Frequently Asked Questions
Edmonton Consortium Clinical Psychology Residency

1. How do I apply to the Edmonton Consortium Clinical Psychology Program?

The Edmonton Consortium is a member of the Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC). APPIC has developed uniform guidelines regarding application and acceptance procedures which we follow when selecting and offering internship positions to applicants. You will find these guidelines at the APPIC website at **www.appic.org**.

Graduate students at the doctoral level in CPA and/or APA approved clinical or counselling psychology programs (or equivalent) will be considered for admission. By 7 November, applicants must have completed the following requirements:

- all core course work;
- comprehensive/candidacy exams;
- 600 hours or more of clinical training with at least 300 hours of direct client contact and 150 hours of supervision (NOTE generally, successful applicants exceed these minimum requirements); and
- a dissertation proposal (we prefer applicants who have progressed further than the proposal stage in their dissertations)

We require that you apply through the AAPI Online service. Please include the following documentation:

- a cover letter,
- a curriculum vitae,
- the actual application, which includes essays and the DCT's verification of eligibility and readiness,
- all graduate transcripts,
- three letters of recommendation (**at least 2 from a clinical supervisor)**.

Applicants may apply to both the Generalist Stream (NMS program code 180411) and the Neuropsychology Stream (NMS program code 180412). However, we recommend only applying to one stream, and applicants will be accepted into only one Stream (either the Generalist or the Neuropsychology). The APPIC site lists the dates for submission of rankings by applicants and programs and notification dates. Please note that applicants wishing to apply to our program, or other programs belonging to APPIC, must submit a completed Request for Applicant Agreement Package form to National Matching Service (available from National Matching Service available on the APPIC web site). **In addition, we wish to emphasize that this site agrees to abide by the APPIC policy that no person at this training facility will solicit, accept, or use any ranking-related information from any applicant prior to the notification date.**

2. How are residents selected?

Applications are reviewed and evaluated by the Selection Committee.

Generalist Stream: In recent years, we have found that most residents who will gain an interview have about 100 hours of assessment and over 200 hours of intervention with 150 hours of supervision (from summary table on AAPI). We tend to look carefully at assessment experiences

and so we also look for *about* 10 integrated reports (see APPIC definition) and approximately 10 standardized formal (i.e. norm referenced) tests (e.g., WAIS-IV) and 5 personality assessments (MMPI-III). Please note that self-report surveys and structured clinical interviews, while useful, do not count towards these instruments.

These are guidelines only and the numbers could vary. We also will consider anticipated hours and work experiences that are not reflected under this category. After the first phase, we then review the applications that remain. Two reviewers review each application and are blind to the ratings of each other. Applications that receive a positive rating from each reviewer are then invited for an interview. Reviewers are looking for the best "fit" with our program and this may include information about practicum sites, essays, and reference letters.

Neuropsychology stream: Most applicants who are offered an interview typically have at minimum: more than 150 neuropsychology practicum hours, 30 written neuropsychological reports, multiple neuropsychology courses, and a strong background in neuropsychological testing as well as proficiency with global intellectual measures (e.g., Wechsler scales). The coordinator initially reviews applications to ensure that they meet minimum criteria. The coordinator and each of the supervisors then review all of the remaining applications. The supervisors make independent judgments about whether an interview should be offered and the applicants with the most support are offered interviews.

It is important to note that for either stream, the selection process is not entirely about hours but more about how the applicants match with our program. Applicants who are a good fit for our program are then invited for a formal interview. Notification of interview follows the CCPPP guideline of the first Friday in December. Please note that with the advent of the National Match Service (NMS) online interview scheduling system, CCPPP has indicated that interview schedule can begin on Notification Day. Applicants invited to interview will receive a link to the NMS Scheduling system on Notification Day and can proceed to book their interview as soon as they have access to the system.

Following the interviews, we rank applicants according to their suitability for our program. This is done by reviewing the objective information in the application (e.g., hours of treatment and assessment), more subjective information from the application (e.g., letters of references and essays), and finally the interview. We generally are looking for applicants who fit well with our program in terms of experience and training goals. We typically offer about 6 interviews for every position available.

