

**Grant Program in School Psychology Internship
Application Form**

Proposed Name of Internship Program: Avondale Elementary School District School Psychology Internship

Affiliated Organization/University: Avondale Elementary School District

Website: www.avondale.k12.az.us/departments/exceptional_student_services_/psychology_internship

Mailing Address:

Street: 295 W. Western Ave.
City: Avondale
State: Arizona
Zip: 85323

Program Director of Training:

Name: Neil Stafford, Psy.D.
Phone: 623-772-4112
Email: nstaffo@avondale.k12.az.us

Person Submitting the Application (if different than Program Training Director):

Name:
Phone:
Email:

Is the current or proposed internship program operated by a nonprofit entity? (This includes governmental agencies.) Yes

If yes, please upload IRS determination letter.
If no, program does not qualify.

Please provide the federal tax identification number: 86-6000500

Number of proposed intern positions (2014-15): 3 Full Time 0 Half Time

Number of additional intern positions that will be created for next year with grant funding (2015-16): 0 Full Time 0 Half Time

Number of licensed Psychologists part of internship program:
3 Full Time 0 Part Time

Description of proposed internship program (max of 250 words):

AESD provides a planned, programmed sequence of training experiences with the primary focus being on assuring breadth and quality of training. The internship is structured to meet Arizona's requirements to become a licensed psychologist and a certified school psychologist. The program consists of 2000 hours of training over a 12-month period with at least 25% in direct service. The program is designed for a school psychology experience. Thus, only students from school psychology doctoral programs should apply.

Interns are exposed to both Special Education and General Education programs. Under supervision of licensed psychologists, interns provide psychoeducational and psychological evaluations, consultation, training, counseling, behavior management, and crisis intervention services. Training assignments are made to assure that each intern has the opportunity to provide assessment and intervention to students with various needs and diagnoses and to serve various age, cultural, socioeconomic, and minority groups. The wide range of diversity among students and staff in the Avondale ESD allows the internship to offer considerable multicultural experiences to interns. Special efforts are also made to provide experience with low incidence disorders.

Is the internship training program completed within 24 months? (12 months for full-time, 10 months for school psychology, or 24 months for part-time) Yes X No _____

Does the internship training program have a designated leader who is a doctoral psychologist, credentialed to practice psychology in the jurisdiction of the program?

Yes X No _____

If yes, please attach a copy of the leader's resume or curriculum vitae.

If no, the program does not qualify.

Does the program inform students of due process procedures before beginning their training? Yes X No _____

Please attach a copy of the due process policy, which should include notice, hearing, and appeal.

Does the program further the understanding of cultural and individual diversity?

Yes X No _____

Please provide information that addresses training in cultural and individual diversity issues and information that demonstrates the program's value of cultural and individual diversity.

Interns gain experience in using varied approaches appropriate for working with students from a wide variety of diverse backgrounds, including differences in race, religion, socioeconomic

status, sexual orientation, disability, national origin, and other cultural areas. Sensitivity to and respect for diversity is emphasized throughout the training program.

AESD is committed to serving the diverse community. Interns are trained regarding evaluations for students with English as a second language. There is a focus on the impacts of poverty, and the impacts of culture on how families approach the educational institution. Interns have multiple opportunities to interact with the community in formal and informal ways to broaden their appreciation for the surrounding diversity.

Does the program provide students with written feedback on their performance at least twice each training year? Yes No

Please provide a copy of the written evaluation form.

Does the program regularly engage in reviews of its goals and objectives?
Yes No

Please identify the goals, objectives and competencies for the training program.

The AESD Internship Program is designed to prepare interns to excel in the provision of psychological services. Building on the professional skills and competencies acquired during graduate school training, interns gain practical experience and increasing independence in a variety of assessment approaches and therapeutic techniques with diverse populations. Training includes a focus on increasing intern awareness, sensitivity, and knowledge about issues impacting racial, ethnic, and economic minorities. In addition, interns may pursue individual interests and research throughout the training year as appropriate.

The AESD Internship Program utilizes the practitioner-scholar model of training. Rather than the production of original research, this model of training emphasizes the development of professional competencies that are based on current research, scholarship, and practice. “Scholar” is defined as a practitioner who is always reading, learning, and developing in order to maintain and/or increase his or her competence in whatever professional roles he or she undertakes. Thus, psychology interns are urged to critically evaluate current theory, research, and practice when approaching their clinical tasks.

The staff and interns within AESD Exceptional Student Services utilize research-based methods of assessment and intervention in their delivery of psychological services in the schools. To assist with this activity, interns have access to what books Exceptional Students Services has purchased, many of which act as a research-based guide to the practice of psychology. Utilization of the internet as a source of scholarly research is also emphasized as being a source of information to integrate into daily practice. Interns are encouraged to read current psychology journals to increase their knowledge and to share the information with other staff members so that the professional growth process is mutual.

