

# WISCONSIN

## DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS



APA-Accredited Doctoral Internship  
in Health Service Psychology

Brochure

(Revised – 8/29/2025)

## Table of Contents

Summary .....	3
Internship Admissions, Support, and Initial Placement Data .....	4
Program Disclosures .....	4
Internship Program Admissions.....	5
Financial and Other Benefit Support for Upcoming Training Year* .....	6
Initial Post-Internship Positions.....	6
What Is the Department of Corrections?.....	7
How Are Psychological Services Provided?.....	7
How Are Psychological Services Units Staffed?.....	7
How Is The Internship Administered?.....	7
What Is the History of the Wisconsin Department of Corrections Internship? .....	8
What Are the Goals and Philosophy of the Doctoral Internship in Health Service Psychology?.....	8
How Is the Internship Structured? .....	8
Map of the Three Hubs .....	9
Site-Specific Experiences .....	10
Who Supervises Interns? .....	11
What Is Supervision Like?.....	12
With Whom Do Interns Work?.....	12
What Is the Training Program Like? .....	13
Scholarly Seminars .....	13
Examples of Previous Didactic Training .....	13
Internship Applicant Requirements .....	14
How to Apply: .....	14
Accreditation Status.....	15
Notes .....	15
Appendix A: HIPAA Safe Harbor guidelines.....	16

## Summary

**WEBSITE:** <https://doc.wi.gov>

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:** November 14, 2025

**INTERVIEW NOTIFICATION DATE:** November 28, 2024

**START DATE:** 09/08/2026

**END DATE:** 08/20/2027

**ACCREDITATION:** Accredited through 2028.

**STIPEND:** Up to \$50,000 plus reimbursement of up to 51¢ per mile for some travel.

**TRAINING MODEL:** *Practitioner-Scholar*

**HOW TO APPLY:** The *standard AAPI application* (<https://www.appic.org/Internships/AAPI>), which includes:

- Information about your prior training,
- A copy of your curriculum vitae,
- An official copy of current doctoral transcript(s),
- Three letters of reference from individuals familiar with your doctoral experience (same for most programs), and
- The four essays.

Supplementary material required:

An Integrated Psychological Evaluation Report de-identified to HIPAA Safe Harbor guidelines: see Appendix A: HIPAA Safe Harbor guidelines.

**NOTE:** Refer to the definition of an integrated report at <https://www.appic.org/Internships/AAPI/Integrated-Report>. We *prefer* an integrated personality assessment utilizing major test instruments (e.g., MMPI-2, PAI, Rorschach, WAIS-IV) over a neuropsychological evaluation, and strongly prefer either of those over a report using only survey or screening instruments (e.g., BDI, STAXI, TSI).

**HUBS:** Our APPIC *program code* is 1635, but our Internship has 2 separate Match Codes.

**MATCH CODES:** (*Milwaukee-163512; Oshkosh-163513*) If you have any questions about the Internship Program or the application procedures, please feel free to email the internship director at [James.Besson@Wisconsin.gov](mailto:James.Besson@Wisconsin.gov).

**POST-DOCTORAL POSITIONS:** The Department of Corrections has no formal Post-Doctoral program, but since 2010 more than half of our past interns went on to become employees of the Wisconsin Department of Corrections in the year after internship. Many former interns complete their post-doctoral hours, apply for licensure, and build a career with us, while others obtain formal post-doctoral fellowships elsewhere, return to their home states, the Federal Bureau of Prisons, or the Veteran's Administration to practice psychology.



### **Wisconsin Prison System Population At-A-Glance**

- Average age is 40 for males and 39 for females
- 42% of men and 21% of women identify as Black, and 11% of men and 8% of women identify as Hispanic or Latino
- 42% of men and 91% of women have a mental health condition. Of those, 7% of males and 25% of females have a serious mental health condition.
- 72% of men and 79% of women report they have completed high school (or equivalency) or have completed some post-secondary education
- More information is available here: <https://doc.wi.gov/DataResearch/DataAndReports/DAAAtAGlance.pdf>

## Internship Admissions, Support, and Initial Placement Data<sup>1</sup>

### PROGRAM DISCLOSURES

As articulated in Standard I.B.2, programs may have “admission and employment policies that directly relate to affiliation or purpose” that may be faith-based or secular in nature. However, such policies and practices must be disclosed to the public. Therefore, programs are asked to respond to the following question.