3. What is involved in the interview process?

For this year's applicants, we will interview applicants early January 2027. Also, in keeping with CCPPP and APPIC recommendations, all interviews will be conducted virtually using Zoom. Virtual interviews will allow the applicant to talk with the Director of Training, Rotation Coordinators, and a current resident.

Our interview is focused on providing applicants with a good understanding of the Consortium and the opportunities we offer, so there is significant time for applicants to ask questions of the

Rotation Coordinator and Director Team. We will also ask applicants some questions to help us get a sense of their fit with our program. As this is a Generalist program, applicants will interview with all rotation coordinators (or their representative) as part of this process even if they have not directly expressed interest in that specific rotation in their cover letter.

For both the Generalist and Neuropsychology streams, applicants will be able to speak to at least one resident to gain informal information about the residency. We believe it is important for applicants to obtain a resident's view and experience of our program.

4. What about benefits and stipends?

The stipend for the 2027-28 residency year will be $47,655.99 ($23.56/hour) with basic dental and medical benefits. You are given up to 15 days of vacation as well as any statutory holidays observed by AHS and Recovery Alberta. You also have 18 sick days and 5 dissertation days. There are an additional 5 discretionary leave days available for additional educational opportunities (i.e. conferences/workshops) or personal matters, accessed via discussion with the DoT.

The residency includes a number of educational opportunities including a professional seminar series, psychology meetings and in-services, Clinical Rounds, and residency meetings. Rounds occur on a regular basis and include Paediatric Rounds, Psychiatry Rounds, Stroke Rounds, Neurology and Neurosurgery Rounds, Geriatric Rounds, and rounds on specific issues (e.g., Dual Diagnosis Rounds or Substance Use and Abuse). For the Neuropsychology stream resident, valuable training experiences will be gained through participation in Neuropsychology Rounds--the focus of which is typically on case presentations and journal article discussions pertaining to neuropsychological practice. It is expected that the Neuropsychology resident will make at least two formal presentations over the course of the residency.

There is also a Professional Seminar Series which is a didactic weekly clinical seminar series for the residents. It is conducted by psychologists and other invited professionals. The core curriculum includes ethics, standards and practices of psychologists, assessment, treatment, consultation, psychopathology, individual differences, as well as special topics in the practice of psychology. All residents are required to attend this seminar series and it is open to other psychologists within our services.

5. Are there any opportunities for research?

The Edmonton Consortium requires that residents become involved in a small, clinically applied research project over the course of the year (Applied Research and Quality Improvement project or ARQI). We have a research coordinator who is available to help you develop ideas and assist you with design and statistical analyses. Residents propose a small and clinically relevant research project of their own design or can become involved in an ongoing research project. We believe it is important to disseminate research findings and so we have ARQI Day in the later part of the year for the residents to present their studies to the other residents, Psychology staff, relevant stake holders, and other AHS employees. Additional deliverables for this project include

one other form of knowledge translation (i.e. a brief talk with project stakeholders) and a one-page infographic for the Residency Annual Research Newsletter.

6. What will supervision look like?

The Edmonton Consortium is committed to providing high quality supervision and residents are provided with extensive supervision throughout the residency year. All supervisors are licensed to provide psychological and, when appropriate, neuropsychological services within the province of Alberta. Consistent with CPA standards, residents will receive a **minimum** of four hours of supervision a week with three hours being individual supervision. Additional supervision (e.g., monthly clinical case discussion with other residents) will also be provided. For both streams, there may be opportunities to work with psychologists or neuropsychologists other than the primary supervisor(s) associated with a specific rotation on a case-by-case basis. Moreover, although it is the primary responsibility of the Consortium faculty to supervise residents, members of other health disciplines may assist.

In many rotations, a resident will have the opportunity of working with more than one supervisor. We have nearly 35 supervisors across the Consortium. A supervisor may work with you as a co-therapist or view your work through a one-way mirror or review audio or video tapes as well as case discussion.

