Trinity Tree × Desert Recovery Centers

Internship Handbook

2027–2028 Training Year | *Psychology Doctoral Internship Training Program*

APPIC Member No. 2675 | APPIC Match Program Code 267511

Program Structure

The internship is a 12-month, full-time, 2,000-hour program that follows a longitudinal training model across two concurrent rotations:

- **Primary Rotation (70%):** Desert Recovery Centers — residential, PHP, and IOP services
- **Secondary Rotation (30%):** Trinity Tree Psychological Services — outpatient services

Training is competency-based and developmentally sequenced, with clinical responsibility increasing as interns demonstrate competency benchmarks across three training phases. The program offers two (2) full-time positions through the APPIC Match (Program Code 267511).

Range of Assessment Training

Interns receive structured training in a comprehensive range of psychological assessment activities, including:

- Structured and semi-structured diagnostic interviews
- Cognitive assessment (e.g., WAIS-5, WISC-5, WPPSI-IV, or comparable instruments)
- Personality assessment (e.g., MMPI-3, PAI, or comparable instruments)
- Trauma and substance use assessment
- Suicide and violence risk assessment
- Integrated psychological report writing
- Feedback sessions with clients and interdisciplinary teams
- A minimum of five (5) comprehensive integrated assessment batteries

Range of Intervention Training

Interns provide a range of direct intervention services under licensed supervision, including:

- Individual psychotherapy (trauma, substance use, mood, anxiety, and personality disorders)
- Group psychotherapy (process, psychoeducational, relapse prevention, and skills-based)
- Crisis intervention and stabilization planning
- Substance use and trauma-informed treatment
- Behavioral consultation with interdisciplinary teams
- Treatment planning and discharge planning

Supervision Structure

Each intern is assigned one of four licensed psychologist Supervisors of Record: Dr. Shelton, Dr. Nguyen, Dr. Ellis, or Dr. Day-Robinson. The following supervision minimums are guaranteed throughout the training year:

- A minimum of two (2) hours of individual supervision weekly from a licensed psychologist Supervisor of Record
- A minimum of one (1) hour of group supervision weekly

- Case conference and interdisciplinary consultation as part of routine training activities
- Additional co-supervision and consultation under licensed oversight as clinically indicated

Licensed supervisors retain full legal and clinical responsibility for all services provided by interns and are available for consultation during all intern clinical service hours. Postdoctoral staff provide co-supervision and consultation under licensed oversight and do not hold independent supervisory responsibility. Dr. Snell supports interns at Desert Recovery Centers; Dr. Bugg supports interns at Desert Recovery Centers and assists with assessment training at Trinity Tree.

Supervisor	Role	Site(s)
Jonathan J. Shelton, Psy.D.	Director of Clinical Training; Supervisor of Record (AZ PSY-004362)	Trinity Tree; cross-site oversight
An Nguyen, Psy.D.	Co-Director of Clinical Training; Clinical Director, Desert Recovery Centers; Supervisor of Record (AZ PSY-004326)	Desert Recovery Centers; cross-site oversight
Caitlin Ellis, Psy.D.	Supervisor of Record (AZ PSY-006080)	Desert Recovery Centers and Trinity Tree
Madison Day-Robinson, Psy.D.	Supervisor of Record; lead assessment faculty (AZ PSY-005892)	Trinity Tree

Evaluation and Minimal Level of Achievement

Interns receive ongoing formative feedback beginning at orientation. Formal evaluations are conducted at:

- Mid-Year Evaluation: Months 4–6
- End-of-Year Evaluation: Months 10–12

All APA Profession-Wide Competencies are rated on a 5-point behaviorally anchored scale. The Minimal Level of Achievement (MLA) required for successful program completion is 3.0 (Meets Expectations).

Stipend & Benefits

Annual Stipend	$50,000
Vacation	10 vacation days
Paid Holidays	10 paid holidays
Professional Development	5 professional development days; professional development funding available (details provided at orientation)
Professional Liability Coverage	Provided by the program
Workspace & Resources	Private workspace, full testing library and scoring materials, electronic health record and clinical database access
Training Support	Dedicated training coordination throughout the year

Admissions

Positions	Two (2) full-time, 12-month positions
Start Date	August 2027
Application Deadline	**November 1, 2026** (11:59 p.m. Eastern), via the AAPI
Minimum Intervention Hours	400 AAPI intervention hours at time of application
Minimum Assessment Hours	50 AAPI assessment hours at time of application
Interviews	Virtual, December 2026 through mid-January 2027; invitations sent by email
APPIC Match Program Code	**267511**
Phase I Rank Order List Deadline	February 5, 2027
APPIC Phase I Match Day	February 19, 2027

Affiliation. The program is not affiliated with any doctoral program. Both internship positions are open to all eligible applicants from doctoral programs in health service psychology and are filled exclusively through the APPIC Match. No preference is given to applicants from any particular doctoral program, including programs whose students complete practicum training at our sites.

Personal Conduct. The program maintains a personal conduct statement to which all interns agree as a condition of the internship. Applicants are encouraged to review it before applying; the full text is available at www.trinitytreepsych.com or by request from the Director of Clinical Training.

Accreditation Status. The program is a member of the Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC). It is not accredited by the American Psychological Association. Questions related to the program's accredited status may be directed to the APA Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation, 750 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20002 │ (202) 336-5979 │ apaaccred@apa.org.

APPIC Policy. This internship site agrees to abide by the APPIC policy that no person at this training facility will solicit, accept, or use any ranking-related information from any intern applicant.

Contact Information

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