



DEPARTMENT OF
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

EASTERN STATE HOSPITAL

Eastern State Hospital
Postdoctoral Fellowship in Forensic Psychology

DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) is Virginia's public mental health, intellectual disability, and substance abuse services system. DBHDS is comprised of 16 state-operated facilities and 40 locally-operated community services boards (CSBs). The CSBs and facilities serve children and adults who have, or are at risk of, mental illness, serious emotional disturbance, intellectual disabilities, or substance abuse disorders. Virginia's state-operated facilities provide highly-structured, intensive services and consist of seven mental health facilities, five intellectual disability training centers, a psychiatric facility for children and adolescents, a medical center, a psychiatric geriatric hospital, and a center for behavioral rehabilitation.

EASTERN STATE HOSPITAL

ESH is located in Williamsburg, Virginia and is the nation's first public mental health hospital, was founded in 1773 with an emphasis on community-focused mental health care. The Hospital is situated on 500 acres and consists of two patient care buildings, and a staff of over 900 to care for 300 patients. ESH is accredited by The Joint Commission and offers active treatment programs to residents of southeastern Virginia.

Approximately 300 residents are treated at ESH, and live in two active treatment buildings. The Hancock Geriatric Treatment Center (HGTC; Building 1) provides care for residents over the age of 65 (i.e. geriatrics), adult residents who remain committed for intermediate-level longer-term care and individuals acquitted Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity (NGRI) at varying stages of the privileging process. The Adult Mental Health Treatment Center (AMHTC; Building 2) treats individuals ages 18 to 65. Patients in both buildings comprise a mix of populations including those under voluntary or involuntary civil commitment comprised of acute, long-term, and medically fragile populations; individuals transferred from the jail for psychiatric emergency treatment; individuals transferred from the jail for evaluation of competence to stand trial and sanity at the time of the offense; individuals deemed incompetent to stand trial and transferred from the jail for competency restoration and individuals acquitted Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity (NGRI).

At ESH, our **MISSION** is to partner with those we serve to promote personal independence. Our **VISION** is to continuously pursue the highest quality services that empower individuals in their recovery. Our **VALUES** are to demonstrate and encourage compassion, self-determination, empowerment, honesty, integrity, cooperation, teamwork, and respect. The **MISSION** and **VISION** of the Psychology Department is as follows: Psychology is committed to excellence in clinical and forensic assessment, case formulation, and therapeutic interventions. Psychology utilizes research to inform all aspects of clinical practice at ESH, including psychological assessment and treatment, program design and implementation, consultation to improve the environmental milieu, and collaboration with other disciplines, as we uphold our principles and commitment to facilitating autonomy and empowerment, so we may foster a culture of recovery from serious mental illness.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING APPROACHES

Many of the clinical disciplines throughout ESH provide training and supervision to various levels of trainees. Thus, ESH supports the training and development of aspiring clinicians which helps contribute to the availability of highly qualified professionals. Within the psychology department, there is practicum student level training (for those currently enrolled in a doctoral program) and postdoctoral level training in forensic psychology. The postdoctoral fellowship in forensic psychology provides advanced specialized training in the application of psychology to the law. Training will meet the most rigorous standards by promoting knowledge of and experience with best practices in the context of forensic psychology. The curriculum is designed to integrate psychological knowledge with clinical practice and to continue the development of skills as well as to further develop the fellows understanding and appreciation of psycholegal constructs and the role of psychology in the courtroom.

All ESH services must meet appropriate national standards of care and have proven outcomes of safety and effectiveness. The training model strongly encourages a lifelong commitment to currency with professional literature. Much of the training is experiential which creates a synergy between the training and service mission of the institution. Clear role, structural, and value boundaries between training and service delivery exist, which allows the fellow to integrate experience, supervision, education and training through reflection, consultation, peer support, and professional interaction.

