



## INPATIENT ACUTE CLINICAL NEUROREHABILITATION PSYCHOLOGY PRACTICUM TRAINING PROGRAM

Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center  
Department of Health Services – Los Angeles County

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### ABOUT RANCHO LOS AMIGOS NATIONAL REHABILITATION CENTER

Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center is a 150 bed hospital specializing in acute physical rehabilitation and medical treatment arising from complications to disabling conditions. We are located in the city of Downey, near 710 and 105 freeways. Rancho is one of six hospitals and medical centers operated by the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services. It is also a major training center for allied health professionals from across the nation.

### CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY PRACTICUM TRAINING PROGRAM

Students join a multidisciplinary team of physicians, nurses, social workers, physical therapists, occupational therapists, speech therapists, and recreation therapists and work under the direct supervision of a rehabilitation psychologist.

#### Clientele:

- Adult and pediatric patients with brain injury, spinal injury, stroke, MS, diabetes, amputation, dementia, epilepsy and other neurological disorders.
- Patients need psychological and neuropsychological evaluation and treatment of their pre-morbid psychiatric conditions, current psychological response to medical circumstances and limited functioning, and potential cognitive impairments.
- Population is culturally diverse and ranges in age from 1-90.

#### Diagnostic Categories: Full range but may include:

- Neurocognitive Disorders (of multiple etiologies including stroke, brain injury, etc.)
- Mood Disorders
- Anxiety Disorders
- Adjustment Disorders
- Psychotic Disorders
- Substance-Related and Addictive Disorders
- Personality Disorders
- Mental Disorders due to a General Medical Condition.

**Activities:** Students will be trained in how to conduct a thorough clinical interview, differential diagnosis, and treatment planning and implementation. Training focuses on assessment of cognitive status/abilities, capacity to make medical decisions, pre-morbid psychiatric conditions, personality traits, and their possible impact on treatment and future functioning. There will be training in neuropsychological screening instruments, intermediate neuropsychological batteries and psychological testing of medical patients. There will be opportunities for training in report writing, behavior

management, brief psychotherapy, group therapy, consultation with treatment teams, and psycho-education of patients' families.

**Supervision:** We provide a high level of direct supervision. Full-time on site rehabilitation psychologists provide direct face to face individual supervision each day students are on grounds. We have 9 licensed psychologists on staff (2 Board Certified in Rehabilitation Psychology and 1 Board Certified in Clinical Neuropsychology). Supervisors never have more than 2 students at a time.

**Special Requirements:** Interest in rehabilitation psychology, neuropsychology, health psychology, behavioral medicine, and appropriate coursework in psychological testing.

**Openings Available:** We are a Captive Site and can only accept trainees from Fuller Theological Seminary (2), University of La Verne (1), Azusa Pacific University (1) and Pepperdine University (2).

**Start and End Dates (Approximate):** 9/1/2025 - 8/31/2026      **Hours:** 16 – 24 hours per week

**Number of Direct Client Hours Per Week:** 4-6

**Mandatory Hours:** Mandatory days are Tuesdays and Thursdays.

**Scheduling:** Students must commit to a minimum of two days a week, which cannot be consecutive days. Hospital hours are Monday – Friday from 7 am – 5 pm.

**COVID-19 & Clinical Services:** Trainees are not assigned to work with patients who are known to be COVID+ or to be a Patient Under Investigation (PUI: patient suspected to be infected and awaiting test results). Didactic trainings and staff meetings are held in person following hospital recommended COVID precautions. All staff are strongly encouraged to wear a mask when on campus. Staff that provide clinical services/direct patient care are provided with a daily surgical mask to be used when working with patients; goggles and face shields are also available for any staff who wish to use them. Our department follows hospital guidelines as recommended by Los Angeles County Department of Health Services and Public Health and may change as the pandemic progresses.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

We are a Captive site/Early placement. Students must be approved by their school's Director of Clinical Training in order to apply. Approved students must send/email:

- 1) Curriculum Vita
- 2) Letter of Interest
- 3) Two letters of recommendation. Letters of recommendation must be sent/emailed directly from the author to the Director of Training /contact at Rancho Los Amigos.

Incomplete applications will not be considered for interview.

Students who agree to interview at our site, are not obligated to accept an offer.

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES (DHS) REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Livescan (fingerprint clearance by FBI and DOJ) to be completed at Rancho Los Amigos
- 2) Health Clearance that entails (note costs borne by the student and to be completed by student's own physician using forms provided by DHS):
  - a. A physical and up-to-date vaccinations

- b. 2 TB tests
- c. COVID vaccination

This will all need to be completed early summer before start date in September. Additionally, in September students must complete DHS required trainings for new employees/volunteers such as New Employee Orientation and Electronic Medical Record (i.e., ORCHID) training. All requirements must be completed before students can begin seeing patients.

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

**Application Deadline:** Friday, January 10, 2025

**Notification Date:** Friday, February 07, 2025

## **SEND APPLICATIONS TO**

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