Does the program or institution require students, trainees, and/or staff (faculty) to comply with specific policies or practices related to the institution’s affiliation or purpose? Such policies or practices may include, but are not limited to, admissions, hiring, retention policies, and/or requirements for completion that express mission and values.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If yes, provide website link (or content from brochure) where this specific information is presented  N/A	

---

<sup>1</sup> This section is designed to meet requirements of Implementing Regulation C-27 I that the information is presented in a standardized format.

**INTERNSHIP PROGRAM ADMISSIONS**

**Date Program Tables are updated: 08/01/2024**

**Briefly describe in narrative form important information to assist potential applicants in assessing their likely fit with your program. This description must be consistent with the program’s policies on intern selection and practicum and academic preparation requirements:**

Although this internship takes place in a correctional setting, we select experiences that provide interns with general clinical training experiences. The interns have the opportunity to provide services to male and female correctional clients in both community and institutional placements. The internship serves adults. Interns work with persons in our care who have a wide range of mental health disorders. The focus is on providing a "clinical" rather than only a "correctional" internship experience. Each intern is assigned two to four primary rotations based on availability and the intern's interests and needs (i.e., two rotations at any one time). One rotation may be for the entire year, while the others are for six months each. One day of the week, interns meet in-person or virtually for training seminars, group supervision, and collegial interaction. The internship provides a range of experiences in basic clinical practice with a diverse population including assessment, individual and group psychotherapy, crisis intervention, and consultation with other staff.

**Does the program require that applicants have received a minimum number of hours of the following at time of application? If Yes, indicate how many:**

Total Direct Contact Intervention Hours	<b>Yes X</b>	No	Amount: 300
Total Direct Contact Assessment Hours	<b>Yes X</b>	No	Amount: 100

We understand that some applicants may have difficulty meeting the minimum requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic. If you do not have the minimum number of intervention or assessment hours, you can provide further explanation in the completed AAPI.

**Describe any other required minimum criteria used to screen applicants:**

- We only accept applicants from APA or CPA Accredited Clinical or Counseling programs.
- Interns are Limited Term Employees (LTE's) of the State of Wisconsin and must pass a comprehensive criminal background check that is completed in early August as part of the final hiring process.
- Classroom training and experience scoring and interpreting Wechsler intelligence tests and either the MMPI, PAI, or both.
- An Integrated Psychological Evaluation Report de-identified to HIPAA Safe Harbor guidelines. See Appendix A: HIPAA Safe Harbor guidelines.
- Comprehensive exams passed by ranking deadline.
- Prefer dissertation proposal approved by ranking deadline

**FINANCIAL AND OTHER BENEFIT SUPPORT FOR UPCOMING TRAINING YEAR\***

Annual Stipend/Salary for Full-time Interns	\$50,000	
Annual Stipend/Salary for Half-time Interns	N/A	
Program provides access to medical insurance for intern?	Yes	<b>No X</b>
<b>If access to medical insurance is provided: N/A</b>		
Trainee contribution to cost required?	N/A	N/A
Coverage of family member(s) available?	Yes	<b>No X</b>
Coverage of legally married partner available?	Yes	<b>No X</b>
Coverage of domestic partner available?	Yes	<b>No X</b>
Hours of Annual Paid Personal Time Off (PTO and/or Vacation)	0	
Hours of Annual Paid Sick Leave	0	
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?	<b>Yes X</b>	No
Other Benefits (please describe): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 leave days &amp; 9 state holidays (unpaid).</li> <li>• Free DOC-sponsored training sessions.</li> <li>• Travel between primary work site to other sites is reimbursable at current rate of up to 51 cents per mile. (Madison interns receive lower, turn-down rate due to proximity to Central Office).</li> <li>• Interns are eligible for State of Wisconsin Employee Assistance Program (EAP) benefits.</li> </ul>		

\*Note. Programs are not required by the Commission on Accreditation to provide all benefits listed in this table

**INITIAL POST-INTERNSHIP POSITIONS**

(Provide an Aggregated Tally for the Preceding 3 Cohorts)