PROGRAM GOALS, OBJECTIVES & TRAINING ACTIVITIES

Overview

Forensic psychology highlights the application of the professional practice of psychology to the law. According to the Specialty Guidelines for Forensic Psychology provided by the American Psychological Association (2013), this may include examining or treating persons related to legal, contractual, or administrative proceedings, offering expert opinion on psychological issues, trial consultation, conducting research in connection with litigation or involvement in educational activities that are forensic in nature. Legal proceedings in which psycholegal issues may emerge or psychologists may be called upon to offer expert opinions may be criminal (e.g. competence to stand trial, mental state at the time of the offense) or civil (e.g. personal injury, civil commitment, child custody).

The goal of the ESH postdoctoral training program is to provide specialized training in the practice of forensic psychology, which is accomplished through both didactic and clinical components. The didactic aspect will focus on gaining relevant legal knowledge, ethical considerations specific to forensic work, and covering various forensic issues and areas in which psycholegal questions emerge. Case law at both state and federal levels will also be reviewed across the various areas. This portion is modeled after the ABPP Forensic guidelines to help prepare the fellow for board certification. The clinical part of training has two main components that largely focus on pretrial criminal evaluations and risk assessment/management for individuals adjudicated Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity. These components help highlight the various roles of psychologists in a state hospital setting with a large forensic population. Thus, the postdoctoral fellow is exposed to both

evaluation and treatment in a forensic context allowing for a diverse training experience and appreciation of psychology's role at various points in the legal process.

The ESH Postdoctoral Fellowship in Forensic Psychology is a primarily clinical fellowship program. Thus, approximately 80% of their time is spent providing direct psychological services, to mainly include conducting pretrial evaluations, violence risk assessments, and post-adjudication evaluations as well as treatment planning, intervention, and risk management as part of an interdisciplinary team on an NGRI unit. The other time is spent report writing, in supervision, and in the weekly didactic seminar. All training activities take place at Eastern State Hospital, except for any outside training the postdoctoral fellow may attend or courtroom testimony.

Objectives and Competencies

The objectives and competencies highlight the skills and knowledge the postdoctoral fellow is expected to gain and demonstrate over the course of the training year. They vary according to the types of training activities the postdoctoral fellow will be engaged in and these activities are outlined in more detail below.

Objective 1: The postdoctoral fellow will demonstrate the ability to identify the referral question/purpose of the evaluation, demonstrate knowledge of relevant psycholegal constructs in the context of a forensic evaluation and skills in the assessment of these constructs.

Pretrial Evaluations

Competency 1.1: Familiarity with Virginia Code and other case law which defines competence to stand trial and sanity at the time of the offense and application of this in practice

Competency 1.2: Asks questions that appropriately assess and address components of competence to stand trial and/or sanity at the time of the offense

Competency 1.3: Obtains relevant data from the evaluatee and collateral sources

Competency 1.4: Identifies and utilizes appropriate psychological testing and forensic assessment instruments

Risk Assessment and Management & Post-Adjudication Evaluations

Competency 1.5: Familiarity with Virginia Code relevant to those adjudicated Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity, as well as the Guidelines for the Management of Individuals Found Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity set forth by the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services.

Competency 1.6: Demonstrates ability to use HCR-20-V3 and collect relevant data from the evaluatee and collateral sources

Competency 1.7: Identifies and utilizes appropriate psychological testing

Objective 2: The postdoctoral fellow will demonstrate the ability to develop appropriate clinical formulations and opinions in the context of the specific referral question and psycholegal construct.

