Kennedy Krieger Institute/ Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
Postdoctoral Fellowship in Behavioral Psychology

The Department of Behavioral Psychology at Kennedy Krieger Institute/Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore, Maryland provides assessment and treatment services for a variety of pediatric populations and their families. Our postdoctoral fellowship provides training in empirical research, applied behavior analysis, developmental disabilities, behavioral pediatrics, individual therapy, and/or family therapy, depending on the training track. The philosophy of our postdoctoral fellowship program is to prepare fellows to function independently in a variety of settings, in addition to working as members of multidisciplinary teams providing health-related services to children and their families. Training occurs through supervised experiences in inpatient hospital units and/or outpatient clinics. Fellows completing our program receive training hours towards licensure and are well qualified to enter clinical, medical, or academic settings. All Kennedy Krieger postdoctoral fellows receive their academic appointments through the Department of Pediatrics at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. **The start of the fellowship training year is September 1, 2026.**

Clinics offering one-year fellowships include:

1. Behavior Management Clinic (3 positions)

- Qualified candidates for the Behavior Management Clinic (BMC) fellowship program will have received their **doctoral degrees in School, Counseling, or Clinical Psychology and have successfully completed an APA-accredited internship program, in addition to having experience providing empirically supported interventions to young children.**
- The Behavior Management Clinic provides outpatient treatment to families and children from 12 months through 12 years of age who present with externalizing and internalizing disorders (e.g., ADHD, disruptive behavior disorders, anxiety disorders, habit disorders, tics, depression, aggression, tantrums, social skills deficits, toileting concerns, sleep difficulties, selective mutism, and school-related issues) and varying functioning levels, including typically-developing children and children with mild cognitive, speech, and/or motor delays.
- Trainees receive advanced training in empirically supported treatments such as Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA), family-based behavioral therapy, behavioral parent training (e.g., Parent Child Interaction Therapy [PCIT]), Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy (CBT), and habit-reversal therapy based on patient needs. Fellows conduct initial evaluations that include clinical interviews, parent questionnaires, and structured observations intended to determine the context and function of challenging behaviors and/or baseline parenting skills and child behaviors. Information gathered through the assessment process informs collaborative development of an individualized treatment plan designed to reduce challenging behaviors and to increase adaptive skills. Ongoing data collection is integral to the treatment approach to guide treatment direction and to verify outcomes. BMC draws

heavily from behavioral/cognitive behavioral approaches to assessment and treatment, with treatment modality dictated by presenting concerns.

- BMC fellows can individualize their training experience depending on their specific goals. Please visit our website for additional details on these experiences. Possible individualizations may include the following:
    - PCIT Certification
    - Providing Care to Military-Connected Families
    - Pediatric Anxiety Specialization
    - Parent or Child Group Therapy
    - Brief ADHD Diagnostic Evaluation
    - Brief Treatment of Common Childhood Problems
    - Supervision
    - Community Outreach
    - Clinical Outcomes Research

2. Brief Treatment Clinic (4 positions)

- Qualified candidates for the Brief Treatment Clinic fellowship program will have **received their doctoral degrees in school or clinical psychology and have successfully completed an APA-accredited internship program. Additional experience with functional assessment, pediatric behavior therapy, and/or applied behavior analysis is required for consideration.**
- The Brief Treatment Clinic (BTC) provides intensive training in clinical behavior analysis for children and adolescents through an outpatient continuum of care. Fellows in the Brief Treatment Clinic will receive training in the provision of time limited, high dosage behavior therapy through the clinic's Intensive, Day Treatment, and follow- up programs. This continuum of care serves children and families with a wide range of behavior concerns associated with diagnoses including, but not limited to, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), oppositional defiant disorder (ODD), disruptive behavior disorders, anxiety disorders, habit disorders, tics, fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASD), and rare genetic disorders. Fellows will have opportunities to develop areas of clinical specialization within one or several of these areas.
- Fellows receive advanced training in empirically supported treatments including behavioral parent training, Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy (CBT), and Habit-Reversal Therapy (HRT) through a clinical ABA framework. Opportunities to participate in community outreach by providing presentations/trainings exist throughout the training year. Some mentoring and supervisory opportunities exist through involvement with undergraduate and graduate-level research assistants. Opportunities for participation in the clinic's active applied research program also exist, with previous fellows presenting their work at local and national conferences.