	<b>2022-2025</b>	
Total # of interns who were in the 3 cohorts	30	
Total # of interns who did not seek employment because they returned to their doctoral program/are completing doctoral degree	0	
	<b>PD</b>	<b>EP</b>
Academic Teaching	0	0
Community Mental Health Center	0	1
Consortium	0	0
University Counseling Center	0	0
Hospital/Medical Center	0	0
Veterans Affairs Health Care System	0	0
Psychiatric Facility	4	0
Correctional Facility	1	18
Health Maintenance Organization	0	0
School District/System	0	0
Independent Practice Setting	1	5
Other	0	0

Note: “PD” = Post-doctoral residency position; “EP” = Employed Position. Each individual represented in this table should be counted only one time. For former trainees working in more than one setting, select the setting that represents their primary position.

## **What Is the Department of Corrections?**

The Wisconsin Department of Corrections manages almost 85,000 adult and juvenile offenders incarcerated either in institutions or under community supervision. The Department consists of three major divisions:

- Division of Adult Institutions (DAI): census of over 21,000 individuals housed in over 30 correctional facilities throughout the state;
- Division of Community Corrections (DCC): about 64,000 individuals on parole, probation, and extended supervision; and
- Division of Juvenile Corrections (DJC): about 80 youth in juvenile correctional facilities, around 110 on community supervision [not part of this internship.]

The Wisconsin Department of Corrections Internship in Health Services Psychology serves adult offenders and inmates in the DAI and the DCC. For more information about the DOC, see <https://doc.wi.gov>

## **How Are Psychological Services Provided?**

Psychological Services Units (PSUs) within each institution or community corrections region consist of one or more licensed psychologists and other mental health professionals (e.g., master’s level practitioners) who provide direct services to persons in our care. Services include assessment, psycho-educational groups, individual and group psychotherapy, crisis intervention, and consultation services to other Department of Corrections staff. Psychological Services staff also conduct research and program evaluation, supervise psychology interns and practicum students, and conduct in-service training with departmental staff members. In the Department of Adult Institutions (DAI), each institution PSU is managed by a licensed Psychologist Supervisor who is part of the multidisciplinary leadership team for the institution. Clinical and administrative oversight of all PSUs is provided by the mental health leadership team within the Bureau of Health Services (BHS), including the BHS Psychology Director and regional Assistant Psychology Directors. In the Department of Community Corrections (DCC), regional Chief Psychologists provide services within a specific geographical area of the state and work in collaboration with Community Corrections Regional Leadership with administrative oversight provided by the DCC Psychologist Manager.

## **How Are Psychological Services Units Staffed?**

Psychological Services consists of over 100 full and part-time doctoral level, licensed or license-eligible psychologists, doctoral candidates, and masters-level practitioners. There are also psychological service assistants and associates who provide limited services under supervision of a licensed psychologist.

## **How Is The Internship Administered?**

Psychological Services and the internship are administered by the Bureau of Health Services (BHS), which is directed by Jessica Gross, DNP, RN. Dr. Marlena Larson is the Psychology Director. The Internship Core Committee consists of 5-6 psychologists supplemented by up to 30 other psychologists who serve as on-site supervisors. The committee meets quarterly to conduct intern progress reviews and other business. The Psychology Internship Director, Dr. James Besson, leads committee operations. The Internship Core Committee maintains frequent phone and email contact, addresses administrative matters, interviews and selects interns, monitors their progress throughout the year, reviews accumulated data, and monitors the program’s effectiveness.

## **What Is the History of the Wisconsin Department of Corrections Internship?**

The Wisconsin Department of Corrections' first internship in professional psychology began in 1969, received full APA accreditation in 1977, and started a brief hiatus in 1988 due to an unusual budget situation. In 1994, it restarted, obtained APPIC listing in 1995, and received full APA accreditation in 2007. In 2013, it received a five year re-accreditation. After our most recent site visit (April 2018), we were reaccredited for ten years (until 2028).