Pretrial Evaluations

Competency 2.1: Develop clinical formulation in the context of the specific referral question/psycholegal construct

Competency 2.2: Formulate opinion on the psycholegal issue

Competency 2.3: Conceptualize forensic/legal issues based on clinical, contextual, and socio-cultural perspectives

Competency 2.4: Incorporate psychological testing or forensic assessment instrument into opinion and clinical formulation

Risk Assessment and Management & Post-Adjudication Evaluations

Competency 2.5: Develop clinical formulation in the context of violence risk assessment and management/need for hospitalization

Competency 2.6: Formulate recommendations on risk management

Competency 2.7: Incorporate HCR-20 V3 into risk formulation and opinion

Competency 2.8: Incorporate psychological testing into case conceptualization

Competency 2.9: Risk and clinical formulation are conceptualized based on clinical, contextual, and socio-cultural perspectives

Competency 2.10: Demonstrates familiarity with the graduated release process and ability to translate risk assessment data into relevant treatment and intervention recommendations

Objective 3: The postdoctoral fellow will demonstrate the ability to write reports that are clear, comprehensive, articulate and appropriately focused on the referral question or psycholegal construct of focus.

Pretrial Evaluations

Competency 3.1: Makes explicit connection between the data and opinions

Competency 3.2: Written report is organized in a way that is logical and helps guide the reader, data and opinion sections are separate and there is limited clinical jargon

Competency 3.3: Report includes only data that are relevant to the referral question

Risk Assessment and Management

Competency 3.4: Clearly articulates risk formulation with the inclusion of the HCR-20 V3

Competency 3.5: Ratings on HCR-20 V3 are adequately explained and supported with data

Competency 3.6: Clinical conceptualization clearly integrated into the written report and risk management recommendations

Objective 4: The postdoctoral fellow will practice in accordance with ethical standards and demonstrate an understanding of the role of psychology in forensic populations and the legal system.

Competency 4.1: The postdoctoral fellow will become familiar with and practice in accordance with the Specialty Guidelines for Forensic Psychology, as well as the Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct, apply these during the course of the training year and be able to identify and address any ethical issues that emerge.

Competency 4.2: The postdoctoral fellow will become familiar with the hospital setting in which they are practicing, as well as the procedures in place for managing the forensic

population in the hospital, as it is applicable to the fellow's role in both treatment and evaluation training experiences.

Competency 4.3: The postdoctoral fellow will become knowledgeable about the various roles of psychologists in the context of working with the forensic populations within the hospital and be able to differentiate between treatment and assessment roles within a multidisciplinary treatment team model.

Competency 4.4: The postdoctoral fellow will become knowledgeable of the legal system, not only in terms of how the legal system functions in general but also the role of mental health professionals in the courtroom and relevant legal codes.

Training Activities

The postdoctoral fellow is engaged in all areas of clinical work outlined below over the course of the training year. Given the fluctuations in cases and admissions at ESH, as well as consideration of the postdoctoral fellow's experiences in these areas upon entering the program, there is no requirement for the number of evaluations or assessments to be completed in each area. The postdoctoral fellow may tailor the experience slightly depending on the areas in which they would like to gain more experience (e.g. more pretrial evaluations, and smaller case load in risk assessment/management or vice versa). This will be discussed with the postdoctoral fellow at the beginning of the training year.

- Pretrial Forensic Evaluations: Over the course of the training year, the postdoctoral fellow will function as part of the Forensic Evaluation Team to complete evaluations of Competence to Stand Trial (both initial and post-restoration) and Sanity at the Time of the Offense. The postdoctoral fellow may initially shadow an evaluator for several evaluations, but is then expected to take the lead and be the primary evaluator. The supervising evaluator will be present in the room due to how the state code is written, but they are to only intervene or participate when necessary.
- Risk Assessment and Management: Over the course of the training year, the postdoctoral fellow will function as part of a treatment team for the assessment and treatment of individuals adjudicated Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity (NGRI). This will largely involve risk assessment and management through the completion of privilege requests, annual reports and conditional release reports. This aspect of the training components is largely independent; however, the postdoctoral fellow will have the opportunity to shadow current treatment team psychologists to gain a better understanding of this role and conducting interviews/evaluations in this context. The primary supervisor for the rotation may also observe the postdoctoral fellow at team meetings throughout the training year to provide feedback and monitor strengthening of this skill set.
- Post-Adjudication Evaluations: Over the course of the training year, the postdoctoral fellow will be assigned several types of post-adjudication evaluations as they are available, to include Temporary Custody Evaluations, Initial Analysis of Risk Report, Annual Continuation of Confinement, and Second Opinion Evaluations. These evaluations will be supervised by a licensed clinical psychologist at ESH who is approved to perform these evaluations. The postdoctoral fellow may initially shadow an evaluator for several evaluations, but is then expected to take the lead and be the primary evaluator. The

supervising evaluator will be present in the room due to how the state code is written, but they are to only intervene or participate when necessary.