- Use of data-based decision making, empirically supported interventions using single case design, and behavioral skills training with caregivers are core features of intervention within the clinic. Fellows will learn to utilize functional interviewing and functional analysis in their case conceptualization and will gain experience in graphing and interpreting data to provide performance feedback to families. Fellows can expect to gain experience working within interdisciplinary and/or multidisciplinary teams as the BTC has active collaborations with several departments and centers at the Institute.
- Brief Treatment Clinic fellows will be provided opportunities to individualize their experience over the course of their fellowship year. Please visit our website for additional details. Specific opportunities within this fellowship track include:
    - Supervising psychologists are board-certified behavior analysts, and postdoctoral fellows in the Brief Treatment Clinic are offered clinical and training opportunities to obtain BCBA supervision during their fellowship year.
    - Fellows are offered opportunities to participate in regional and national conferences throughout the year by providing presentations of posters and symposia of applied research that are conducted in the clinic.
    - Fellows can participate in trainings provided to KKI/Johns Hopkins clinics and departments as well as community providers (i.e. schools, parent/professional groups, etc.).
    - Fellows can develop individualized areas of clinical specialization (e.g., disruptive impulse control and conduct disorders, ADHD, habit and tic disorders, obsessive compulsive disorders, and/or rare genetic disorders) with opportunities to receive targeted referrals from subspecialty clinics or programs at KKI.
    - Fellows can engage in research projects leading to possible co-authorship of manuscripts resulting from ongoing applied research conducted in the Brief Treatment Clinic.
    - Opportunities may exist to provide supervision/mentorship for doctoral interns, externs, and research assistants.
- Minor Rotation Option (1 position):
    - Pediatric Feeding Disorders Clinic

3. Child and Family Therapy Clinic (8 positions)

- Qualified candidates for the Child & Family Therapy (CFT) Clinic Fellowship will have **completed an APA-accredited internship with an emphasis in pediatric psychology, family therapy, or child clinical psychology.**
- The Child and Family Therapy (CFT) Clinic at Kennedy Krieger provides a postdoctoral fellowship with training focused on the diagnosis and treatment of a wide variety of individual and family related treatment goals. These presenting concerns include, but are not limited to: anxiety disorders, depressive disorders, fears, phobias, panic, Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and impulse-control/executive functioning difficulties, tic disorders, anger-management/aggression, parent-child conflicts, parent-teen communication difficulties, school-related difficulties, adjustment-related concerns, stress management, emotion-regulation difficulties, self-harm, suicidal ideation, poor coping, identity development and family transition

concerns. Families may also present with unique stressors that include divorce/separation, bullying, peer conflict, military deployment, transition to a new environment, or lack of social support. The clinic serves patients between the ages of 5 and 25 years old and their families.

- CFT postdoctoral fellows enhance their competency and confidence conducting therapy with youth and their families by utilizing evidence-based theoretical approaches, including Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT), Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT), Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT), and Functional Family Therapy (FFT). They further develop their conceptualization skills while utilizing a family therapy framework. CFT postdoctoral fellows will also receive training in Cognitive Behavioral Intervention for Tics (CBIT).
- CFT Postdoctoral Fellows receive training in the following areas. Please visit the website for additional details.
    - Providing individual and family therapy to patients and members of their family system
    - Conducting group therapy with patients and their families. Current group opportunities include:
        - Dialectical Behavior Therapy skills groups
        - Cognitive Behavioral Therapy groups focused on interpersonal effectiveness (social skills)
        - Cognitive Behavioral Therapy groups focused on anxiety
        - Executive Functioning Groups
        - Parent Management Groups for disruptive behavior
        - Process groups to address the impact of COVID
        - Support Groups for LGBTQIA+ youth
    - Attending weekly individual and group supervision to obtain support, guidance, and collaboration in clinical and professional development areas
    - Collaborating with other professionals at Kennedy Krieger and other members of the patient's health and wellness team
    - Obtaining advanced training in Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT), Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT), Functional Family Therapy (FFT), Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT)
    - Receiving training in Comprehensive Behavioral Intervention for Tics (CBIT)
    - Receiving training and experience working with military families
    - Presenting within the clinic and providing community outreach to schools, focus groups, parent groups, pediatricians, and other outside agencies
    - Developing an emerging leadership role within a large multi-tiered outpatient clinic