## **What Are the Goals and Philosophy of the Doctoral Internship in Health Service Psychology?**

Our doctoral internship program, which is based on a practitioner-scholar training model, helps the intern develop personally and professionally, and function autonomously and competently in diverse clinical settings. Interns gain experience with a broad range of supervised psychological practices and formal didactic trainings that help them attain competence in *1) Research, 2) Ethical and Legal Standards, 3) Individual and Cultural Diversity, 4) Professional Values and Attitudes, 5) Communication and Interpersonal Skills, 6) Assessment, 7) Intervention, 8) Supervision, and 9) Consultation and Interdisciplinary Skills.*

A significant portion of the intern's development evolves from his or her experiences and relationships with staff. Supervisors help interns cope with the process of identification, assimilation, and integration, through which they develop professional values, attitudes, and behaviors; expand communication and interpersonal skills; and confront real world ethical and legal dilemmas. Through close associations with our staff, interns develop a sense of involvement and belonging in the larger community of psychologists.

The large number of psychologists, psychiatrists, social workers, and other staff with whom the interns interact provides a rich variety of role models. These staff members range widely in age, clinical experiences, theoretical orientation, ethnic/cultural identity, and professional activities. Some staff members teach at colleges and universities, consult with other agencies, supervise psychology practicum students, engage in the private practice of clinical psychology, and hold offices in professional associations. A small number of the regular staff conducts ongoing research, usually on topics relevant to the correctional population.

Since some interns have not yet completed their dissertation research, our staff has a responsibility to encourage them in the process of earning their doctoral degrees. Interns may consult with our clinical staff in the planning and implementation of their research and in their data analysis. Interns may spend a small portion of their work time in dissertation research.

## **How Is the Internship Structured?**

Our internship program is unusual in that placements draw on the facilities, clinical population, and Psychological Services Unit (PSU) staff available in multiple correctional institutions and community field offices. There are three hubs or home bases located in Madison, Milwaukee, and the Oshkosh-Appleton area (see next page).

Interns typically select to up to four different site placements during the year (two per six-month period), giving them experience in working with males and/or females, and young adults to elderly adults. They work in institutional settings of varying degrees of security (i.e., minimum, medium, and maximum) and in the community. One (or both) rotation(s) may extend for a full year in one location. An intern will spend four days a week at clinical placements, usually two days at each of two sites. Throughout the year, interns meet either meet in-person in Madison or virtually on Friday for group supervision and formal didactic training, which includes seminars, lectures, workshops, and case conferences on

psychotherapy, psychological assessment, and psychological consultation. Our interns share the didactic seminars with interns from another APA-accredited site: Mendota Mental Health Institute (MMHI).

**Map of the Hubs**



\*Sites in grey font not available at this time. Madison hub not available 2026-2027 internship year due to staffing vacancies.

## Site-Specific Experiences

Internship Sites	Offender Population	Experiences
<b>Milwaukee Area Hub Code 163512</b>		
DCC-2 Sturtevant <b>Supervisor:</b> Dr. Labinski 262-664-3062	Adult male and female	Assessment, Short-Term Individual Therapy, Consultation
DCC-3 Milwaukee <b>Supervisors:</b> Dr. Apple 414-940-2966 Dr. Klein 414-852-5826	Adult male and female	Individual and Group Therapy, Assessment, Projective experience available.
DCC-7 Saukville <b>Supervisor:</b> Dr. Guendel 262-388-8320	Adult male and female	Assessment, Short-Term Individual Therapy, Consultation
Racine Correctional Institution <b>Supervisors:</b> Dr. Kozmin 262-886-3214 x1527 Dr. Buhs 262-886-3214 x1595	Adult male – medium  High risk male sex offenders	Assessment, Individual Therapy, Crisis Intervention, Mental Health Groups. Residential Sex Offender Treatment (SOT-4)
Racine Youthful Offender Correctional Facility <b>Supervisors:</b> Dr. Keller 262-638-2973 ext. 2973	Young male offenders (ages 18-24)	Assessment, Individual Therapy, Crisis Intervention, Mental Health Groups, Sex Offender Treatment.
Robert E. Ellsworth Correctional Center <b>Supervisors:</b> Dr. Kowaleski 262-878-6000 x6055 Dr. Chandler-Hudson 262-878-6000 x6048	Adult female - minimum	Assessment, Short-Term and Long-Term Individual Therapy, Consultation, Projective experience available.
Sex Offender Civil Commitment “980 Unit” – available June-August only. <b>Supervisor:</b> Dr. Tyre 414-777-0555	Juvenile and adult male and female sex offenders	Civil Commitment Evaluations, Courtroom testimony (mock trial), research and staff consultations. <b>Available 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of the year to advanced interns from any hub.</b>
<b>Oshkosh Area Hub Code 163513</b>		
DCC-4 Neenah <b>Supervisor:</b> Dr. Anderson 920-891-6253	Young adult and adult male and female	Individual Therapy and Assessments
DCC Sex Offender Program: Risk Assessment Specialist – available June-August only. <b>Supervisor:</b> Dr. Pflugradt 920-450-0389	Male and female adult sex offenders	Pre-sentence evaluations sex offenders with child/adolescent victims for Court, Courtroom testimony (mock trial). <b>Available 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of the year to advanced interns from any hub.</b>
Kettle Moraine Correctional Institution <b>Supervisor:</b> Vacant	Adult male – medium	Individual and Group Therapy, Assessment, Sex Offender Treatment
Oshkosh Correctional Institution <b>Supervisors:</b> GP supervisor 920-236-2627 Dr. Karn 920-231-4010 x 2766 Dr. Zanon 920-231-4010 x 2763	Adult male – medium  High risk male sex offenders	Individual and Group Therapy, Serious Mental Illness, Sex Offender Treatment (SOT-2), Special Management Unit, Residential Sex Offender Treatment (SOT-4)

