



Postdoctoral Fellowship in Pediatric Neuropsychology

INSTITUTION & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Division of Behavioral Health at Nemours Children's Hospital, Delaware (NCH-DE; formerly Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children) will be offering one position for a Postdoctoral Fellow in Pediatric Neuropsychology for the 2025-2027 training years. The fellowship is designed to conform to the guidelines developed by Division 40 of the APA and the International Neuropsychological Society (INS), as well as the training model formulated at the Houston Conference. Our goal is to provide advanced training for psychologists specializing in pediatric neuropsychology who plan to go on to earn Board Certification in Clinical Neuropsychology through the American Board of Professional Psychology (ABPP). A firm foundation is provided for those pursuing careers in clinical practice or academic neuropsychology. Most of our graduates have gone on to positions in academic medical centers, with a few transitioning to private practices. Our fellowship program has participated in the Association of Postdoctoral Programs in Clinical Neuropsychology (APPCN) match program as a non-member program for several years. We are not currently an APPCN member program. We have submitted our application for review, and we anticipate participating in the APPCN match in February 2025. We will provide updates to applicants when available.

As one of the nation's leading pediatric health care systems, Nemours Children's Health is a not-for-profit pediatric health system dedicated to life-changing medical care and research, helping kids grow up healthy, advocating for kids nationally, and training tomorrow's pediatric experts. We offer integrated, family-centered care to more than 300,000 children each year in our pediatric hospitals, specialty clinics and primary care practices in Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Florida. Nemours strives to ensure a healthier tomorrow for all children—even those who may never enter our doors—through our world-changing research, education and advocacy efforts. At Nemours, our Associates help us deliver on the promise we make to every family we have the privilege of serving: to treat their child as if they were our own.

We want to acknowledge that we gather to train and care for the community on the traditional land of the Lenni Lenape People past and present, and honor with gratitude the land itself and the people who have stewarded it throughout the generations. Nemours Children's Hospital, Delaware was founded in 1940

through a bequest in the will of Alfred I. duPont, upon whose estate, Nemours, the hospital now stands. Mr. duPont stated in his will that he wanted part of his wealth to be used to "alleviate human suffering," especially that of children and the elderly. Soon after his death, the Nemours Foundation was established to conduct his wishes. Today, NCH-DE is part of the broader, nonprofit Nemours Children's Health system, which provides primary care, urgent care, specialty care, and hospital and ER care in the state of Delaware, the Delaware Valley region, and the state of Florida and surrounding areas. NCH-DE is the only children's hospital in Delaware and draws patients from three additional states (Maryland, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey). As a teaching facility, the hospital is affiliated with Thomas Jefferson University, where all Psychology faculty hold academic appointments. Medical students, residents, and fellows specializing in various fields of pediatrics, as well as nursing and allied health students, also receive training at the hospital. NCH-DE offers a wide array of services for infants, children and adolescents including:

Adolescent Medicine	Otolaryngology (ENT)	Pulmonary Medicine
Neurosurgery	Dentistry	General Pediatric Surgery
Allergy	Physical Medicine &	Rheumatology
Neonatology	Rehabilitation	Genetics
Audiology	Dermatology	Sports Medicine
Neurology	Physical Therapy	Hematology/Oncology
Cardiology	Developmental Pediatrics	Thoracic Surgery
Occupational Therapy	Plastic Surgery	Infectious Disease
Communicative Disorders	Emergency Medicine	Transplant Services
Ophthalmology	Psychiatry	Medical Imaging
Critical Care Medicine	Endocrinology	Urology
Orthopedics	Psychology	Nephrology
Diagnostic Referral Service	Gastroenterology	

The Division of Psychology reports administratively to the Chair of the Department of Pediatrics. We share a close and mutually supportive relationship with Psychiatry, Developmental Medicine, and Pediatrics. All Psychology faculty are employees of the hospital. Psychology fellows are not only valued within the Division of Psychology, but by all medical disciplines within the hospital.