- Forensic Seminar: The postdoctoral fellow will attend Forensic Seminar on a weekly basis. This is a didactic seminar for two hours every week that covers the various areas within the field of forensic psychology as well as relevant state and federal case law. The postdoctoral fellow is expected to present a case at Forensic Seminar during the designated case presentation weeks on the schedule. The following areas will be covered over the course of the training year:
 - *Forensic Psychology Overview* (ESH overview, Specialty Guidelines for Forensic Psychologists, Introduction to the Legal System, Forensic v Clinical Psychology, Consideration of Bias)
 - *Pretrial Evaluations/Issues* (Competence to Stand Trial, Sanity at the time of the Offense, Post-Competency Restoration and Unrestorable Defendants, Special Issues in Competence to Stand Trial, Competence to Stand Trial Assessment Measures)
 - *Violence Risk Assessment and Response Style* (Violence Risk Assessment and Management, Application of Violence Risk Assessment to NGRI Acquittes, Victimization, Malingering, Psychopathy)
 - *Forensic Report Writing and Testimony* (Forensic Report Writing, Psychology in the Courtroom and Admissibility, Testimony and Working with Attorneys)
 - *Case Presentations by the postdoctoral fellow and other trainees*
 - *Civil Matters/Other Evaluations* (Civil Commitment, Sex Offender Risk Assessment, Miranda Rights/Waiver, Death Penalty and Mitigation, Worker's Compensation/Personal Injury, SSDI, Immigration)
 - *Other Forensic Topics* (Correctional Mental Health, Treatment in Forensic Contexts, CBT for Psychosis, DBT, MRT, ACT, Sequential Intercept Model/Therapeutic Jurisprudence, Juries, Eyewitness Challenges, False Confession/Wrongful Conviction, Police Psychology, Consulting and Systemic Change, Probation/Parole)
 - *Juvenile/Family Justice* (Child Custody/Termination of Parental Rights, Juvenile Justice, Transitional Youth, Re-sentencing for Juveniles/Miller Evaluations)
 - *Professional Development Series*
- Caselaw Series: The postdoctoral fellow will attend the Caselaw Series on a weekly basis. The forensic caselaw series runs weekly for one hour with our sister facility Central State Hospital. Fellows present brief synopses on salient and landmarks caselaw and listen to other presentations. Typically, 3 to 4 cases are presented each week, and the fellow is responsible for presenting on one of these.
- Forensic Webinar: The postdoctoral fellow is strongly encouraged to attend the weekly University of New Mexico forensic webinar series. The webinar runs year round on a weekly basis for one hour per week and offers a wide range of forensic topics from experts across the country.

