

Pre-doctoral Advanced Counseling Practicum

The psychology practicum is a part-time clinical training program for doctoral students in psychology. The goal of the practicum is to provide students with clinical fieldwork experience in advance of their predoctoral internship. The CAPS psychology practicum is available to students enrolled in doctoral programs at Indiana University Bloomington, IUPUI, and University of Indianapolis.

At CAPS, we do not subscribe to a single theoretical orientation. However, we do draw from interpersonal-psychodynamic and cognitive-behavioral perspectives to frame clinical problems and guide treatment.

Who Can Apply

CAPS accepts a limited number of practicum students each year through their doctoral programs. Practicum clinicians are expected to have completed **at least two semesters** of supervised clinical or counseling practica prior to their arrival at CAPS.

CAPS staff support and appreciate trainees engaging in their own counseling / therapy work, and we will be pleased to make referrals for students who are interested in such work, however, due to dual role conflicts, any master's level or doctoral student who has accessed IU-CAPS services since of April 15, 2010 is **not** eligible for training opportunities at CAPS."

Psychology Practicum Responsibilities

The psychology practicum is structured to meet the [guidelines](#) of the Counseling Psychology Department in the School of Education. The practicum is approximately 16 weeks each semester (in addition to any supervision provided by students' home departments) and follows the IU academic schedule.

Approximately two weeks before the fall semester begins practicum students participate in a series of orientation activities. Responsibilities include:

- Intake sessions – 3 hours per week
- Follow-up availability – 6–8 hours per week
- Individual supervision – 1.5 hours per week
- Group supervision – 1 hour per week
- Supervision preparation and administrative duties – 3.5 hours per week
- Multidisciplinary team meetings – 1 hour per week

Practicum participants are also invited to observe a process-oriented group therapy experience in addition to their 16 hours of primary responsibilities. If you are interested in observing a group, talk to the practicum coordinator and the senior staff member facilitating the group.

Diversity

Indiana University recognizes the importance of a diverse student body and of appropriate services for students. The Commission on Multicultural Understanding dates back to 1982 and has led the university's efforts to promote understanding and tolerance within the campus community. More recently, the post of Vice President for Student Development and Diversity and the Office of Academic Support and Diversity were founded as part of a recommitment of the university to selection, recruitment, retention, and graduation of Latinos, African Americans, Native Americans and other underrepresented students. CAPS and the internship program likewise are committed to supporting these goals of the university.

By establishing and developing liaison relationships with campus offices and programs that support the diverse student body, CAPS builds bridges to traditionally underserved populations. Interns can participate in these liaison relationships, expand on current offerings, and develop new ones.

On the Bloomington campus, approximately 9 percent identify of students as African American, Native American, Asian American, or Hispanic. Among our CAPS clientele, nearly 13 percent identify as members of these populations. Approximately 7 percent of Bloomington students are from outside the United States. Approximately 5 percent of CAPS clients are international students.

Supervision

All practicum training sessions are recorded via webcam and reviewed by the student's supervising psychology intern or senior staff. Practicum participants supervised by interns should also expect their supervisory consultations to be recorded for review. All recordings are stored on a secure server within the Health Center and are erased at the end of the practicum.

Counseling and Psychological Services staff reserve the right to communicate with practicum clinicians' academic departments regarding their performance at any time. Generally, this communication is limited to end-of-semester evaluations forwarded to the department. In the event of unprofessional conduct, CAPS staff may contact the department as it seems prudent.

CAPS staff are unable to write any letters of recommendation for practicum clinicians until they have completed a full semester of clinical work. Prior to that, we will provide a letter detailing your specific responsibilities, if needed.

How to Apply

CAPS accepts 2–3 psychology practicum students per year. Students should begin looking for a second-year practicum starting in February of their first year. Talk to your program's Director of Training for more information.