

Internship Admissions, Support, and Initial Placement Data

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM TABLES

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Program Disclosures

The Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center Internship Program is an active duty Air Force internship, so candidates must apply through a centralized application process and will serve on active duty during and after the internship. Qualified applicants must come from APA approved Clinical or Counseling Psychology programs and be citizens of the United States. Because interns will be active duty Air Force officers, they must therefore meet criteria for selection and retention for Air Force service, to include current medical standards, physical strength/endurance, and moral character requirements (including adherence to regulations within the Uniformed Code of Military Justice). Applicants are selected through the APPIC match but must also be selected for service in the Air Force through an Air Force Selection Board process.

Internship Program Admissions

The Clinical Psychology Internship Program at Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center (WHASC) is based on a scientist-practitioner approach to understanding human behavior theories and providing psychological services in both group and individual formats. The purpose of the WHASC psychology internship program is to prepare competent psychologists to provide empirically-validated mental health care services to military members and their families and to provide effective consultation to military leaders on issues related to military members' fitness for duty as well as risks to the public health of the local Air Force base community.

We intend our training activities to produce "generalist" clinicians who use careful, critical thinking skills to apply scientific evidence to the practice of psychology. We expect trainees to base their clinical decision making and treatments on strong empirical evidence when it is available. This critical thinking combined with a reliance on empirical science helps trainees minimize the inherent bias present in all human thinking, promotes the use of the most effective clinical strategies for patient care, and encourages the advancement of psychology as a health care profession.

Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center's (WHASC) Clinical Psychology training program provides training in all of the profession wide competencies (i.e., research, ethics and legal standards, individual and cultural diversity, professional values and attitudes, communication and interpersonal skills, assessment, intervention, supervision, and consultation and interprofessional/interdisciplinary skills) as required by APA standards of accreditation. Additionally, WHASC provides program specific competency training in population health and officer development.

Required Minimum Number of Clinical Hours

Does the program require that applicants have received a minimum number of hours of the following at time of application? Yes.

If Yes, indicate how many:

Amount

Total Direct Contact Intervention Hours	No	N/A
Total Direct Contact Assessment Hours	No	N/A
Overall Total Direct Contact Hours	Yes	500

WHASC Clinical Psychology training program requires a completed **minimum of 500 face-to-face hours** of supervised practicum experience by the time the application is submitted. Our training program does not require a specific breakdown or percentage of intervention hours to assessment hours to meet the minimum of 500 face-to-face hours requirement. Furthermore, we do not require a specific breakdown or percentage of in-person face to face vs. virtual/telehealth face to face, although we do expect the majority of hours to have been completed in-person, subject to local health policies.

Describe any other required minimum criteria used to screen applicants:

The United States Air Force offers up to 20 fully funded one-year intern positions in clinical psychology across three training sites (WHASC, Malcolm Grow Medical Center, and Wright-Patterson Medical Center). The Air Force welcomes applications from all qualified persons who meet the following eligibility requirements:

- a. Be a U.S. citizen.
- b. Meet the health and fitness requirements for commissioning in the United States Air Force as determined by medical history and physical examination.
- c. Meet the standards for issuance of a secret security clearance as determined by history and background investigation.
- d. Satisfactorily complete all academic and practica requirements for the Ph.D. or Psy.D. in clinical, counseling, or combined professional-scientific psychology from an **APA-accredited graduate program** (Department of Air Force Instruction 44-119, 7.9.2.1; Defense Health Agency-Procedures Manual 6025.13, Vol. 4, Appendix, 6.b). This includes, at a minimum, the completion of preliminary and comprehensive examinations and doctoral dissertation proposal approval.
- e. Be ready for internship as certified by the Director of Clinical Training at their graduate program.
- f. Dissertation progress is a factor in the selection process. Completion of the dissertation prior to internship is **strongly** encouraged to allow for full participation in the wealth of training opportunities available during the internship.

Eligibility for commissioning as a United States Military Officer requires robust health as defined by a health history free of specified impediments, current physical strength/endurance tests, and impeccable moral character as defined by a life history free of impediment (specified list of exclusions related to ethical violations, personal finance/credit management, contacts with governmental authorities and law enforcement agencies, etc.) The main point of contact for questions regarding fitness for duty is a Health Professions recruiter from the Air Force Recruiting Service (AFRS). The Health Professions recruiter is authorized to screen for health, fitness, and legal conditions that may be disqualifying for service. To find your nearest recruiter, visit <https://www.airforce.com/find-a-recruiter>.