- Additional Trainings: The postdoctoral fellow will be expected to participate two trainings offered by the Institute of Law Psychiatry and Public Policy at the University of Virginia. The *Basic Forensic Evaluation: Principles and Practice*, a five-day course, is designed to provide foundational, evidence-based training in the principles and practice of forensic evaluation generally and specific to the Code of Virginia. The postdoctoral fellow will also be expected to participate in the *Assessing Risk for Violence in Clinical Practice*, which is designed to provide an overview of risk assessment, risk factors, risk communications and report writing. The postdoctoral fellow is also expected to complete the *Risk Management* training, which is designed to provide an overview of the NGRI privileging system in Virginia. These trainings satisfy the training requirement outlined in Virginia Code in order to be included on the Commissioner Appointed list of evaluators.
- Supervision: The postdoctoral fellow will receive a minimum of 2 hours of individual face-to-face supervision per week with a licensed clinical psychologist, which will primarily include 1 hour with the Training Director and 1 hour with the NGRI Forensic Coordinator. Supervisors will be available for additional consultation and supervision as needed and in the following contexts:
 - Pretrial Evaluations Supervision: the postdoctoral fellow will be supervised by a member of the Forensic Evaluation Team as well as the Training Director. This will change on a quarterly basis throughout the training year. Supervision will primarily occur in the context of preparing for the evaluation, performing the evaluation and case conceptualization post-evaluation. This may include 1 or more hours of face-to-face supervision, depending on the needs of the case and fellow. The supervisor will review and co-sign the final report.
 - Risk Assessment and Management: the NGRI Forensic Coordinator will oversee and provide supervision on these cases. The supervisor will review and co-sign the final report.
 - Post-adjudication Evaluations: the postdoctoral fellow will be supervised by the licensed psychologist assigned to the evaluation, with follow up and additional supervision provided by either the NGRI Forensic Coordinator or Training Director. The supervisor will review and co-sign the final report.
 - Group Supervision: the postdoctoral fellow also has the opportunity to join group supervision (typically a 2 hour face-to-face meeting), which consists of all the licensed clinical psychologists providing risk assessment, management and treatment to individuals adjudicated Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity.
 - The postdoctoral fellow will also have the opportunity to serve as a supervisor and provide supervision to practicum students and/or Master level clinicians at the hospital. This may vary each year depending on how many practicum students the hospital has during a given training year. This would include primarily weekly group supervision.
- Other Opportunities: The postdoctoral fellow may have the opportunity to engage in individual therapy, competency restoration services, research, and or group therapy.

Performance Evaluation

The postdoctoral fellow will be provided verbal feedback on a regular basis from the Training Director and NGRI Forensic Coordinator during supervision meetings. They will also receive

feedback on their reports from the psychologist supervising the evaluation. In addition, the postdoctoral fellow will receive written feedback at various intervals as outlined below and in accordance with the objectives and competencies outlined above:

- Pretrial Evaluations: Each supervisor will complete a written performance evaluation at the end of the quarter, review it with the postdoctoral fellow and submit it to the Training Director. Thus, the postdoctoral fellow will receive a performance evaluation every three months regarding pretrial evaluations (total of 4 written evaluations).
- Risk Assessment and Management/Post-Adjudication Evaluations: The NGRI Forensic Coordinator will complete a written performance evaluation mid-way through the training year and at the end of the training year (total of 2 written evaluations), review it with the postdoctoral fellow and submit it to the Training Director.

The minimum level of achievement for each performance evaluation submitted is “expected” or higher. The first time a “below expected” rating is received, the Informal Resolution step of the Due Process Procedures will be initiated.

SUPERVISING STAFF

Andrew Osborn, Ph.D.,

Pretrial Forensic Coordinator and Training Director

Dr. Osborn completed a B.A. in Psychology and a minor in Criminal Justice at James Madison University. He earned an M.Ed. in Mental Health Counseling from the College of William and Mary. He completed an M.A. and Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from Bowling Green State University. He completed a clinical internship (forensic track) through Eastern Virginia Medical School and received post-doctoral supervision in forensic psychology. He has worked primarily in adult inpatient settings with adults with serious mental illness. He completed advanced trainings from the Institute of Law, Psychiatry, and Public Policy at the University of Virginia. Dr. Osborn is licensed in Virginia as a Clinical Psychologist and credentialed as a Health Service Psychologist through the National Register. He was appointed as a peer reviewer for the Forensic Oversight Committee. Dr. Osborn is on the Commissioner of Mental Health's list of approved forensic examiners in Virginia. He previously worked in a full-time position at Eastern State Hospital as a Forensic Evaluator and continues to work part-time in his private practice, Bluestone Forensic Evaluations, LLC, based out of Williamsburg, Virginia. Dr. Osborn has authored or co-authored over 15 publications in scholarly peer-reviewed journals and presented research at 13 regional and/or national conferences. Dr. Osborn serves as the hospital's representative to the state IRB. He currently serves as the Pretrial Forensic Coordinator and Training Director.

