



**Postdoctoral Fellowship Training Program**  
**Postdoctoral Fellowship Description**  
**CLINICAL FOCUS**

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<b>Title:</b>	Postdoctoral Fellowship in Pediatric Neuropsychology  APA-accredited: YES <u>X</u> NO <u>  </u>
<b>Site:</b>	Emma Pendleton Bradley Hospital/Brown University Health
<b>Supervisor(s):</b>	Brian Kavanaugh, PsyD, ABPP (Primary, Clinical & Research Supervisor, Bradley) Karen Holler, PhD, ABPP (Clinical Supervisor at Bradley)

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This two-year fellowship at Bradley Hospital is part of the Clinical Neuropsychology Specialty Program (CNSP) within the Postdoctoral Fellowship Training Program (PFTP) of Brown University's clinical psychology training Consortium. The CNSP has APA-accreditation as a Specialty Program in Clinical Neuropsychology.

**Description of Site**

Bradley Hospital is a private, not-for-profit hospital, and the nation's first psychiatric hospital devoted exclusively to children and adolescents founded in 1931. Bradley Hospital is part of the Brown University Health system and the principal child and adolescent psychiatric teaching hospital for Brown Medical School. Bradley Hospital has established itself as the national center for clinical training and research in child and adolescent psychiatry. Bradley Hospital provides comprehensive clinical services, including outpatient, inpatient, partial hospitalization, intensive after school, crisis stabilization, residential care programs, and certified special education schools. Bradley hospital also known for being at the forefront of child mental health research, and includes the Developmental Disorders Genetics Research Program at The Bradley Campus Research Unit, which is part of the Bradley Hasbro Children's Research Center.

The Brown University Health system also includes Rhode Island Hospital and Hasbro Children's Hospital. Rhode Island Hospital (RIH) is a private, not-for-profit, acute care hospital and academic medical center founded in 1863. Hasbro Children's Hospital (HCH) is the pediatric division of Rhode Island Hospital. Built in 1994, the seven-story building provides the comprehensive health services for approximately 7,000 inpatients and 60,000 outpatients. It has earned worldwide recognition for its family-centered environment and expert staff. HCH has the area's only pediatric intensive care unit; pediatric oncology and cardiology programs; separate emergency and surgical units designated for pediatric patients; day- and inpatient treatment programs for children with combined medical/psychiatric issues; and operates specialty clinics treating children ranging in age from newborn to 18 years.

***Neuropsychological services are provided as part of the outpatient programs at Bradley and inpatient programs at Bradley Hospital. Outpatient referrals may also come from Rhode Island/Hasbro Children's Hospital.*** Neuropsychology plays a critical role on the inpatient and outpatient treatment teams with respect to cognitive evaluation, differential diagnosis, family education, and treatment planning. A collaborative team approach to treatment is emphasized within these settings. In the outpatient setting, a major focus of

the evaluation process is the follow-up, feedback appointment, at which time parents are provided with both written and oral summaries of the examination, along with detailed recommendations

- **Bradley Hospital's outpatient services** provide comprehensive mental health evaluation and treatment for children, adolescents and families from Rhode Island and southern New England. Outpatient services provide treatment for a wide range of clinical conditions, including those with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Autism Spectrum Disorder, Developmental Disabilities, Tourette's Disorder, Reactive Attachment Disorder, Bipolar Disorder, Specific Learning Disabilities, Anxiety Disorder, Depression, and Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder. Many outpatient neuropsychology referrals are patients initiating or receiving intervention services from the outpatient program's multidisciplinary staff of psychologist, psychiatrists, nurse practitioners, and social workers; as well as from the hospital's multiple partial hospitalization programs. The fellow will also gain experience with medical or neurologic populations (e.g., concussion, fetal drug exposure, prematurity, etc.) referred from community-based neurologists, concussion management physicians, and primary care providers.
- **Bradley Hospital's Child and Adolescent Inpatient Program** is for children ages 2 to 18 years who suffer from serious disorders and are in need of short-term stabilization, assessment and treatment. The program has 45 private patient rooms located in Bradley Hospital's award-winning new building and the unit is staffed 24 hours a day. Each child is treated by a team of professionals, including a child and adolescent psychiatrist, a clinical social worker, psychologists, nursing staff, and milieu therapists. The neuropsychology program under Dr. Holler evaluates patients on the child and adolescent units. A major focus of the evaluation process is to assist with differential diagnosis, treatment planning, and recommendations for discharge planning. The fellow also has the opportunity to gain direct intervention experience, including group treatment and brief parent behavioral consultation.
- **Rhode Island Hospital/Hasbro's Children's Hospital** also generates referrals from a number of medical and psychiatric clinics, including oncology, neurology, and neurosurgery, for children with a variety of diagnoses, such as leukemia, brain tumors, epilepsy, hydrocephalus, metabolic disorders, congenital heart conditions, and functional neurological disorders.