Active Duty Service Commitment (ADSC)

The standard length of the Active Duty Service Commitment (ADSC) is a minimum of three years, provided the psychologist obtains independent licensure within the first year of service post-internship. Further, psychologists in other situations will incur longer service commitments, such as recipients of the Health Professions Scholarship Program (HPSP), graduates of Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, Reserve Officer Training Corps, and other prior active duty service related commitments. The actual terms of your commitment will be clearly outlined in your commissioning paperwork that will be provided to you by a health professions recruiter and will be consistent with AFMAN 36-2100, Table A2.2

(https://static.e-publishing.af.mil/production/1/af_a1/publication/afman36-2100/afman36-2100.pdf).

Financial and Other Benefit Support for Upcoming Training Year

Interns receive the rank, pay and benefits of an Air Force Captain, including competitive base salary, tax-free housing allowance based on regional cost of living, monthly food assistance, family medical coverage and optional family dental package, and time off including 30-paid vacation days plus all federal holidays. For specific salary and benefits, see the [Military Pay Charts](#) (note salary is based on basic pay, [housing allowance for San Antonio Texas](#), and [monthly food assistance payment](#)).

Annual Stipend/Salary Full-Time Interns <i><u>with dependents</u></i> :	\$91,417 (\$7,618 per month)
Annual Stipend/Salary Full-Time Interns <i><u>without dependents</u></i> :	\$90,050 (\$7,504 per month)
Annual Stipend/Salary for Half-Time Interns:	N/A

Program provides access to medical insurance for intern?	Yes*
Trainee contribution to cost required?	No
Coverage of family member(s) available?	Yes
Coverage of legally married partner available?	Yes
Coverage of domestic partner available?	No
Hours of Annual Paid Personal Time Off (PTO) and/or Vacation?	Yes*
Hours of Annual Paid Sick Leave	No*
In the event of medical conditions and/or family needs that require extended leave, does the program allow reasonable unpaid leave to interns/residents in excess of personal time off and sick leave?	No*

***Other Benefits:** Tricare, the medical insurance for military members, offers free and/or quite affordable medical care for Active Duty service members depending on duty status.

Look at Tricare’s website: <https://www.tricare.mil/Costs/HealthPlanCosts/PrimeOptions> for more information. Military members earn 30 days of paid leave per year (2.5 days per month), in addition to federal holidays or military family days (i.e., days when senior military leaders grant permission to have a day-off). However, please note that interns are only allowed 14 days away from training in addition to federal holidays and military family days (4 of the days away must be for dissertation-related tasks if the intern has not successfully defended the dissertation by 1 February of the internship year). If the medical condition prevents a service member from reporting to work for more than a single day, the service member will be evaluated by a medical professional and placed on convalescent leave (i.e., sick leave) for the appropriate amount of time. Therefore, service members do not accrue paid hours of sick leave. If necessary, it is permissible to take a medical leave of absence to receive appropriate treatment (e.g., cancer treatment, 12 weeks maternity leave after child birth). All medical and parental leave is paid. For medical situations involving service members, family members or dependents, it is important to note that if additional time is approved away from training (i.e., more than 14 days) it will result in a necessary extension in training to make sure all program requirements are completed. Other great benefits include annual incentive bonuses for psychologists who are licensed (\$5,000) or ABPP certified (\$6,000) for a total annual salary increase of \$11,000, and retention bonuses that are typically available after initial Active Duty Service Commitment (i.e., up to \$40,000 annual salary increase).

Initial Post-Internship Positions

	2021-2023	
Total # of interns who were in the three cohorts	27	
Total # of interns who did not seek employment because they returned to their doctoral program/are completing doctoral degree	0	
	Postdoc	Employ
Community Mental Health Center	0	0
Federally Qualified Health Center	0	0
Independent Primary Care Facility/Clinic	0	0
University Counseling Center	0	0
Veterans Affairs Medical Center	0	0
Military Health Center	0	27
Academic Health Center	0	0
Other Medical Center or Hospital	0	0
Psychiatric Hospital	0	0
Academic University/Department	0	0
Community College or other Teaching Setting	0	0
Independent Research Institution	0	0
Correctional Facility	0	0
School District/System	0	0
Independent Practice Setting	0	0
Not Currently employed	0	0
Changed to Another Field	0	0
Other	0	0
Unknown	0	0