The mission of the Department of Psychology at Nemours is "to improve well-being through quality behavioral health care, education, training, and research in a collaborative, inclusive, and culturally responsive manner." Therefore, our strategic drivers are to:

1. Serve all families with high quality, collaborative care in a welcoming and inclusive environment.
2. Advance and support using scientific knowledge to advocate for and optimize health equity for all families.
3. Develop and sustain an inclusive, representative, and valued workforce connected by lifelong learning and cultural humility.

Our program and the Division of Psychology stand in solidarity with BIPOC communities and BIPOC movements (including, but not limited to Black Lives Matter, Stop AAPI Hate, etc.). Through self-reflection, self-awareness, cultural humility, and intentional action, we strive to live the philosophy of anti-racism, which we view, in the words of Ijeoma Oluo, as "the commitment to fight racism wherever [we] find it, including in [ourselves]." We also stand firmly with our LGBTQIA+ community. As psychologists and community members, we are committed to dismantling systems of oppression and white supremacy. Our program has long operated under the guiding principle that diversity enriches our training programs, our division, our institution, and our community. Therefore, our program and our division have pursued several diversity promotion, recruitment, and training initiatives that aim to:

1. Enhance our trainees' and staff's cultural humility and attention to/participation in diversity, inclusion, and equity efforts.
2. Recruit and retain diverse staff and trainees, to reflect the diversity of the populations we serve and to strengthen our division through the diversification of perspectives and lived experiences; and
3. Foster a welcoming, safe, and inclusive environment that celebrates diversity.

APPLICATION & SELECTION PROCEDURES

Candidates must be on track to complete all doctoral degree and internship requirements by the start of the fellowship. Candidates must be graduates of APA- or CPA-accredited doctoral programs and internships. We have applied for membership in APPCN and hope to participate in the APPCN match in 2025. As such, this site agrees to abide by the APPCN policy that no person at this facility will solicit, accept, or use any ranking-related information from any residency applicant. The deadline for receipt of all application materials to our program is **11:59pm EST on December 15, 2024**. We encourage earlier submissions to avoid any unforeseen obstacles. Applications should be submitted via email to Gregory Witkin, Ph.D., ABPP at greg.witkin@nemours.org. Applications must include:

- 1-2 page cover letter, including a description of career goals
- Curriculum vitae
- 3 letters of recommendation (may be sent directly from letter writers)
- Graduate transcripts (informal acceptable)
- 2 sample deidentified neuropsychological evaluation reports
- Signed Verification of Completion of Doctorate form (downloaded from APPCN)

Interviews will take place after initial screening of applications. Interviews will be conducted in January or February prior to the 2025 INS meeting virtually in line with current recommendations from APPCN.

TRAINING EXPERIENCES

Clinical Experiences

Throughout the fellowship, the fellow will be involved in clinical work through the general outpatient service. We primarily receive referrals from medical providers within the hospital, including the Divisions of Neurology, Neurosurgery, and Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, although referrals may come from other medical specialties, pediatricians, and community providers. The fellow will gain experience with specialty clinics and populations, including Hematology/Oncology, Tuberous Sclerosis Clinic, Concussion Clinic, as well as our CARF-accredited Rehabilitation Program. The fellow will also be involved in our epilepsy surgery service, by conducting pre- and post-surgical evaluations as well as neuropsychological assessments during fMRIs.

The fellow's time will be split between clinical (70%) and didactic experiences (10%), as well as one day per week dedicated to research (20%); the fellow will be assigned a research mentor from within the Division of Behavioral Health). Fellows will receive a minimum of two hours of supervision per week. There is also an opportunity for tiered/umbrella supervision of psychology residents (interns) and externs. The program has an emphasis on professional development that is achieved through teaching, didactic seminars, and interdisciplinary collaboration as well as working toward competence in cross-cultural practice. Nemours, as an enterprise, is committed to the D.R.I.V.E. Strategy (**D**iversity, **A**nti-**R**acism, **I**nclusion, **V**alue, and **E**quity), and the fellow will be involved in a monthly diversity seminar and specific grand rounds in diversity and cultural competence. The decision to continue the Fellowship for a second year is finalized halfway through the first year based upon adequate progress up to that time.