Hali Griswold, Ph.D.

NGRI Forensic Coordinator

Dr. Hali Griswold is a Licensed Clinical Psychologist in the Commonwealth of Virginia. She currently works as the NGRI Forensic Coordinator at Eastern State Hospital (ESH) in Williamsburg, VA. She primarily provides treatment and post-adjudication evaluations to the

court, provides supervision to staff psychologists, and works closely with the Internal Forensic Privilege Committee and Forensic Review Panel. She has a wealth of experience conducting group and individual therapy, as well as forensic assessments such as Initial Analysis of Risk Reports (IARR), Temporary Custody Evaluations (TCE), Competency to Stand Trial (CST), and Mental State at the Time of the Offense (MSO) evaluations. Previously, Dr. Griswold worked as a treatment team psychologist on a unit primarily composed of NGRI acquittees. She continues to serve as a primary supervisor for the ESH postdoctoral fellow, guest lectures for didactic presentations, conducts commissioner-appointed evaluations, serves as the Chair of the psychology department's Diversity/Equity/Inclusion (DEI) Committee, and actively conducts clinical-forensic research. Her primary research areas include malingering assessment, violence and victimization risk, trauma among women, and mental health policy. To date, she has authored/co-authored 10 empirical journal articles, 1 book chapter, and many conference presentations. She has academic experience as an adjunct instructor at Fairleigh Dickinson University, having taught undergraduate classes including Psychology & the Law, Psychological Bases of Criminal Behavior, the World of the Psychopath, Correctional Psychology, and the Psychology of Stress and Trauma. She earned her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology with an emphasis in Forensic Psychology and M.A. in General/Theoretical psychology from Fairleigh Dickinson University. She earned an additional M.A. in General Psychology from the New School for Social Research. Her B.A. in Clinical Psychology with a Criminal Justice minor is from Old Dominion University. She previously completed a postdoctoral fellowship at ESH.

Laura M. Grossi, Ph.D., ABSMIP

Forensic Evaluator

Dr. Grossi is a licensed clinical psychologist in the Commonwealth of Virginia, who is board certified in serious mental illness (SMI) psychology, and credentialed as a Health Service Psychologist through the National Register. She works as a forensic evaluator at Eastern State Hospital, and in private practice in the Hampton Roads region as a contractor. She primarily conducts pretrial evaluations of competency to stand trial and mental state at the time of the offense, among other clinical-forensic assessments (e.g., malingering, violence risk). She also serves as a direct supervisor for the postdoctoral fellow at ESH, as the Psychology Practicum Training Director, and as Chair of the hospital's Research & Review Committee. She is an active member of the American Psychology-Law Society (APA Division 41), and is currently the Communications Member-at-Large for Psychologists in Public Service (APA Division 18). She also volunteers as a reviewer for DBHDS Central Office's Forensic Oversight Committee, peer reviews articles for several research journals, and acts as a grader for masters-level comprehensive examinations in forensic psychology at her alma mater. Dr. Grossi's research areas include psychodiagnostic assessment, malingering assessment, sexual/physical violence and victimization risk, and mental health policy. To date, she has edited 1 book, and authored/co-authored 14 empirical journal articles, 7 book chapters, and numerous conference presentations; additional works are in progress. She is a prior recipient of the APA Division 18 - Community & State Hospital section's Outstanding Service Award (2025), the American Academy of Forensic Psychology's (AAFP) Dissertation Grant in Applied Law/Psychology (2017), and the American Psychological Foundation (APF) and APA Division 42's Steven O. Walfish Competition Grant (2016). She earned her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology with an emphasis in Forensic Psychology, M.A. in Forensic Psychology, and M.A. in General/Theoretical Psychology from Fairleigh

Dickinson University. Her B.A. in Psychology and B.A. in Law/Justice Studies are from Rowan University.

