Trinity Tree × Desert Recovery Centers

Doctoral Internship in Health Service Psychology

Internship Brochure | *2027–2028 Training Year*

APPIC Member No. 2675 | APPIC Match Program Code 267511

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Welcome from the Director of Clinical Training

The Trinity Tree × Desert Recovery Centers Doctoral Internship in Health Service Psychology is built on the belief that exceptional clinical training requires genuine immersion in the work. Our interns train alongside licensed psychologists in active clinical practice, conducting psychological assessments, delivering evidence-based interventions, and engaging with the full complexity of real clinical cases across outpatient and residential settings.

We are committed to developing confident, ethical, and culturally responsive Health Service Psychologists who are prepared for the mechanics of independent practice and for the professional identity, supervisory readiness, and lifelong learning that define a career in psychology. If you are looking for a program where supervision is engaged, training is purposeful, and your development is taken seriously, we hope you will consider joining us.

— Jonathan J. Shelton, Psy.D., Director of Clinical Training

Program Overview

The program is a 12-month, full-time, 2,000-hour internship in Glendale, Arizona, grounded in a practitioner-scholar, competency-based training model. Two full-time positions are offered through the APPIC Match (Program Code 267511).

The Essentials

- 12-month, full-time internship
- 2,000 supervised training hours
- Two (2) full-time positions
- Practitioner-scholar training model
- Competency-based, developmentally sequenced

Training Sites

- Desert Recovery Centers: residential, PHP, and IOP (70%)
- Trinity Tree Psychological Services: outpatient (30%)

Weekly Training Activities

- Individual supervision: 2 hours (minimum)
- Group supervision: 1 hour (minimum)
- Structured didactic seminar: 2 hours (minimum)
- Direct clinical service: 20–25 hours (≥25% face-to-face)
- Psychological assessment: 4–6 hours
- Case conference and interdisciplinary consultation: as indicated
- Documentation and professional development: remaining hours

Training Sites

Desert Recovery Centers (70%) provides residential, partial hospitalization (PHP), and intensive outpatient (IOP) treatment for adults with substance use and co-occurring mental health disorders. Interns deliver evidence-based group and individual interventions, provide crisis intervention and stabilization, and consult within multidisciplinary treatment teams.

Trinity Tree Psychological Services (30%) is an outpatient practice providing comprehensive psychodiagnostic and neuropsychological assessment across the lifespan, brief outpatient psychotherapy, and consultation. Interns complete assessments from administration through integrated report writing and feedback.

Training Goals & Competencies

The program is organized around five training goals and all nine APA Profession-Wide Competencies, supplemented by three program-specific competency areas.

APA Profession-Wide Competencies

- Research & Evidence-Based Practice
- Ethical & Legal Standards
- Individual & Cultural Diversity
- Professional Values & Attitudes
- Communication & Interpersonal Skills
- Assessment
- Intervention
- Supervision
- Consultation & Interprofessional Skills

Program-Specific Competencies

- Trauma-Informed Clinical Practice
- Substance Use & Co-Occurring Disorder Treatment
- Integrated Behavioral Health

Training Goals

- Competence in evidence-based assessment
- Competence in evidence-based intervention
- Ethical, professional, and culturally responsive practice
- Supervisory readiness and professional responsibility
- Health Service Psychologist professional identity

Developmental Training Phases

Phase	Timing	Focus
I. Orientation & Foundation	Months 1–3 (Aug–Oct)	Structured observation, skill-building, and close supervisory oversight. Orientation to sites, populations, levels of care, documentation systems, and program expectations.
II. Intermediate Development	Months 4–9 (Nov–Apr)	Increasing autonomy with structured oversight. Active caseload, integrated assessment batteries, individual and group psychotherapy, and interdisciplinary consultation.
III. Advanced Integration	Months 10–12 (May–Jul)	Sustained competency with minimal prompting. Professional identity consolidation, supervisory readiness, and transition to postdoctoral training or practice.

Assessment & Intervention Training

Assessment Activities

Interns complete a minimum of five (5) comprehensive integrated assessment batteries. The Trinity Tree battery includes:

- WAIS-5, WMS-5, WISC-5, WPPSI-IV
- WIAT-4
- Trail Making Test A & B
- Rey 15-Item Test
- Beery VMI, C-TONI-2
- CARS-2, VABS-III

Additional activities include structured diagnostic interviewing, differential diagnosis, risk assessment, integrated report writing, and feedback sessions.

Intervention Activities

- Individual psychotherapy
- Group psychotherapy
- Crisis intervention and stabilization
- Behavioral consultation
- Treatment and discharge planning

Didactic Seminars

Minimum 2 hours weekly (104–108 hours annually), including evidence-based interventions, assessment and report writing, ethics, multicultural competence, trauma-informed care, substance use and co-occurring disorders, supervision, and interdisciplinary collaboration.

Supervision

Each intern is assigned a licensed psychologist Supervisor of Record who provides a minimum of **two (2) hours of individual supervision weekly** and retains full legal and clinical responsibility for all intern clinical services. Group supervision is provided for a minimum of **one (1) hour weekly**. Licensed psychologists are available for consultation during all intern clinical service hours.

Supervising Faculty (Licensed Psychologists — Supervisors of Record)

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

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.

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

Evaluation & Minimal Level of Achievement

Interns receive formative feedback in every supervision session beginning at orientation. Formal evaluations are completed at Mid-Year and End-of-Year using a behaviorally anchored 5-point scale across all APA Profession-Wide Competencies. The Minimal Level of Achievement (MLA) required for successful completion is a rating of 3.0 (Meets Expectations) across all competency domains.

Commitment to Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Trinity Tree × Desert Recovery Centers is committed to a training environment that reflects and honors the diversity of the communities we serve. Didactic seminars explicitly address multicultural competence, cultural humility, and systemic influences on mental health and health care access. Interns work with culturally diverse, underserved, and marginalized populations and are supported in developing reflective, advocacy-oriented, and culturally responsive clinical practice.

How to Apply

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

Required Materials (submitted through the AAPI only)

- Completed AAPI online application, including DCT verification of internship eligibility
- Cover letter describing fit with the program

- Curriculum vitae
- Three letters of recommendation
- Graduate transcript

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.