4. Neurobehavioral Inpatient Unit (2 positions, primarily research focused)

- Qualified applicants must have a **doctorate in psychology from an APA-accredited program or a doctorate in Applied Behavior Analysis, in addition to having experience with research.**
- The mission of the Neurobehavioral Behavioral Unit (NBU) is to fully integrate clinical service, research, training, and advocacy to achieve the best possible outcomes with the patients we serve, and to benefit the broader community of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities who have co-occurring severe behavior disorders.
- Faculty work with postdoctoral research fellows to develop an individualized training experience based on their specific training goals and previous experiences. Training opportunities include a range of activities including participation in ongoing clinical and translational grant-funded research, grant writing, data analysis, manuscript preparation, development and execution of clinical and research protocols. Although these research projects are largely behavior analytic,

our faculty direct and support KKI's Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Research Center (IDDRC) behavior core leading to collaborations with colleagues in other disciplines, including neurology and genetics. Fellows are encouraged to attend and/or present research data at local and national conferences.

- Fellows also have the opportunity to participate in a range of training experiences including clinical services, supervision, administrative activities, and community advocacy and education that are representative of the mission of the Neurobehavioral Programs. Please see our website for additional details.

5. Neurobehavioral Unit Outpatient Program (4 positions)

- Qualified applicants must have a **doctorate in psychology from an APA-accredited program or a doctorate in Applied Behavior Analysis, in addition to having experience with individuals with intellectual disability and severe behavior disorders.**
- The Neurobehavioral Unit Outpatient Program (NBU-OP) offers assessment and treatment services to children, adolescents, and adults with intellectual/developmental disabilities who display severe challenging behavior such as self-injury, aggression, property destruction, pica, and elopement. Our continuum of care includes day treatment, intensive outpatient, follow-up, and consultation services. Our mission is to provide clinical care, conduct research, provide specialized training, and to advocate for people with severe challenging behavior and their families. NBU-OP utilizes a data-driven approach to assessment and treatment based on an evidence-based model informed by the principles of applied behavior analysis. Each client participates in a series of intensive assessments, including functional analyses and reinforcer assessments. Based on assessment results, individualized behavioral interventions are developed and systematically evaluated to determine their effectiveness in decreasing severe challenging behavior and increasing appropriate replacement behavior. Critical components of our treatment approach are collaboration with the client's family and service providers, and provision of education and training.
- Postdoctoral fellows have the opportunity to participate in a range of training experiences including clinical services, research, supervision, administrative activities, and community advocacy and education that are representative of the mission of the Neurobehavioral Programs. Please see our website for more details. Specific opportunities within this fellowship track may include:
    - Conducting behavioral assessments, treatment evaluations, and caregiver training
    - Providing education and training to parents and providers
    - Providing services in home, school, and community settings
    - Assisting with clinical case supervision
    - Consulting and collaborating with KKI Psychiatry and other professionals
    - Participating in weekly peer review, journal club, and staff training meetings
    - Developing and implementing clinically relevant research protocols and participating in ongoing research studies
    - Attending and/or presenting research data at local and national conferences
    - Receiving licensed supervision and/or BCBA supervision
    - Training, supervising, and mentoring practicum students, interns, and clinical staff
    - Participating in evaluation of clients referred to the NBU Inpatient/Outpatient Programs
    - Collaborating with Kennedy Krieger and community-based advocacy groups
    - Consulting with schools, local agencies, and residential programs