Miho Morita, Psy.D.

Forensic Evaluator

Dr. Miho Morita earned a Bachelor of Art degree in English Language and Literature from Dokkyo University, Japan. After working for the Japan Airline and then in a real estate company in Gold Coast, Australia, Dr. Morita returned to school, and earned a master's degree in Human Relations from University of Oklahoma. She earned a Master of Art and a doctor of clinical psychology from Argosy University. Her pre-doctoral internship was completed at Child Guidance Clinic of Washington D. C Superior Court, where she conducted psychological and forensic evaluations of children and youths who came to the attention to the court. Dr. Morita is a Certified Sex Offender Treatment Provider, which she earned from working with juvenile sexual offenders at Culpepper Juvenile Correctional Center for over six years. She also worked in a private practice working with adult sex offenders in the greater Washington DC area conducting psychosexual evaluations and providing group therapy. She worked as a NGRI treatment team psychologist at ESH for 10 years. In her role, she has conducted risk assessments of NGRI acquittees to help make determinations regarding their privileges, readiness for release, and revocation of their conditional release.

Brit Pereira, Psy.D.

Forensic Evaluator

Dr. Brit Pereira is a licensed clinical psychologist currently employed as a Forensic Evaluator at Eastern State Hospital (ESH) in Williamsburg, VA. She graduated with her doctoral degree in clinical psychology from The Chicago School of Professional Psychology, Washington, D.C. in August 2023. Dr. Pereira completed her forensic postdoctoral fellowship at ESH in September 2024, where she primarily conducted competency to stand trial and sanity evaluations. Her clinical experiences include working in civil and forensic inpatient settings, intensive outpatient substance use treatment for veterans, outpatient individual therapy, diagnostic assessment with children and adults, and a variety of psychological services in juvenile and adult correctional facilities. Dr. Pereira also works as an adjunct instructor for Marymount University in Arlington, VA teaching courses in their Forensic and Legal Psychology master's program. Her dissertation research examined the disparate outcomes for marginalized ethnic groups receiving treatment for opioid use disorder and the need for culturally informed substance use treatment.

ABOUT THE AREA

Eastern State Hospital is located in Williamsburg, Virginia, which includes sophisticated modern suburban communities, isolated rural villages, multiple military installations, and exclusive historical tourist destinations. For example, Colonial Williamsburg and Busch Gardens are a short drive away, as well as Yorktown and Jamestown. The restaurant and brewery scene continues to grow in the area and Williamsburg is home to Williamsburg Premium Outlets and the Potter Mall. Several colleges/universities are also located in Williamsburg and the surrounding areas. Williamsburg is also located near several parks and local beaches.

Should you want more of a city scene, Richmond, Virginia is about 45 miles from Williamsburg and has many museums, scenic attractions, history, architecture and restaurants/breweries.

Virginia beaches are also easily located across the bridge for a more coastal atmosphere and water attractions. Out west, approximately 2 hours away is Charlottesville, home to the University of Virginia, many scenic trails and parks (including the nearby Shenandoah National Park), wineries and dining. Washington, D.C. and North Carolina are also reasonable distances away for easy weekend trips. Highways and other means of transportation are also easily accessible for traveling to various locations.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Center (APPIC) Accreditation

The ESH Postdoctoral Fellowship in Forensic Psychology has been accredited by APPIC since November 2021.

American Board of Forensic Psychology (ABFP) Experience Waiver and Postdoctoral Training

Application for board certification in forensic psychology involves one thousand hours of experience in forensic psychology obtained over a five year period after receipt of a doctoral degree. ABFP offers waiver of the five year requirement for applicants who successfully complete a 2000 hour formal postdoctoral training program in forensic psychology that meets the standards set out by ABFP. The ESH Postdoctoral Fellowship in Forensic Psychology was approved for the experience waiver in December 2021.

