

Internship Admissions, Support, and Initial Placement Data

Date Program Tables are updated: 28 Aug 25

Briefly describe in narrative form important information to assist potential applicants in assessing their likely fit with your program. This description must be consistent with the program's policies on intern selection and practicum and academic preparation requirements:

The Clinical Psychology Internship at the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center has 7 tracks: Clinical Child; Integrated Behavioral Health Care; Early Childhood; Autism Spectrum Disorder; and Multicultural, Rural and Native American, Substance Use disorders and Addictions, and Pediatric Neuropsychology. All tracks share a training philosophy that is multicultural, developmental, contextual and interdisciplinary. Treatment settings include inpatient, outpatient, and community. We serve a highly diverse population of adults, children, adolescents, and families in the public sector, many with a history of trauma.

The program has adopted a model of Evidence Based Practice in which contextual factors are keenly considered, and the therapist is culturally responsive. This model assumes that culture, regardless of ethnicity, is a central aspect that must be considered in all types of psychological intervention. In addressing cultural responsiveness, the program emphasizes both process and outcome and focuses as much on the provider as it does on the client. Specific knowledge and skills are not seen as sufficient to training culturally and developmentally responsive psychologists. Cultural responsiveness is a reflective practice and a lifelong process. To train psychologists in evidence-based practice that will be appropriate for diverse populations, the program fosters an open, collaborative and multidimensional perspective while encouraging the analytic skills required for effective decision-making. In addition to providing training in traditional treatment approaches (e.g. CBT, behavioral, DBT, and psychodynamic) the program promotes contextual models, such as family systems, because these models are conducive to viewing culture as an integral feature to be addressed in clinical practice

Minimum number of hours required at time of application:

	Required?	Number of Hours
Total Direct Contact Intervention Hours	YES	350
Total Direct Contact Assessment Hours	YES	150

Other required minimum criteria used to screen applicants:

1. APA or CPA accredited doctoral program (APA preferred)
2. Comprehensive Exams passed by application deadline
3. 3 years minimum of graduate training
4. Ph.D. and Psy.D. accepted; Ed.D. not accepted
5. Spanish-speaking applicants given strong consideration as New Mexico possesses a substantial Spanish-speaking population.
6. Course work/practica in clinical and developmental psychology and assessment are required for all tracks. Applicants for Clinical Child, Early Childhood, and Autism Spectrum Disorder tracks should have significant therapy and assessment hours with children and/or adolescents.
7. Applicants re-specializing in clinical psychology may be considered if they have followed APA guidelines, which require a return to graduate school for necessary coursework. A statement from the director of the graduate training program that all requirements for clinical psychology specialization have been completed will be requested.
8. New Mexico law requires fingerprinting and criminal background checks for staff, employees, and student interns working in licensed programs for children. Fingerprinting is done during internship orientation. Any intern who does not clear the background check, would not be eligible to work in our facilities and would not be able to complete our internship