Because AESD maintains the philosophy that the welfare of the student is strongly related to his or her interactions with others, AESD Exceptional Student Services provides an emphasis on working with the family and school “systems.” In keeping with this philosophy, specific training opportunities are available in parent education and behavior management consultation with teachers. Maintaining communication with the family is considered crucial to the assessment process and to designing interventions, which will be accepted and applied. Interns are trained to actively obtain thorough developmental and family histories, extensive information from family members, and to provide to the family individualized information regarding assessment outcomes.

Is supervision regularly scheduled to ensure that all full-time interns receive at least 4 hours (including a minimum of 2 hours individually with a licensed psychologist) of face-to-face supervision each week? Yes X No _____

Will interns be given an opportunity to provide feedback to the program?

Yes X No ____

Please provide a copy of the program evaluation form that will be completed by the interns.

Does the program ensure that intern training requirements take precedence over service delivery and revenue generation?

Yes X No___

Please provide clarification how the program meets this goal.

AESD places on emphasis on training. We believe strongly in the value of highly trained individuals providing services. Our former interns and postdoctoral students have become valued members of the full time credentialed staff. Interns are provided with 4 hours per week of supervision as well as 2 hours per week of didactic training. The interns are guided through a focused and planned sequence of training during the year with graduated exposure to responsibility for managing a caseload. The supervisor and intern work closely together to determine the level of responsibility and work the intern is able to manage.

Proposed schedule of seminar topics and presenters for the internship year (with the expectation of a minimum of 2 hours per week). See attached

Does the internship program provide a stipend to all interns? Yes X No___

If a stipend is provided, how much is it? \$25,000 plus benefits

If a stipend is not currently provided, what is the plan for the internship program to assure a stipend once the grant is expended (max of 250 words):

Which of the following does the grant program meet?

1. New internship program Yes X No___

2. Expansion of current number of internship positions Yes___ No X

Budget:

APPIC Membership Application (2015) - \$300

APPIC National Match (2015) - \$240

Supervisor stipend - \$2,000 x 3

APA Self Study - \$2,250

APA Application Fee for Applying for Accreditation Status - \$1,000

Funds may be requested for the following:

APA Accreditation

APPIC Membership Application (\$300)

APPIC National Match (\$240)

Webdomain name (\$55)

Fiscal Sponsorship fee

Other consortium fees and expenses

Supervisor and Consultation fees

APA Application Fee for Applying for Eligibility Status (\$1,000)
APA Application Fee for Applying for Accredited Status (\$1,000)
APA Self Study (\$2,250)
APA Site Visit Fee (\$3,400; 2 visitors)

If funds remain after that time, a request for extension must be sent along with the required update.

The maximum grant award will be \$10,000.

Total amount requested: \$9,790

Details of the funding request/line-item budget (max 100 words per line-item):

1. APPIC Membership Application (2015) - \$300
 - a. This will assist AESD in sustaining membership in APPIC for the 2016-2017 match.
2. APPIC National Match (2015) - \$240
 - a. This will assist AESD in sustaining membership in APPIC for the 2016-2017 match.
3. Supervisor stipend - \$2,000 x 3
 - a. AESD utilizes full time staff to provide supervision. This stipend is to compensate them for their time and efforts beyond their normal duties. It is also to improve the retention of highly qualified licensed supervisors.
4. APA Self Study - \$2,250
 - a. This will assist AESD in submitting their self study. Budgets have become increasing tight in Arizona. This additional funding would allow the district to sustain their current funding towards the primary task of the district.
5. APA Application Fee for Applying for Accreditation Status - \$1,000
 - a. This will assist AESD in submitting their application for accreditation. Budgets have become increasing tight in Arizona. This additional funding would allow the district to sustain their current funding towards the primary task of the district.

Amount Purpose Justification

Describe plans and timeline for meeting CDSPP, APPIC, APA and HSP standards/accreditation, including timeline for submitting self-study (max of 500 words):

Note: It is recognized that CDSPP, APPIC, APA and HSP accreditations will be accomplished in stages over time.

AESD has already been accepted as a member of APPIC, and is participating in the 2014-2015 match. AESD is currently beginning the work of constructing the self-study for submission to APA for accreditation. We believe that we will be able to submit the self-study by December 2015. We are currently seeking out consultation with experienced individuals to support our self-study process. This will include visiting current APA accredited programs.

How will the internship program sustain financial support for the program once the grant period ends? Please be specific (max of 500 words).

The AESD Governing Board has articulated their support for the continuation of the internship program. The internship program has existed continuously since 2007 under the Arizona Psychology Training Consortium. The training program is now an integral part of the AESD plan for students. The stipends for students and supervisors will continue to be funded out of the general AESD budget as it has shown significant value for AESD.

Please provide letters of support for this application from the Affiliated Organization/University and school training sites that include information about sustaining financial support (direct and indirect) for the internship program.

On behalf of the aforementioned internship program, I pledge to spend the requested funds in the manner specified in this application. I further pledge to provide Division 16/CDSPP, when requested, follow-up data on submission of our APPIC and APA accreditation status, number of internship positions, and program developments.

Neil Stafford, Psy.D.
Printed name

12/5/2014
Date