<b>Internship Sites</b>	<b>Offender Population</b>	<b>Experiences</b>
Redgranite Correctional Institution <b>Supervisor:</b> Vacant	Adult male - medium	Individual and Group Therapy, Assessment, Sex Offender Treatment
Taycheedah Correctional Institution <b>Supervisor:</b> Dr. Greene 920-929-6655 Dr. Christainsen 920-929-3853	Adult females	Special Management Unit, Sex Offender Treatment Childhood Trauma Counseling, Dual Diagnosis
Wisconsin Resource Center (DHS) <b>Supervisors:</b> Dr. Schedel 920-426-4310 x4433 Dr. Nelson 920-426-4310 x4369 Dr. Walters 920-426-4310 x4446	Treatment center for adult male and female offenders run by the Department of Health Services (DHS)	Assessment (primary focus), Group Therapy, Crisis Intervention, AODA, DBT, Pre-Release, low functioning
<b>Madison-Area Hub Code 163514</b> <b>*Not available 2025-2026</b>		
DCC-1: Madison <b>Supervisor:</b> Dr. Sardar 608-224-6361	Young adult, adult male and female	Assessment and Individual Therapy, Projective tests
New Lisbon Correctional Institution <b>Supervisors:</b> Vacant	Adult male – medium	Individual and Group Therapy, Assessment, Sex Offender Treatment
Oakhill Correctional Institution <b>Supervisors:</b> Vacant	Adult male, minimum security, pre-release	Individual and Group Therapy, Assessment
<b>Other “Equidistant” Sites available to Milwaukee and Oshkosh hubs</b>		
Dodge Correctional Institution <b>Supervisors:</b> Dr. Bartels-Rohrbeck 920-324- 5577 x6307 Dr. Nagle 920-324-5577 x6496	Adult male – Intake	Intake Evaluations and Screening, Infirmery, Sex Offender Evaluations, Malingering assessments, Minimum security evaluations, crisis intervention
Fox Lake Correctional Institution <b>Supervisors:</b> Vacant	Adult male - Medium	Individual and Group Therapy, Assessment, Sex Offender Treatment
Waupun Correctional Institution <b>Supervisors:</b> Dr. Van Buren 920 324-7233 Dr. Baggio 920-324-7084	Adult male – maximum	Individual and Group Therapy, Assessment, Crisis Intervention, Sex Offender Evaluations

**Note:** The availability of sites changes with the availability of supervisors. Sites in grey font not available at this time.

### **Who Supervises Interns?**

In order to coordinate and oversee the activities of interns who commute to different training sites, there are three sources of supervision.

- (1) The Internship Director represents the first source. The Director provides two-hour weekly Group Supervision. This licensed psychologist devotes half of his time to the overall development, implementation, and evaluation of the internship program. The Internship Director works with the Internship Core Committee to make training assignments, handle clinical and administrative issues, maintain contact with the interns’ schools, plan the sequence of didactic training, provide group supervision, lead seminars and case conferences, and generally to assure a balance of training

experiences. The Internship Core Committee also keeps in close contact with the on-site supervisor at each placement.

