

County of Los Angeles Department of Mental Health

Student Professional Development Program



DMH Agency:	Downtown Mental Health Center	
DMH Agency Address:	529 Maple Avenue Los Angeles CA 90013	Service Area 4
DMH Agency Liaison:	Susana Lutz, PsyD	
New or Returning:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Returning	
Liaison Email Address:	sulutz@dmh.lacounty.gov	
Liaison Phone Number:	(213) 629-6200	
Liaison Fax Number:	(213) 289-7879	
Agency ADA accessible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If "No" identify:	

Student Requirements:

How many positions will you have?	2-3
Beginning and ending dates:	9/2026 – 7/2027 (school calendar)

Please indicate days and times students should be available to provide services, including mandatory staff meetings (SM), training seminars (TR), supervision (SUP), etc.

Student Schedule: Tuesday through Friday

Monday	
Tuesday	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Wednesday	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Thursday	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Friday	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Total hours expected to be worked per week:	20
Number of direct client hours per week anticipated:	10
Expected average consumer caseload:	20 – 30

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What cultural groups typically receive services at your site?	Adults 18+ only, co-occurring disorders, unhoused client population, Caucasian, Latino/a (including Spanish speaking only), African-American, Asian
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Description of Site: *(Please describe the type of Agency setting and services offered)*

Downtown Mental Health Center is an adult outpatient clinic serving individuals who present with severe, persistent mental illness. The clinic is located in the Skid Row Area of Downtown Los Angeles. Services include medication support, individual and group psychotherapy, rehabilitation services, and targeted case management services. Clients typically present with multiple problem areas including poverty, homelessness, substance use disorders, trauma history, need for ongoing support. In this advanced internship, students will obtain individual and group psychotherapy experience, intake assessment and diagnosing experience, and participate in multi-disciplinary team consultations. Students will train and gain experience in Psychological Assessment using various brief screening tools.

Target population and types of services provided: *(please check all that apply)*

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individuals	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Psychoeducational groups (e.g. Parenting)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Groups	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Outreach
<input type="checkbox"/> Families	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brief treatment to mid-term treatment
<input type="checkbox"/> Children & Adolescents	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Long term treatment
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adults	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Crisis Intervention
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Older Adults	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Screening and Assessment
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Court/Probation referred	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Psych Testing (For psychology students only)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consultation/Liaison	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify):

What are the most frequent diagnostic categories of your client population?

Psychotic and Bipolar Disorders, Major Depression, Anxiety Disorders, Personality Disorders, with Co-Occurring Substance Use Disorders

What specific (perhaps unique) training opportunities do students have at your agency?

Exposure to brief and mid-term interventions, Psychological testing using various screening tools. Collaboration with law enforcement.

What evidence based practices or theoretical orientations will students be exposed to at this site?

Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Seeking Safety, Motivational Interviewing, Dialectical Behavior Therapy, Harm Reduction, Trauma-Informed Practices

Do students have the opportunity to work in a multidisciplinary team environment that includes those with lived experience?

Yes, students consult and collaborate with psychiatrists, nurses, clinical social workers, marriage and family therapists, community workers, and volunteers with lived experience.

List locations where students will be providing services **other than agency?**

All services will be provided on-site. Parking is provided.

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Does your agency allow students to videotape and/or audiotape clients for the purpose of presenting cases in their academic classes? Yes No

Supervision:

What types of supervision will be provided for the students and what is the licensure/discipline of the supervisor? Please specify below.

Type	Hours Per Week	On Site Supervisor Degree/Discipline
Individual:	1-2	Susana Lutz, PsyD, Psychologist
Group:	2	Susana Lutz, PsyD, Psychologist

What is the minimum ratio of supervision to client contact hours?

10 to 3

Does your agency require a particular range of previous experience or specific prerequisite coursework? *If so, please explain.*

Due to acuity of client population and barriers/challenges experienced by the community, we are an advanced internship site. Previous clinical practice experience is a pre-requisite.

Agency Application Process

Mandatory requirements: Only students from academic institutions who have a current affiliation agreement with the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health may be extended a placement opportunity. All students are processed through Human Resources Bureau. All prospective interns must obtain live scan clearance. All interns are required to complete a mandatory HIPAA Compliance and Sexual Harassment Prevention Training (for line staff) as part as the terms of their internship.

DMH Staff/Field Instructor completing this form:

Susana Lutz, PsyD

Title: Sup Psychologist

Email: sulutz@dmh.lacounty.gov

Date: 11/17/25

Program Manager: Elisha Jackson LCSW

District Chief: Evelio Franco LMFT

Both Program Manager and Chief agree to students accepted at this site.

Electronic Signature: 

Date: 11/17/25