6. Pediatric Developmental Disabilities Clinic (5 positions)

- Qualified candidates for the Pediatric Developmental Disabilities Clinic (PDD) fellowship program will have received their **doctoral degrees in School, Counseling, or Clinical Psychology and have successfully completed an APA-accredited internship program, in addition to having experience working with children with neurodevelopmental disorders.**
- The goal of the fellowship in the Pediatric Developmental Disabilities (PDD) Clinic is to enhance training for future psychologists in behavioral assessment and intervention for toddlers, children, and adolescents with diagnosed or suspected neurodevelopmental disorders who also have challenging behaviors. Fellows will receive training in behavioral assessment and intervention via didactic instruction and supervised and independent practice. Fellows will develop a broad array of relevant clinical skills which will prepare them to apply for jobs within the field of neurodevelopmental disorders.
- Clinical Experiences in PDD Clinic:
    - Externalizing behavior challenges: Common target behaviors include tantrums, aggression, elopement, toileting skills deficits, and sleep concerns. Primary intervention is provided through behavioral parent training to implement interventions in the home and community.
    - Anxiety and internalizing behaviors: Internalizing disorders occur frequently in our patient population. Fellows will learn to use interventions, such as modified CBT, elements of the SPACE program (i.e., decreasing parental accommodation), and components of ACT when working with anxious youth and parents.
    - Group skills therapy:
        - Social skills and flexibility training.
        - Sports-based social skills
        - Arts and crafts social skills
    - Interdisciplinary activities
    - Community outreach activities
- Fellows will have a full year of training in the Pediatric Developmental Disabilities Clinic. They will also have the option of participating in a minor rotation described below to further individualize their training specialization. Positions in each minor rotation are limited and will be determined by candidate interests, availability, and training background. One day per week will be devoted to activities in minor rotations. Please see our website for additional details.
- Minor Rotation Options (1 day per week for two 4-month rotations or one 8-month rotation):
    - Assessment/Treatment of Feeding Disorders: Behavioral Psychology Department - Feeding Clinic (8-month rotation)
    - ADOS training - Center for Autism Services, Science and Innovation (CASSI) (4-month rotation)
    - Development and Early Learning (DEL) Clinic (4-month rotation)
    - Caregiver Stress Management: Notice, Empower, Shift, and Transform (NEST) (4-month or 8-month rotation)

7. Pediatric Feeding Disorders (2 positions)

- Qualified applicants must have a **doctorate in psychology from an APA-accredited program or a doctorate in Applied Behavior Analysis.**
- There is a strong emphasis on gaining experience with different levels of feeding services and with interdisciplinary collaboration. The medical and behavioral diagnoses of children referred to the program's continuum vary widely, including children whose mealtime behavior is a result

of one or more environmental, anatomical, and physiological variables. Goals commonly targeted during treatment include increasing the variety of foods accepted, increasing the volume consumed, decreasing tube feeding dependence, advancing food textures, increasing mealtime independence, improving feeding skills, and reducing inappropriate mealtime behavior. Please see our website for additional details.

- Post-doctoral fellows are strongly encouraged to contribute to program development through involvement with ongoing or independent research and/or clinical program evaluation.
- Services are provided along a continuum of care including interdisciplinary intake evaluations, outpatient services, and intensive services (daily outpatient, day treatment, and inpatient).
    - Conducting Interdisciplinary Intake Evaluations one to two afternoons per week to diagnose feeding disorders and provide service recommendations in collaboration with an interdisciplinary team.
    - The Pediatric Feeding Disorders Outpatient Services offers the opportunity for post-doctoral fellows to assess and treat children with less severe feeding issues in an outpatient setting. Caregivers are trained to implement specific strategies to address the feeding-related concerns.
    - The Pediatric Feeding Disorders Intensive Services offers the opportunity for post-doctoral fellows to clinically manage intensive cases by providing supervision and oversight of one or more patients within an intensive program spanning several weeks. Specifically, the post-doctoral fellow will initially serve as a co-supervisor (along with faculty) of intensive cases with the expectation that the post-doctoral fellow will supervise more independently as they gain experience and confidence in the role of supervisor. The fellow will assume the clinical responsibility for team collaboration with interdisciplinary team members and caregivers throughout the intensive admission.
- Minor Rotation Options:
    - Pediatric Developmental Disabilities Clinic (1 day per week)
    - Brief Treatment Clinic (up to 3 intensive cases)

8. Pediatric Psychology Clinic and Consultation Service (2 positions)

- Successful applicants must have **completed an APA-accredited internship with an emphasis in pediatric psychology.**
- Postdoctoral fellows will gain experience with inpatient consultation and liaison services, staffing interdisciplinary medical clinics, and providing outpatient pediatric psychology care. For more details, please see our website.
- Primary components of this training position include:
    - Providing pediatric psychology services in at least 2 multidisciplinary medical clinics. Based on the fellow's interest, clinic options could include Limb Differences Clinic, Sleep Clinic (Pulmonary or Neurology), Diabetes Clinic, Angelman Syndrome Clinic, Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome (POTS) Clinic, Genetic Bone and Connective Tissue Disorders Clinic, Fit & Healthy Kids Clinic, Rehabilitation Clinic, or Concussion Clinic. Additional opportunities in Long-COVID Rehabilitation Clinic or Neurodevelopmental Sickle Cell Disease Clinic may be available. Clinic rotations could be a full year or for 6 months, based on fellow interest.
    - Providing inpatient consultation-liaison services to Johns Hopkins Hospital pediatric (acute medical) floors, assisting faculty psychologists with administrative duties, and scaffolded supervision of psychology doctoral interns in this setting.

