



NOINT COMMISSION

# **PSYCHOLOGY** INTERNSHIP PROGRAM WALIONAL QUALITY &

Doctoral Program Brochure

For more information, please visit us online at https://ndfya.com/doctoralprogram

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Program Information	Page 3
Admission Criteria	Page 4
Application & Selection Process	Page 5
Competencies	Page 6
Training Process & Aim	Page 7
Requirements for Completion	Page 8
Administrative Policies & Procedures	Page 9

#### PROGRAM INFORMATION

18+
Years in
Operation

The goal of New Directions is to prepare young adults to live independent lives. Our program is comprehensive and client-centered, providing an individualized plan for each client. Support is coordinated using a new multi-disciplinary clinical approach called Direction Therapy. Direction Therapy incorporates educational, vocational, independent living, health, social and recreational goals into one unique comprehensive service plan.

50+
Current
Clients

35+
Current
Employees

New Directions typically supports students with executive functioning deficits and a variety of clinical needs. Participants in the New Directions program are typically working to learn the skills needed to live independently. New Directions is unique among therapeutic programs for young adults, providing a wide range of services aimed at achieving self-sufficiency. Services are regularly tapered to allow clients to exercise the independent living skills they learn.

New Directions specializes in providing a custom and effective experience in a transitional living environment. Young adults live independently but get varied levels of support/supervision based on recommendations and needs. New Directions clients learn to apply the skills and tools provided by our expert clinical staff to everyday life situations.



#### **ADMISSION CRITERIA**

New Directions' mission statement supports the Psychology Training Mission Statement:

"To provide an organized training experience in clinical psychology to interns and equip them with the necessary clinical skills and competencies to successfully perform the role of Psychologists at the entry level."



The Psychology Internship Program provides a generalist clinical training by exposing interns to various clinical/program areas serving diverse clientele. This includes participation in weekly and monthly clinical team meetings with psychologists, LMFTs, psychiatrists, social workers, and other frontline staff, all part of the multidisciplinary treatment team. Interns are fully integrated into New Directions' program services, working with all levels of staff.

#### Have you met the admission criteria?

- Completed three years of graduate study from a Clinical, Counseling, or School Psychology APA-accredited program.
- Completed a minimum of 600 hours of supervised clinical experience with children/adolescents and adults.
- Completed 50 assessment hours.
- Completed three years of practica.

### APPLICATION & SELECTION PROCESS

All New Directions employees, including Psychology Interns, must complete all hiring requirements, including a drug screening, fingerprinting, and background check. All efforts are made to arrange the pre-hiring requirements well in advance of the internship start date; however, it is our experience that interns must allocate ample time to complete the hiring process.

Applications for the Psychology Internship Program are screened and rated by review teams consisting of a Training Committee member and a current intern. The teams consider the applicants' goals, essays, graduate training, references, and graduate school performance. The selected top candidates will be invited for an individual structured interview with the Director of Training, a current intern, and at least one member of the Training Committee if available. Interviews are structured to ensure ample time for the applicant to present questions. New Directions employment responsibilities are reviewed with all applicants, including Level II background screening. After the intern applicant is matched with the program, an email will be sent to the selected intern, followed by a formal letter of placement. An Affiliation Agreement will be sent to the Internship Training Coordinator of the intern's graduate program, which must be signed prior to the placement of the intern in our department. After this selection process, Psychology Internship candidates are given the following list of benefits as a Temporary Employee:



## Stipend of \$50,000

13 days of Personal Leave (vacation, sick, etc.)

**On-the-job Mileage Reimbursement** 

**On-the-job toll and parking Reimbursement** 

**Supervision and Support from Clinical Director** 

Varied clients consisting of children and adults

Access to dedicated office spaces, equipment and technology

Clerical and administrative support, and research opportunities

#### **COMPETENCIES**



Concluding their one-year training program, interns will be able to demonstrate an increased level of knowledge and competence with children, adolescents, adults, and their families within the nine profession-wide competencies:

- Demonstrates competency in communication and interpersonal skills.
- Develops competence in evidence-based assessment.
- Demonstrates competence in evidence-based interventions.
- Displays competence in research.
- **Develops competence in supervision.**
- Develops competence in consultation and interprofessional interdisciplinary skills.
- Demonstrates competence in ethical and legal standards.
- Demonstrates competence in professional values, attitudes, and behaviors.
- Demonstrates competency in individual and cultural diversity.

#### TRAINING PROCESS & AIM

The Psychology Internship Program exposes interns to evidence-based clinical models and ethical professional practice standards. The training aim is "to provide an organized training experience in clinical psychology to interns and equip them with the necessary clinical skills and competencies to successfully perform the role of Health Service Psychologists at the entry level."

The Psychology Internship Program applies principles, methods, and procedures for understanding, predicting, and alleviating intellectual, emotional, psychological, and behavioral disorders and discomfort. Further, training includes psychological assessment for pre-school children, elderly clients, and adults. Interns sharpen their skills in applying psychological tests for diagnosing and evaluating social, developmental, intellectual, personality, and adaptive skills of preschool children, adults, and older adults.

The general training model of the Psychology Internship Program is the Mentor/Practitioner model. All internship experiences pair senior mentor supervisors with interns in preparation for professional careers as health service practitioners in psychology. This model further permeates the relationship between the interns and graduate psychology practicum students, providing the intern with the opportunity to experience a supervisory role. Interns are expected to provide face-to-face psychological services for at least 10 hours per week. Interns are also expected to participate in didactic services at least 2 hours per week.

#### PSYCHOLOGICAL INTERNSHIP PROGRAM MISSION STATEMENT

"To provide an organized training experience in clinical psychology to interns and equip them with the necessary clinical skills and competencies to successfully perform the role of Health Service Psychologists at the entry level."



#### REQUIREMENTS FOR COMPLETION

The training program is sequential and builds upon the previously developed competencies acquired throughout the internship year and the evaluative criterion becomes more demanding as the year progresses. It is expected that the intern should require progressively less intensive supervisory oversight for the satisfactory completion of assigned responsibilities. The interns are evaluated at the sixmonth mark and at the end of the internship year utilizing the Psychology Intern Evaluation Form. Additionally, interns receive formal feedback at the three- and nine-month mark of internship. These evaluations cover the nine profession-wide competencies.



## ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES & PROCEDURES

New Directions provides equal access opportunity in employment and services, reflecting respect for and understanding of "cultural and individual diversity."



Non-discriminatory policies and operating conditions are enforced to avoid restriction to program access, and unfair practices in recruitment, retention, and staff/intern development that may occur due to, but not limited to, age, color, disabilities, ethnicity, gender, language, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, sexual identification, and socio-economic status. New Directions is an equal opportunity employer for minorities, maintains an alcohol and drug-free workplace, and does not discriminate on the basis of disability. Selection/ranked applicants, as well as hiring decisions, are contingent upon satisfactory results of a physical examination, including a drug and alcohol use and misuse screening, and a review of the results of a pre-employment fingerprint-based national criminal background check. All hiring decisions are based solely at the discretion of the New Directions Clinical Director and/or designee.

It is the policy of New Directions that interns are assured due process regarding concerns, which might arise over their performance, and functioning. As an employee of New Directions, all existing personnel policies and procedures are extended to interns, including the company's **Grievance Procedure**.

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## Licensed by The Florida Department of Children & Families (DCF)

**Accredited by The Joint Commission** 



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