

# NAVY POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP IN CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

## APA-ACCREDITED



### **BACKGROUND**

The Navy's post-doctoral fellowship in clinical psychology is located at the Naval Medical Center, Portsmouth, Virginia. The fellowship is organized around a Practitioner-Scholar model and provides an intensive, twelve-month, full-time, in-service period of clinical, didactic, and leadership experiences.

Applicants who are selected for the fellowship are commissioned as Lieutenants in the Medical Service Corps and serve a total of 4 years on active duty: 1 year as a post-doctoral fellow and 3 years as a staff psychologist. The fellowship is a full-time training experience and will not be interrupted by other Navy-related activities such as deployments or temporary additional assignments.

Prior military experience is not a requirement or expectation for applicants. Most applicants for the Navy fellowship have no prior military experience. Applicants do not have to be in the military to apply and there is no military service obligation unless an applicant is selected for the fellowship.

### **ACCREDITATION**

The Postdoctoral Training Program is accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA). Inquiries regarding accreditation may be addressed to the American Psychological Association's Commission on Accreditation at the following address or phone number:

Commission on Accreditation  
Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation  
American Psychological Association

750 First Street, N.E.  
Washington, D.C., 20002-4242  
(202) 336-5979

## **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The fellowship is organized around a Practitioner-Scholar training model designed to provide the “generalist” clinician advanced skills across a broad array of professional competencies. Training occurs through an intensive, full-time, in-service period of clinical, didactic, and leadership experiences focused on meeting the mental health needs of the contemporary military service member and the military family. The program addresses the assessment and treatment of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), depression, traumatic brain injury (TBI), chronic pain, family issues, and substance/alcohol abuse. It also provides an orientation to severe mental health conditions requiring inpatient psychiatric treatment within a military medical facility. Evidence-based practice is emphasized throughout the training program.

A unique aspect of the training experience is exposure to the practice of clinical psychology in operational settings. Fellows spend several days aboard an aircraft carrier working with the ship’s psychologist. They also visit a Marine or Navy SEAL base where other Navy psychologists practice. The program prepares the fellow to become a clinical leader. Clinical leadership involves the ability to evaluate existing clinical programs, develop new programs, provide effective supervision of other practitioners, and organize resources so that clinical and administrative objectives can be met.

Navy Psychologists are a diverse group of men and women. At Naval Medical Center Portsmouth, a significant percentage of the core supervisory faculty members are minority psychologists. It is an important part of the fellowship program’s mission to continue to increase minority representation at the training site and in the broader Navy psychology community. The training faculty is committed to providing comprehensive education and training in diversity issues. They view diversity education as a life-long process that does not end when formal training is over.

The training year provides the foundation for practice within the military mental health system yet is sufficiently broad to prepare the fellow for advanced practice in diverse non-military clinical settings. Furthermore, this program prepares the fellow for licensure as a psychologist in the state of his/her choosing, and is conducive to attaining of Board Certification in Clinical Psychology. Three years of obligated service as a Navy psychologist are required following the training year.

Additional information about the fellowship can be found in the training manual at:  
<http://www.wrnmccapmed.mil/ResearchEducation/GME/SitePages/Psychology/Navy%20Psychology.aspx>

## **LOCATION**

The fellowship is located at the Navy Medical Center in Portsmouth, Virginia (NMCP), situated beside the Elizabeth River, near downtown Portsmouth, across the river from the city of Norfolk. <http://www.med.navy.mil/sites/nmcp/Pages/default.aspx>