- Providing outpatient therapy services in the Pediatric Psychology Outpatient Clinic to pediatric patients presenting with a variety of medically based referrals, including children with neurodevelopmental disabilities and co-occurring medical concerns. Common referrals include desensitization and preparation for medical procedures, coping with new diagnoses, improving regimen adherence and disease self-management (i.e., POTS, diabetes), behavioral sleep management, mental health conditions (i.e., depression, anxiety) impacting medical conditions, and supporting functional gains in child and adolescent rehabilitation patients. Fellows will have the option of seeing outpatients only at the main hospital campus in Baltimore or also at a satellite clinic in Columbia, Maryland (located between Baltimore and Washington DC), based on their preference. Opportunities for outpatient caseload specialization in POTS, rehabilitation, neurodevelopmental disorders with co-occurring medical concerns, and/or sleep may be available, pending fellow interest.
- Developing an emerging leadership role in an assigned pediatric subspecialty clinic (e.g., coordination of psychology services & referrals, consultation regarding inpatient admissions, liaison to medical providers and interdisciplinary team, administrative duties, mentoring of psychology doctoral interns).

- Secondary components of this training position include:
  - Assisting with the training of doctoral interns (e.g., didactic presentations, scaffolded supervision, peer supervision, participation in group rounds).
  - Receiving in-depth supervision experiences twice per year in the outpatient setting the context of onboarding doctoral interns (i.e., case preparation, co-staffing appointments, providing clinical feedback to intern, providing written feedback on intern documentation, receiving structured feedback from interns and supervisor on supervisory experience).
- Opportunities for individualization of the postdoctoral training year include:
  - Opting for a pediatric psychology focus vs. a pediatric rehabilitation focus
  - Choice of interdisciplinary clinics for staffing
  - Choice of spending a full year in chosen interdisciplinary clinics to support specialization or option of spending 6 months in a larger variety of interdisciplinary clinics to support a breadth of experience
  - Option for outpatient caseload specialization
  - Option for seeing outpatients at our main hospital campus or also at our satellite, suburban location
  - Providing inpatient consultation-liaison services to the Kennedy Krieger Institute pediatric neurorehabilitation unit and assisting faculty psychologists with administrative duties and mentoring of psychology doctoral interns in this setting.

- Training in and subsequently co-facilitating the Comfort Ability Program, a CBT-based workshop for youth with chronic pain and/or functional symptoms and their caregivers.
- Participating in current pediatric psychology research projects
- Opportunity for structured experience with the administrative aspects of running an inpatient C/L service

Salary and Benefits

- Annual salary: $63, 480
  - The salary for first-year fellows will be updated annually based on hospital guidelines.
- Benefits include:
  - 14 days paid time off (PTO)
  - 5 Professional Days
  - 9 Institute Holidays & 1 School of Medicine Holiday
  - Individual Health Insurance, Vision Insurance, and Dental Insurance provided at no cost to the postdoctoral fellow
  - 401k retirement benefits
  - Free parking
  - Support for attendance at a professional conference

Application Instructions:

Applications are due December 15, 2026, although we encourage applicants to apply earlier as applications are reviewed as they are received. Applications will be submitted through the **APPA CAS** portal, and materials include:

- Cover letter
- CV
- 3 letters of reference
- Degree verification form: Verification of Completion letter
- Original transcript

You are welcome to apply to more than one clinic, but please specify your preference in your cover letter.

Interviews will take place virtually in December and January and offers will be extended in late January. **We will be following the APPIC Common Hold Date guidelines.**

Please contact Dr. Valerie Paasch (Director of Postdoctoral Fellowship Training) at psychology@kennedykrieger.org with questions.