- (2) The two on-site supervisors provide the second source. They are licensed psychologists who provide each intern with a selection of specific assessment and therapy cases, consultation experiences, and arrange a variety of other clinical experiences at their placement. They each provide a minimum of one hour of face-to-face supervision per week. They meet regularly with the Internship Director during the year to exchange information about the progress and needs of each intern and to share with each other ideas about additional experiences that would be desirable to enhance the professional growth of each intern.
- (3) The third source of supervision comes from staff psychologists, psychiatrists, and other clinicians, as well as from part-time consultants who may supervise interns on specific clinical assignments, as arranged by the on-site supervisor. The on-site supervisor ensures that interns receive guidance from a range of mental health professionals to garner exposure to various theoretical orientations and clinical approaches, but remains responsible for overall supervision.

### **What Is Supervision Like?**

Over the course of the training year, four to five experienced licensed psychologists typically supervise each intern. The supervisor reviews audio or video recordings of therapy sessions or assessment interviews, reviews test results and reports, and/or engages in co-therapy. As the intern begins a new rotation, the amount of supervision is more intensive. Generally, as the intern becomes more familiar with a particular facility and its offender population, the ratio of supervision to clinical work decreases but is always an hour per week minimum at each site.

### **With Whom Do Interns Work?**

Currently, about 95% of individuals supervised by the Department of Corrections are male, and about half are from minority groups (African American, Hispanic, and Native American). About 25 percent reside in correctional facilities, with the remainder living in their home communities on probation or parole/extended-supervision status. Interns do a significant amount of their clinical work with minority group offenders and offenders who represent a wide range of ethnic, racial, and socioeconomic diversity. An understanding of and respect for this cultural diversity is essential.

The offender population reflects the entire range of psychological pathology. 42% of incarcerated men 91% of women need psychological and/or psychiatric services. Diagnoses include acute and chronic cognitive, emotional, and personality disorders and adjustment reactions. Alcohol and drug addictions are common, as are a variety of sexual psychopathologies. Violent victimization of others, domestic violence, victim empathy, and sequelae of their own childhood victimization are frequent treatment issues. In addition to these problems, many offenders experience emotional or behavioral crises related to incarceration and concomitant separation from family and friends, or problems inherent in release to the community (e.g., lack of job-seeking skills, fear of responsibility, marital stress, and unresolved substance use disorders).

#### DAI at a Glance Brochure– June 2024

<b>Race</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>
White	51%	69%
Black	42%	21%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	5%	9%
Asian/Pacific Islander	1%	1%
Ethnicity: Hispanic or Latino	11%	8%

Special units exist for mentally ill offenders better served outside of the general population and for high risk sex offenders. A Special Management Unit at one maximum-security institution houses more than 100 mentally ill offenders in an inpatient-type setting. Another 100 bed special unit at a medium security

institution exists for high risk sex offenders participating in an intensive two-year inpatient treatment program. Other institutions provide residential programs for those diagnosed with both severe mental illness and substance abuse disorders. An affiliated psychiatric treatment facility, the Wisconsin Resource Center (WRC), is staffed by the Department of Health Services for acutely mentally ill offenders as well, and is an available placement site for interns.

**What Is the Training Program Like?**

In their supervised therapy experiences, interns explore diverse modes of treatment (primarily individual and group therapy) and treatment orientations (e.g., cognitive, behavioral, insight-oriented). We emphasize monitoring the *process* as well as the *outcome* of psychotherapy consistent with our practitioner-scholar training model.

In addition to therapy, interns conduct assessments using interviews, intellectual and neuropsychological tests, objective and projective personality tests, and behavioral observations. Psychological evaluations help determine if an offender will be sent to prison, program needs in prison, whether to release an offender back into the community, and other important decisions. Psychological evaluations may also address an offender’s mental health treatment needs or risk for violent behavior. Interns are actively involved in learning to provide consultation to professional and non-professional staff regarding an offender’s management or need for programming.



Mock Trial Experience Organized by MMHI

Two or three interns may gain forensic experience during the last quarter by conducting psychological assessments of sex offenders for risk of sexual re-offense at presentence hearings (under s. 972), or probable cause hearings for commitment under Wisconsin’s *Sexually Violent Persons Law* (s. 980). These interns may attend probable cause and commitment court proceedings in which licensed psychologists provide expert testimony under this law.

