

The Road to Board Certification in Clinical Neuropsychology Begins with Graduate Training

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Clinical Neuropsychology as a Specialty

Clinical Neuropsychology is a specialty recognized by the American Psychological Association's Commission for the Recognition of Specialties and Proficiencies in Professional Psychology (CRSPPP)

Training in Clinical Neuropsychology begins at the Doctoral level

Graduate training programs in Clinical Neuropsychology are typically housed within Clinical Psychology programs as a track or concentration

What does this mean for undergraduates interested in Graduate training in Clinical Neuropsychology?

Choose courses that complement Clinical Neuropsychology
Psychology courses- brain-behavior courses (if available), abnormal, test and measures, statistics
Non-Psychology courses - biology, physiology, etc.

Seek research experiences
Join a lab to get research experience

Get to know your professors beyond the classroom
Seek advice/information about graduate school

Seek sources of information about graduate programs
Division 40 maintains a listing of graduate programs
www.div40.org/training

Houston Conference Guidelines

Provide an integrated model of professional training and education in Clinical Neuropsychology from doctoral, internship to post-doctoral levels

Provide flexibility in achieving the "final endpoint" for various knowledge and skill areas

Hannay, H. J., Crosson, B.A., Hammke, T.A., Hamsher, K. deS., & Koffler, S. P. 1998. Proceedings: The Houston Conference on Specialty Education and Training in Clinical Neuropsychology. *Archives of Clinical Neuropsychology*, 13(2).

Houston Conference Guidelines

While there is some flexibility where in training knowledge and skills are acquired, getting them early in the training continuum (at the doctoral level) is often easier.

Not in a Graduate Program with a Track or Concentration in Clinical Neuropsychology?

Still possible to be competitive for Neuropsychology Internship

Be creative and proactive - ask for help from your graduate program in generating additional training options

Seek coursework, clinical training and research opportunities in other departments such as Aging Studies, Biology, Neurology, Neuroscience, Speech Pathology

in the community such as VA hospitals, Community hospitals, Rehab hospitals

Make the Most of Your Graduate Training Didactics: Beyond Courses and the Classroom

- Seek out and create additional didactic opportunities
- Join a Journal Club and do one or more presentations
- Take the lead on one or more Brown Bag presentations
- Provide supervision to first/second year grad students in your program
- Assist with a presentation to a community support group

Make the Most of Your Graduate Training Practica Experiences

- Seek a range of experiences in varied settings
age range, varied diagnoses, cultural diversity, variety of settings (psychology clinic, mental health center, medical center, rehab center), different assessment approaches, different supervisors
- Interviewing, administering comprehensive assessments, report writing, feedback, working within a multidisciplinary team, intervention and consultation are all important skills but may not be equally available. Maximize your options.

Make the Most of Your Graduate Training Research Experiences

- Given the strong link in Clinical Neuropsychology between research and practice, many internship sites value scholarly interests
- Get involved in research beyond your thesis and dissertation
- Present at national conferences and join organizations to become a member of the community of Clinical Neuropsychologists
- Peer reviewed publications or book chapters
- Grant writing activity

Make the Most of Your Graduate Training

- It's all in the balance
Doing the minimum won't get you where you want to go but don't spread yourself too thin
- Keep a healthy balance – didactics, practica, research
learning doesn't stop after graduate school
- Think outside the box to create additional training options
but keep your eye on finishing the dissertation
- Do what you enjoy and you will enjoy what you do