Training opportunities with psychologists outside of the neuropsychology specialization are also available. While focusing primarily on neuropsychology, our trainees interact often with the 10 pediatric psychology postdoctoral fellows from the general Behavioral Health/Psychology Fellowship Program (within which our Neuropsychology Postdoctoral Program is embedded). This not only provides a broad spectrum of training, but it also helps combat the isolation that can happen at smaller training sites.

Seminars and Didactics

Fellows attend weekly didactic seminars which address clinical, research, and professional development topics, and are designed to prepare the fellow for board certification in clinical neuropsychology. Clinical topics include neuroanatomy, the neuropsychological sequelae of common medical disorders, considerations when working with diverse or disadvantaged populations, supervision, review of journal articles, case presentations, and mock fact-finding experiences. Legal and ethical issues are also addressed. In addition, outside speakers present on relevant topics such as common antiepileptic or psychiatric medications, neuropsychological conditions affecting adults, support for transition to adult care, etc. To supplement neuropsychology seminars, the fellow participates in a monthly didactic series with the pediatric psychology fellows. Topics addressed here are diversity and cultural humility, supervision, research, wellness, EPPP preparation, professional development, and advocacy. Issues related to cultural and linguistic diversity are of paramount importance in both the neuropsychology specific and general psychology seminars. Our fellows participate in a monthly diversity experiential group. In addition, there are monthly diversity rounds which target issues of race, culture, and ethnicity and clinical implications.

Teaching and Supervision

Primary clinical supervision for the Fellow is provided by neuropsychologists within the Department of Neuropsychology in the Division of Behavioral Health. Research supervision and selection of a primary mentor for professional development is established just prior to the start of Fellowship, depending on the interests of the Fellow and available research opportunities.

Stipend and Benefits

Stipends and benefits begin the first day of training (typically September 1st, but it may vary slightly due to the weekend and Labor Day holiday). Nemours Children's Hospital, Delaware offers a competitive salary (currently \$62,430 annually). We also include a generous benefits package, including 27 days of paid time off (PTO) annually, which can be used flexibly for vacation, sick leave, job interviews, graduation, and conference travel; subsidized health insurance; six paid holidays; five education days, one day of volunteer time off for an approved activity; and free on-site parking. Other benefits include options for prescription medication coverage; options for dental and vision insurance; retirement annuity programs; employer-paid short-term disability; basic life insurance and A&D; voluntary additional life insurance and/or AD&D; voluntary long-term disability; flexible spending accounts for health, dependent care, and/or transportation; Employee Assistance Program; wellness program; financial education program; and others. Fellows are eligible for five EDU days, as well as a stipend up to \$1700 for conferences, EPPP study materials, and EPPP registration.

The Nemours Child Development Center is the hospital's on-site childcare facility (NAEYC accredited) and provides high-quality childcare, prekindergarten, and kindergarten, as well as before-/after-care, drop-in care, and summer camp. Fellows are welcome to use the hospital's medical library and can join the hospital's Fitness Center for nominal fee. Fellows have access to support personnel, including our GME coordinator, numerous other full-time psychology/psychiatry administrative staff, check-in/check-out billing liaisons, medical assistants, and insurance verification specialists. Support staff aid in scheduling patients, obtaining authorizations, patient check-in/check-out, and other clerical work. There are also personnel to assist with hospital-based research project protocols, statistical consultation for hospital-based projects, poster preparation, and editing and review tasks. Finally, there is computer/technological support available daily, including computerized administration and scoring for many of our testing batteries.

The Division of Behavioral Health is housed in a beautiful, state-of-the-art clinic and office space next to the main NCH-DE hospital building on Rockland Road, which is shared with the Divisions of Psychiatry, Developmental Medicine, and the Swank Autism Center. Fellows share a large office located one floor above the clinic space. Each fellow has their own personal workspace with high-speed internet access, Nemours-issued iPhone and laptop, e-mail account, and voicemail. Computer support training and electronic medical record use are provided. Remote access to the hospital server is also available. The office space also includes a large break room and kitchen, multiple conference rooms, dedicated telehealth rooms with desktop computers, seminar room for didactics, scoring library, lounge seating, lactation room, and private spaces for supervision and other small-group meetings. The clinic area features 54 specially