**Scholarly Seminars**

One day of each week is devoted to didactic training. Our interns join with interns from Mendota Mental Health Institute for seminars/trainings either virtually or at the DOC Central Office in Madison. These morning training sessions occur once a week during the training year and include a variety of topics such as professional ethics, specific treatment approaches, assessment, cultural diversity, forensic work, and so on. Presenters are psychologists from the Department of Corrections, the local mental health institution, and professionals from the community. *Group Supervision* meets in the afternoon on training days. Supervision activities may include case presentations, additional didactic topics, or administrative obligations.



Didactic seminar at the DOC Central Office in Madison.

**Examples of Previous Didactic Training**

- |                               |                        |                              |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|
| Mental Status Exam            | Student Loan Repayment | Dialectical Behavior Therapy |
| Human Trafficking             | Positive Psychology    | Self-Injury                  |
| Criminal Responsibility Evals | Grief and Loss         | Opioids                      |
| Malingering                   | Schizophrenia          | Preparing for the EPPP       |
| Trauma treatment              | Supervision            | Static-99R and STABLE-2007   |

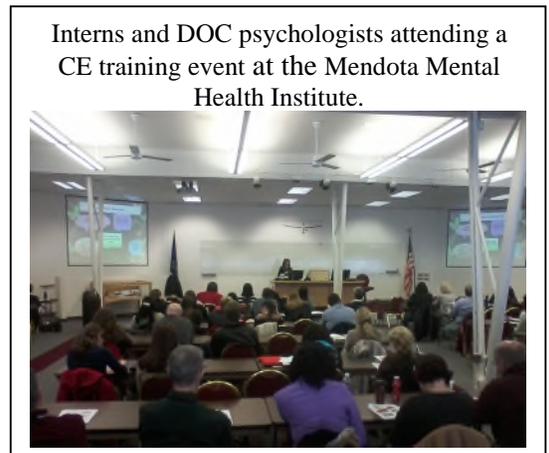
Landmark Cases  
 Competency Evaluation  
 Female Sex Offenders  
 Diversity  
 Psychopathy

Positive Psychology  
 Licensure in Wisconsin  
 Guardianship  
 Gangs in Wisconsin  
 Competency Evaluation

Working with Minorities  
 Racial Trauma  
 Neuropsychological Assessment  
 Intern Colloquium  
 Mock trial

The internship program also provides access to additional and special topics and conferences that vary from year to year. The Department of Corrections Continuing Education Committee (an APA-approved provider of CE) provides training to DOC psychologists as well as psychologists from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

Although our program is located in correctional settings, it is not designed or intended to train only “correctional psychologists.” Rather, it aims to produce psychologist practitioners who can function professionally as clinicians, teachers, and researchers, both inside and outside of a correctional setting. This is reflected by the diverse jobs obtained by our past interns.



**Internship Applicant Requirements**

Comprehensive Exams Passed:	Yes, by ranking deadline
Dissertation Proposal Approved:	Preferred, by ranking deadline
Minimum Number of Years of Grad Training Required:	3
Minimum Number of AAPI Intervention Hours:	≈300*
Minimum Number of AAPI Assessment Hours:	≥100*

\*The program prefers that applicants at time of application have at least 400 *Direct Contact* hours of which at least 100 should be in assessment. Anticipated practicum hours will be considered.

Interns are Limited-Term Employees (LTEs) of the State of Wisconsin. Interns must pass a comprehensive criminal background check completed in early August as part of the final hiring process<sup>2</sup>. The most common reasons departmental applicants fail to pass include:

- Failure to disclose any criminal or ordinance violations, convictions, fines, forfeitures, or pending charges
- A pending charge and/or conviction relevant to the duties and responsibilities of the position
- Current or recent (within the past 5 years) probation/parole or under the supervision of a federal, state or local law enforcement agency

Since 1994, no intern applicant has failed to pass the background check. Anyone with concerns about passing should consult with the Internship Director for further information or clarification. In addition, a current, valid, and unrestricted driver’s license is necessary.

**How to Apply:**

All interested applicants should complete the APPIC Application for Psychology Internship (AAPI). <https://www.appic.org/Internships/AAPI>.