7. What are the sites like?

Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital (GRH) offers complex rehabilitation care to both adults and children. It provides services to Alberta, as well as the Northwest Territories, Yukon, eastern British Columbia, and western Saskatchewan. Established in 1963, the hospital opened the GlenEast wing in 1964. This wing houses pediatric services, including 65 inpatient beds, rehabilitation services, the Glenrose School Rehabilitation Service, and outpatient services. In 1990 the hospital opened the GlenWest wing with 208 inpatient beds and expanded outpatient facilities. Clinical services are delivered through inpatient programs, follow-up clinics, and outpatient programs. Psychology is involved across the hospital in assessment, treatment, and consultation. There is a focus on interdisciplinary team practice and Psychology is an integral member of these teams. It is located near the centre of the city, just north of downtown.

University of Alberta Hospital (UAH) is a large health care centre serving individuals from Alberta, northern British Columbia, the Yukon, Northwest Territories, and northern Saskatchewan. UAH provides a wide range of diagnostic and treatment services. The hospital has over 650 beds in a variety of services including psychiatry, cardiac sciences, neurosciences, surgery, medicine, renal, transplant services, HIV, critical care, emergency, and trauma care, and state-of-the-art Burn unit. A primary role for Psychology is to help patients improve their psychological and physical health, and assist them in adjusting to, and coping with, illness. Consultation and referrals to other programs and institutions are also provided when necessary. The UAH is also near the centre of the city, south of downtown. It is adjacent to the University of Alberta.

Alberta Hospital Edmonton (AHE) is the largest psychiatric treatment centre in Alberta. It provides comprehensive inpatient and outpatient or community-based mental health care to people from northern Alberta, the Northwest Territories, the Yukon, and part of Nunavut. AHE inpatient services are provided on a peaceful 170-acre site in northeast Edmonton, while community services are primarily located in downtown Edmonton. At the hospital site, Forensic Psychiatry provides diagnostic and therapeutic specialty services to patients. It is located in the far northeast corner of the city.

Some of our **outpatient or community based sites** include College Plaza, an office building near UAH which houses the Recovery Alberta Clinical Psychology Service; the Kaye Edmonton Clinic, an outpatient facility connected to UAH which houses the Chronic Pain clinic and the Neuroscience (Neurology/Neurosurgery) clinic; Forensic and Community Services (FACS); and the Operational Stress Injury (OSI) Clinic, which is located on the north end of the city and provides mental health services to veterans.

8. What is Edmonton like?

Edmonton is a city of approximately 1.1 million people, which increases to approximately 1.5 million in the overall metropolitan area. The city is large and spread over a sizeable area. The North Saskatchewan River runs through the city and we have an outstanding river valley park system, with jogging, biking, and ski trails, running through the city.

Even though Edmonton is one of the most northern residencies in North America, we are also one of the cities with the most hours of sunlight in Canada. The weather does become cold (occasionally very cold) in the winter. However, it is usually sunny and we have long breaks from the cold weather.

Edmonton has large theatre and sports communities and a fairly culturally diverse population. We have a number of festivals, particularly in the summer months, including Jazz City, the Folk Festival, The Fringe (the second largest live theatre festival in the world), Dreamspeakers International Film Festival (a festival featuring Indigenous filmmakers), Heritage Days (a celebration of the diverse cultures making up Edmonton's population - typically featuring more than 50 nations and their cultures), and a number of children's festivals.

As well, we are the home of one of North America’s largest shopping mall, West Edmonton Mall. We have an award-winning science centre (Telus World of Science), a historical park (Fort Edmonton), a large provincial museum, art galleries, conservatories, and so on.

We are situated approximately four hours (460 km or 255 miles) from the Rocky Mountains, and approximately three hours (330 km or 190 miles) from Calgary, another large and beautiful Alberta city.

Alberta itself is an interesting province and we have a number of UNESCO World Heritage Sites including the Canadian Rocky Mountain Parks, Waterton Glacier International Peace Park, Wood Buffalo National Park, Head-Smashed-In-Buffalo-Jump, and Dinosaur Provincial Park.