Licensure Requirements

Postdoctoral fellows are encouraged to discuss licensure with their supervisors. However, they are responsible for obtaining information about licensure requirements in the states in which they are considering practicing. To be licensed as a clinical psychologist in Virginia, there is no postdoctoral supervised practice requirement. The experience requirement consists of 1500 hours of supervised experience, which can include supervised practicum experiences during the doctoral program. Hours acquired during the required internship do not count. If this has not been satisfied, the individual may fulfill the remainder of the hours through a residency which needs to be registered and approved by the board. Should the postdoctoral fellow want to use this program as the residency requirement for licensure, as noted, it will need to be registered and approved by the board.

Forensic Evaluation Oversight and List of Commissioner Approved Forensic Evaluators

In order to be qualified to complete evaluations of Competence to Stand Trial and Sanity at the Time of the Offense evaluations in Virginia, the code dictates a) licensure as a psychiatrist or clinical psychologist, b) performance of forensic evaluations, c) successful completion of forensic evaluation recognized by the Commissioner of the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, and d) included on the list of approved evaluators. The Department recognizes the week-long Basic Adult Forensic Evaluation training provided by the Institute of Law Psychiatry and Public Policy at the University of Virginia as sufficient to meet the training requirement. The postdoctoral fellow is expected to complete this training during the training year.

Thus, once licensed, the postdoctoral fellow will be well prepared to submit materials in order to be included on the approved list of evaluators.

The other two trainings offered by the Institute of Law Psychiatry and Public Policy at the University of Virginia, *Assessing Risk for Violence in Clinical Practice* and *Risk Management*, are also recognized by the Department as sufficient to meet the training requirement for Temporary Custody Evaluations, Annual Continuation of Confinement, and Second Opinion Evaluations for those acquitted Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity. Thus, once licensed, the postdoctoral fellow will be well prepared to submit materials in order to be included on the approved list of evaluators.

Administrative Information

The ESH Postdoctoral Fellowship in Forensic Psychology is a full-time (40 hours a week or 2000 hours of training) position for 1 year (12 months). The stipend is \$87,542.72. The postdoctoral fellow is provided a certificate of completion at the end of the training year.

The start date for the fellowship tends to begin on September 10th.

The fellow receives health, dental and disability insurance that is offered to all Virginia state employees. They also receive sick leave, family/personal leave, and accrue four hours of annual leave every pay period. There are also 15 paid holidays per year. Postdoctoral fellows are provided office space, a computer, and necessary office supplies.

For additional administrative guidance and due process and grievance procedures, the postdoctoral fellow may reference the “Administrative Guidance & Due Process and Grievance Procedures.” This document will be provided to and reviewed with the postdoctoral fellow at the start of the training program.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

The ESH Postdoctoral Fellowship in Forensic Psychology accepts one fellow per training year.

Applicants must have completed all professional doctoral degree requirements (from either clinical or counseling program) from a regionally accredited institution of higher education (APA/CPA-accreditation of the academic program preferred, but not required) including an APA/CPA accredited doctoral internship. This is defined as having on the first day of the fellowship either the diploma in hand or a letter from their program verifying the completion of all degree requirements pending the institution’s graduation ceremony.

If interested, please submit the following:

1. Complete a state application through <http://jobs.virginia.gov/>
2. Send the following materials to Dr. Osborn:
 - Cover Letter addressing interests and training goals
 - One report (preferably a forensic evaluation) that has minimal edits by a supervisor
 - Three letters of recommendation
 - o Two of these letters should be from individuals familiar with your clinical work

- At least one of these letters should come from an individual who has supervised you in the last year
- Curriculum Vitae
- Status of Dissertation
- Academic Transcripts may be requested

For questions or to speak further about the position, please contact Andrew Osborn, Ph.D. at 757-208-7601 or lawrence.osborn@dbhds.virginia.gov.

Applications are typically due in early January, with interviews to begin later in January and into early February. The anticipated start date is early September 2026.