To supplement the AAPI, our program requires a de-identified Integrated Psychological Evaluation Report. All clinical material submitted must have identifying information redacted according to HIPAA *Safe Harbor* guidelines. [See Appendix A: HIPAA Safe Harbor **guidelines.**]

**NOTE 1:** An integrated psychological testing report includes a review of history, results of an interview and at least two psychological tests from one or more of the following categories:

<sup>2</sup> DOC Executive Directive 42 – Arrest and Conviction Policy

personality measures (not questionnaires), intellectual tests, cognitive tests, and neuropsychological tests: <https://www.appic.org/Internships/AAPI-APPIC-Application-for-Psychology-Internships/Integrated-Report>

**NOTE 2:** We *prefer* an integrated personality assessment utilizing major test instruments (e.g., MMPI-2, PAI, Rorschach, WAIS-IV) with valid results over a neuropsychological evaluation, and strongly prefer either of those over a report using only survey or screening instruments (e.g., BDI, STAXI, TSI). Choose a report that demonstrates your ability to integrate information from a patient's background, interview, and test data (preferably from major test instruments).

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:** The deadline for submitting the application materials is November 15, 2024.

For further information contact:

James Besson, Psy.D.  
Internship and Training Director of  
Psychology  
State of Wisconsin  
Department of Corrections  
Bureau of Health Services  
3099 E. Washington Ave.  
P.O. Box 7925  
Madison, WI 53707-7925

Phone: 920-583-5065  
Fax: email for fax number  
Email: [James.Besson@Wisconsin.gov](mailto:James.Besson@Wisconsin.gov)

## **Accreditation Status**

The Wisconsin Department of Corrections Doctoral Internship in Health Service Psychology is accredited until 2028 by the American Psychological Association (APA). Questions related to the program's accreditation status should be directed to APA's Commission on Accreditation (CoA):

*Commission on Accreditation  
Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation  
American Psychological Association  
750 1st Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002  
Phone: (202) 336-5979; TDD/TTY: (202) 336-6123; Fax: (202) 336-5978  
E-mail: [apaaccred@apa.org](mailto:apaaccred@apa.org); Web: [www.apa.org/ed/accreditation](http://www.apa.org/ed/accreditation)*

## **Notes**

- The internship abides by the APPIC Policy that no person at this training facility will solicit, accept, or use any ranking-related information from any applicant.
- The Department of Corrections is an equal opportunity employer and consequently makes every effort to attract and retain staff from a wide range of ethnic, racial, and personal backgrounds.
- The internship is accredited by the American Psychological Association. Interns are advised that concerns may be addressed in three ways:
  - Directly to the Internship and Training Director of Psychology, James Besson, Psy.D., at [DOCPsychologyInternship@Wisconsin.gov](mailto:DOCPsychologyInternship@Wisconsin.gov) or [James.Besson@Wisconsin.gov](mailto:James.Besson@Wisconsin.gov)
  - Through APPIC (see <http://appic.org/Problem-Consultation>), or

- Through APA (see <http://www.apa.org/ed/accreditation/contact.aspx> ) and the Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation, 750 First St, NE, Washington, DC 20002-4242. Telephone: (202) 336-5979

### **Appendix A: HIPAA Safe Harbor guidelines.**

The following identifiers of the individual or of relatives, employers, or household members of the individual, are removed:

1. Names [Ed. note: You may use a fake name, but you must identify it as such.]
2. All geographic subdivisions smaller than a state, including street address, city, county, precinct, ZIP code, and their equivalent geocodes...
3. Elements of dates (except year) that are directly related to an individual (birth date, admission date, discharge date, death date)
4. Telephone numbers
5. Fax numbers
6. Email addresses
7. Social security numbers
8. Medical record numbers
9. Account numbers
10. Health plan beneficiary numbers
11. Certificate/license numbers
12. Vehicle identifiers and serial numbers, including license plate numbers
13. Device identifiers and serial numbers
14. Web Universal Resource Locators (URLs)
15. Internet Protocol (IP) addresses
16. Biometric identifiers, including finger and voice prints
17. Full-face photographs and any comparable images
18. Any other unique identifying number

Adapted from: <https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/privacy/special-topics/de-identification/index.html>