designed treatment rooms, all of which allow for observation via one-way mirror or iPad technology. Some have internal rooms for time-outs or cool-downs. "Bug in the ear" technology is available for unobtrusive parent coaching during therapy appointments. Other features of the clinic include extensive space and equipment for live supervision and case discussion; convenient workstations for in-clinic documentation; feeding therapy facilities; and multiple waiting areas for patients of different ages and with different sensory needs. Providers in the Divisions of Psychology, Psychiatry, and Developmental Medicine see patients in the same clinic space to promote interdisciplinary collaboration. In addition to the outpatient clinic space, clinical work may also take place in the main hospital building (e.g., on inpatient medical units). For more information, please visit our website at <https://www.nemours.org/education/gme/psychology-programs.html>

DELAWARE & THE SURROUNDING AREA

Explore Wilmington

Nemours Children's Hospital, Delaware is located in Wilmington, DE, about 30 minutes from Center City Philadelphia and an easy drive to Baltimore, the Poconos mountains in Pennsylvania, and the beaches in New Jersey and Delaware. There is much to do in and around the city, including mansion and garden tours, museums, breweries, wineries, fine restaurants and numerous state parks.

Learn More About Delaware:

Greater Wilmington Convention and Visitors Bureau

<https://www.visitwilmingtonde.com/>

Delaware Tourism

<https://www.visitdelaware.com/>

Delaware's Beaches

<https://visitsoutherndelaware.com/>

Explore Philadelphia and the Greater Philadelphia Area

Philadelphia is the sixth largest metropolitan area in the United States and offers a wealth of historical, cultural and recreational opportunities. From world-class museums to its professional sports teams to the colorful, bustling districts of South Street, Chinatown and the Italian Market, Philadelphia has something for everyone.

Learn More About the Philadelphia Area:

Greater Philadelphia Visitor Information

<https://www.visitphilly.com/>

Philly Fun Guide

<https://phillyfunguide.com/>

New Jersey Beaches

<https://visitnj.org/>

Pocono Mountains

<https://www.poconomountains.com/>

MEET THE TEAM



Gregory Witkin, Ph.D., ABPP-CN (*he/him/his*)

*Pediatric Neuropsychologist, Neuropsychology Training Director
Board Certified in Clinical Neuropsychology and Pediatric Neuropsychology
through ABPP/ABCN
Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Sidney Kimmel Medical College of
Thomas Jefferson University*

- **Clinical Interests:** deafness/hearing differences, X&Y chromosome variations, concussion/mild traumatic brain injury (mTBI), neurodevelopmental disorders
- **Training Roles:** Dr. Witkin supervises postdoctoral neuropsychological fellows as well as psychology residents.



Laura Freeman, Ph.D. (*she/her/hers*)

*Clinical Director of Neuropsychology, Pediatric Neuropsychologist
Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Sidney Kimmel Medical College of
Thomas Jefferson University*

- **Clinical Interests:** Epilepsy, candidates for epilepsy surgery, and congenital heart disease. Dr. Freeman volunteers for the Epilepsy Foundation of DE.
- **Training Roles:** Dr. Freeman supervises postdoctoral neuropsychological fellows as well as psychology residents.



Danielle Bosenbark, Ph.D. (*she/her/hers*)

*Pediatric Neuropsychologist
Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Sidney Kimmel Medical College of
Thomas Jefferson University*

- **Clinical Interests:** Cognitive outcomes in spina bifida, NF1, and perinatal and pediatric stroke populations
- **Training Roles:** Dr. Bosenbark supervises graduate level students within the NCH Externship Training Program as well as psychology residents.



Marissa Perrone, Psy.D. (*she/her/hers*)

*Pediatric Neuropsychologist
Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Sidney Kimmel Medical College of
Thomas Jefferson University*

- **Clinical Interests:** Neurocognitive late effects in children treated for cancer, concussion/mild traumatic brain injury (mTBI) recovery, the psychological and neurocognitive impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)
- **Training roles:** Dr. Perrone supervises first- and second-year fellows within the NCH Concussion Clinic and for general outpatient neuropsychological evaluations.