## **QUALIFICATIONS**

- US Citizenship (dual citizens must agree to relinquish non-US citizenship if selected for the fellowship)
- Age Limit: No more than 41 years of age at the time of commissioning (typically in June or July of the year in which the fellowship starts).
- Applicants will have completed all requirements for the doctoral degree (including dissertation and doctoral internship) before attending Officer Development School (13 August – 15 September 2017) and starting the Fellowship on 18 September 2017.
- Doctoral program must be APA-accredited.
- APA-accredited doctoral internship preferred. Waivers may be granted on a case-by-case basis for applicants whose doctoral internship was not APA-accredited.
- The fellowship program gives careful consideration to all available information about each applicant and selects fellows on a competitive basis without regard to race, sex, religion, creed, color, or national origin (Article 1164 Navy Regulations).
- Competitive applicants should have most of their clinical experience with a clinically broad range of adult patients. (Neuropsychology, health psychology, and child psychology experience is welcome but should not have been the focus of graduate school training).
- Other Requirements: Applicants must meet medical and security qualifications for commissioning as a U.S. Navy Medical Service Corps officer. This part of the application is completed with the assistance of a Navy Medical Programs Officer Recruiter. See below.

## **APPLICATION**

- **Application deadline: 9 December 2016.**

- Applicants must work with a Navy Medical Programs Officer Recruiter to submit their application. To locate the Medical Programs Officer Recruiter nearest you:
  - 1) Go to <http://www.navy.com/careers/healthcare/> - Click on “Find a Recruiter” and type in your zip code. (Ask specifically to speak with a Medical Programs Officer Recruiter. Not all recruiting offices have a Medical Programs Officer Recruiter. If the office you contact does not, they can connect you with the one nearest to you), or
  - 2) Eric J. Getka, Ph.D.  
CAPT, MSC, USN (ret)  
National Director, Navy Psychology Training Programs  
Walter Reed National Military Medical Center  
Bethesda, Maryland  
(301) 295-2476  
[eric.j.getka.civ@mail.mil](mailto:eric.j.getka.civ@mail.mil)
- In addition to information needed to determine an individual’s suitability for commissioning as a naval officer, applicants must submit the following documents via their recruiter:
  1. Resume/CV
  2. APPI
  3. Doctoral program transcript
  4. Three letters of recommendation from doctoral-level psychologists familiar with the applicant’s clinical competency
  5. Documentation certifying enrollment in or completion of the doctoral internship internship. \*
- **Individuals who are enrolled in a doctoral internship when they apply for the scholarship, should include in their application a statement from their internship Training Director indicating that the applicant is in good standing in the internship and is expected to graduate from the internship on time.**

## **INTERVIEWS**

Interviews for the 2017-2018 Fellowship Year will be conducted at NMC, Portsmouth on 30 Nov and 1 Dec 2016.

## **POSITION INFORMATION**

**Deadline for Applications: 9 Dec 2016**

**Dates for Officer Development School (required prior to starting the fellowship):** 13 Aug -15 Sept 2017 (Selectees will be commissioned as Lieutenants in the Medical Service Corps and will attend the 5-week Officer Development School (ODS) in Newport, Rhode Island before starting the fellowship. ODS is designed to introduce new naval officers to the military structure of the United States Navy, the rich history of traditions and customs, the Navy legal system, and military etiquette).

**Fellowship Start Date:** 18 September 2017

**Number of Slots Expected Next Class:** 3

**Full Time:** Both positions are full-time

**Stipend (Fiscal Year 2015) :** Low Stipend: \$70,144.00; High Stipend: \$72,821.00

- “Low stipend reflects pay and allowances for a post doc fellow without “dependents” (i.e., spouse and/or children). “High stipend” reflects pay and allowances for a post doc fellow with dependents. Housing allowance (included in total salary above) is non-taxable.

## **ADDITIONAL BENEFITS**

All benefits and allowances due a navy officer including: health and dental coverage for self and dependents , Thrift Savings Plan, Life Insurance, access to Commissary, Navy Exchange department stores, all moving expenses paid, use of world-class gymnasiums and other recreational facilities.

## **SERVICE OBLIGATION**

4 years of active duty in total including the 1 year of fellowship training (i.e., fellows serve three years on active duty as staff psychologists after the fellowship).

## **QUESTIONS ABOUT THE NAVY POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP IN CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY? CONTACT:**

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