPCN Match

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Postdocs: Application

- Application procedures differ across programs (but simpler than internship)
- List specific goals in cover letter
- Attend INS for interviews, if at all possible
- Ask to speak with former/current fellows
- VERY important to apply to as many programs as you can

Postdoctoral Training: Houston Conference Guidelines

- Goal is to complete the education and training necessary for independent practice of clinical neuropsychology (CN)
- Residency is a **REQUIRED** component in specialty education in CN
- The equivalent of 2 years of full-time education and training
- Residency **MUST** occur on at least a half-time basis

Postdoctoral Training: Houston Conference Guidelines

ENTRY criteria:

1. Entrance **SHOULD** be based upon completion an APA/CPA- accredited doctoral program
2. Residents **WILL** have successfully completed an APA/CPA- accredited internship which includes **SOME** training in CN

Postdoctoral Training: Houston Conference Guidelines

EXIT criteria:

1. Faculty includes a board-certified clinical neuropsychologist and other psychologists
2. Training at a fixed site or affiliated local sites with primarily on-site supervision
3. Access to clinical services and training in medical specialties and allied professions
4. Interactions with residents in medical and allied specialties
5. Eligibility for state or provincial licensure for independent practice
6. Eligibility for board certification by ABPP/ABCN

APPCN-Member Programs: Criteria

- Duration of 2 years of postdoctoral training, or equivalent on at least a half-time basis.
- Activity at least 50% clinical, 10% research, and 10% didactics.
- Program director is board-certified in clinical neuropsychology by ABPP/ABCN

APPCN Matching Program

- Computerized matching process, run by NMS on behalf of APPCN
- Non-APPCN programs that provide at least 25% clinical time may also participate
- Decision rules are applied based on the applicants' and programs' rankings
- Fees for programs and applicants

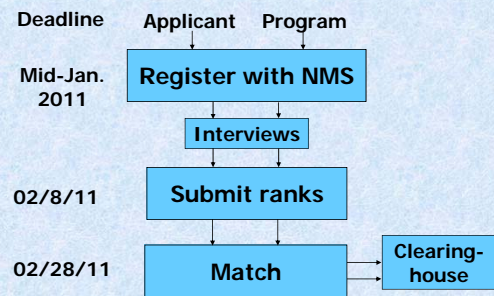
APPCN Matching Program

- Programs can tell you only whether or not you are competitive
- EXCEPTION – if you receive an offer from a non-match program, you can contact match programs to inquire about your status; programs can tell you if you would be expected to match with them
- Premature offers are not allowed

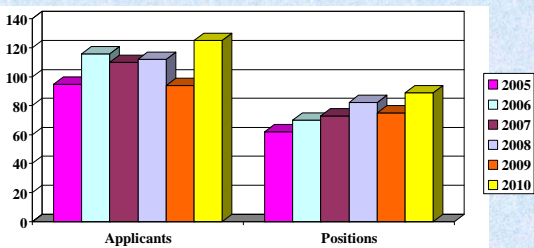
APPCN Matching Program

- If a program does not plan to rank you, they are supposed to tell you
- Match is binding
- Clearinghouse is available

APPCN Matching Program

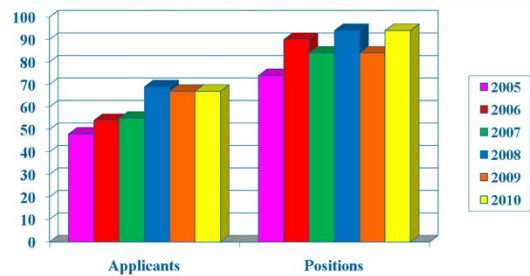


Number of Applicants and Positions



2010 - 125 applicants, 89 positions

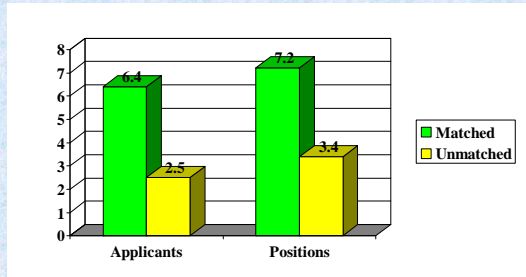
National match: success rates



2010 – Applicants 67%; Programs 94%

National match: Relationship of Outcome to Number of ranks submitted

Mean N of ranks (2009)



APPCN Matching Program: Advantages to Applicants

- Access to quality programs that meet training standards for ABPP/ABCN board certification
- Ability to apply to many programs using the same process
- Minimize travel by interviewing at INS
- Match outcome is binding
- Most fair system for applicants
- Clearinghouse

APPCN and the ABPP/ABCN Exam:

- APPCN has developed a practice written exam that residents take after their first year
- Results are tabulated yearly, and residents receive feedback on their relative standing
- The exam is not meant for formal evaluation
- Many sites also conduct mock oral exams (e.g., fact finding cases and ethics vignettes)

APPCN Matching Program

Contact Information:

APPCN: <http://www.appcn.org>

NMS: <http://www.natmatch.com>