### **Fellowship Aims**

1. To provide the fellow with broad post-doctoral training in the area of Pediatric Neuropsychology, including the neuropsychological consequences of psychiatric disorders, neurodevelopmental disorders, and medical or neurologic conditions.
2. To provide the fellow with a strong working knowledge of assessment, treatment and research conducted with children and adolescents with psychiatric, developmental, neurologic, and medical conditions.
3. To enable the fellow to gain proficiency in neuropsychological evaluation of children and adolescents; treatment plan development with these populations; oral and written communication of evaluation findings.
4. To actively participate in research, including grant writing, data collection, management and analysis, and development and implementation of a research proposal, with the goal of presenting research results at a national meeting and writing a peer-reviewed manuscript.

### **Fellowship Timeline**

The duration of the fellowship is 2 years, contingent upon satisfactory progress. The anticipated start date is July or August 2025.

Note: The fellow and the mentor will notify each other in December whether the commitment will be made for a second year.

### **Clinical Activity Plan (70 % time)**

In order to ensure that the fellow receives a high level of clinical training in the area of pediatric neuropsychology, the following activities will be required during the fellowship:

- Clinical assessment: The fellow will perform neuropsychological evaluations conducted with children and adolescents. Patients will be seen through the Outpatient Services at Bradley and the Child and Adolescent Inpatient Program of the Neuropsychology Program at Bradley Hospital. As noted, referrals for outpatient evaluations will also be generated from Rhode Island Hospital/Hasbro Children's Hospital. The fellow will have approximately 4 clinical days divided between the different sites and settings. The fellow will be individually supervised on each case by a staff neuropsychologist who is on-site. The fellow will participate in all aspects of assigned cases, including clinical interviews, face-to-face assessment, scoring/interpretation of results, report writing, and family diagnostic feedback sessions. The specific inpatient, partial hospital, or outpatient activities within a site will be determined based on factors such as clinic flow and the fellow's training goals and needs.
- Professional Development: The fellow will be able to apply for licensure and work towards successfully negotiating all aspects of the licensure process and obtain licensure as a psychologist by the end of the two-year fellowship. This process requires attendance at the monthly Clinical Ethics Seminar during one of the two years of fellowship.

### **Research Activity Plan (20 % time)**

20% of the fellow's time will be spent on research activities with Dr. Kavanaugh. This primarily involves active NIMH and foundation-funded projects that are utilizing neuroimaging (i.e., MRI), electrophysiology (i.e., EEG), and non-invasive brain stimulation (i.e., TMS) to modulate the neural dynamics underlying adolescent working memory deficits. In addition to a weekly research meeting, the fellow will be involved in the following research activities:

- Grant writing: For those fellows interested in learning about grantsmanship, mentoring opportunities are provided. In this case, the fellow will develop a grant idea and submit a grant proposal by the end of the fellowship term.
- Literature Review: The fellow will review relevant literature in relevant areas of neuropsychology, neurophysiology, and childhood/adolescent psychopathology.
- Manuscript preparation and submission: The fellow will be encouraged to collaborate on manuscript preparation and poster submissions at national conferences. Individually tailored goals will be established in this area.
- Study Collaboration: The fellow will participate in an on-going research project and may develop a research question related to the on-going study for implementation during the fellowship term.

### **Didactics (10 % time)**

Postdoctoral Seminars: The fellow will participate in post-doctoral seminars through the Brown Postdoctoral Training Program.

#### Mandatory Didactics:

Core Seminars (1 per month).

DPHB Academic Grand Rounds (1 per month).

Clinical Ethics- (1 per month).

Neuropsychology Track Seminars and Neuropsychology Rounds (weekly)

Brain Cuttings, Medical Examiner's Office (required once per year but may attend more frequently)

#### Optional Didactics:

The fellow will have the option of attending a Neuropsychology Track Research Interest Group (monthly) which is a working grant writing seminar attended by faculty and trainees. Other didactics may include DPHB Biostatistics Seminar, (monthly, attend when content is relevant),

DPHB grant writing workshops, or Advance-CTR training opportunities to help fellows prepare for an independent research career.

### **Supervision and Evaluation**

Drs. Holler and Kavanaugh will supervise each clinical evaluation assigned to the fellow in the form of weekly individual supervision. The fellow will meet with the case supervisor to review the case and to discuss the evaluation plan. The supervisor will be on site during the evaluation and is available for consultation as the evaluation is being performed. The fellow will meet individually with the supervisor after the completion of the case to review the evaluation process, test results and recommendations. On the average, the fellow will be supervised between one and two hours for each case by the assigned supervisor ( $\geq 3$  hours per week of supervision). The fellow will receive a mentored research experience and be supervised approximately 1 hour per week on research activities by Dr. Kavanaugh.

At the midpoint and conclusion of each year of the fellowship, the fellow and the supervisors are requested to provide formal evaluations, and evaluations of the program relative to the goals and learning objectives of the fellowship.

Please visit the [Brown Faculty](#) page to view supervisor profiles.

### **Resource Requirements**

Fellow will be provided with the following resources:

- Access to space appropriate for clinical care
- Personal office space and library privileges
- A computer and project specific software
- Internet access
- Telephone

### **Reporting and approval**

This fellowship will be part of the Neuropsychology track. The position has been discussed and approved by the Neuropsychology track faculty in their monthly meeting.

Director, Clinical Neuropsychology Specialty Program

Associate Director, Clinical Neuropsychology Specialty Program

Director, Postdoctoral Fellowship Training Program