

# Postdoctoral Fellowship in **Pediatric Neuropsychology**



## Postdoctoral Fellowship in **Pediatric Neuropsychology**

The postdoctoral fellowship in pediatric neuropsychology at IU School of Medicine and Riley Hospital for Children at IU Health is designed to meet the training guidelines set by the Houston Conference for postdoctoral specialization in clinical neuropsychology.

The neuropsychology service at IU School of Medicine is located at the IU Health Neuroscience Center (Goodman Hall). The service is comprised of pediatric and adult providers, appointed across the Departments of Neurology and Psychiatry, functioning collectively within the discipline of neuropsychology. The fellowship was founded in 1997 and is a longstanding member of the Association of Postdoctoral Programs in Clinical Neuropsychology (APPCN). The fellowship houses pediatric and adult tracks, with fellows sharing workspace areas, attending lifespan neuropsychology didactics together, and jointly participating in the program's professional development and intercultural competence training.

Within the pediatric track, fellows also train at Riley Hospital for Children at IU Health. Pediatric fellows gain expertise in developmental brain-behavior relationships and strengthen essential skills working with medically complex children. This is accomplished through diverse clinical activities, pediatric-focused didactics, and research involvement in the Neuroscience Center and Riley Hospital for Children.

As the only pediatric academic medical facility in Indiana, we provide an essential service to some of the most medically complicated children in the state. Graduating fellows are well prepared for independent practice in pediatric neuropsychology. They are also ready to pursue ABPP board certification in clinical neuropsychology and subspecialization in pediatric neuropsychology.



## **Program Structure**

The fellowship program is designed to provide fellows with exposure to a wide range of medical conditions, cognitive and neurodevelopmental disorders, and comorbid psychiatric issues. A strong emphasis is placed on multidisciplinary collaboration and participation in medical teams. Over the course of the 2-year program, fellows gain increased independence in clinical, research, and professional activities.

Approximately 60% of the fellow's time is spent in clinical activities, 30% in didactics and supervision, and 10% in research.



**Outpatient Evaluations:** The first-year fellow performs 2 outpatient evaluations per week from the general referral stream, with psychometrist coverage on 1 case.

**Sickle Cell Clinic:** The fellow performs 1-2 targeted neuropsychological evaluations per week in the multidisciplinary Sickle Cell Clinic.

**Inpatient Rehabilitation:** The fellow follows 1-2 inpatient rehabilitation cases per month, in preparation for the second year of fellowship.

**Outpatient Evaluations:** The second-year fellow performs 2 outpatient evaluations per week from the general referral stream, with psychometrist coverage on most cases.

**Inpatient Rehabilitation:** The fellow assumes a leadership role in coordinating neuropsychology services and follows 4-5 inpatient rehabilitation cases per month.

**Spina Bifida Clinic:** The fellow is the neuropsychology liaison to the multidisciplinary Spina Bifida Clinic.



## **Clinical Experiences**

#### **General Outpatient Clinic**

Fellows complete comprehensive neuropsychological evaluations in our general outpatient clinic. To be referred for an evaluation, patients must have a medical condition that impacts the CNS. Common medical conditions seen by our service include epilepsy, brain tumor, stroke, leukemia and other cancers, traumatic brain injury, spina bifida, cerebral palsy, genetic disorders, sickle cell disease, cardiac disease, and neurofibromatosis. Outpatient evaluations are performed in a "same-day" model, with diagnostic intake, testing, supervision, and feedback all occurring in the same day-long appointment. In addition to full-day evaluations, fellows conduct abbreviated evaluations with preschool-age and concussion patients. The pediatric service has 5 full-time psychometrists who provide testing support.

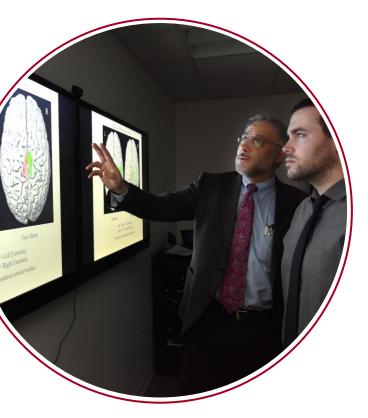
#### **Inpatient Rehabilitation Unit**

Fellows work with a multidisciplinary team to provide care for patients with a variety of acquired brain injuries, including TBI, brain tumors, CNS infections, and cerebrovascular accidents. Fellows provide psychoeducation to caregivers and the rehabilitation team. They work with the rehabilitation team to monitor cognitive recovery and provide recommendations for behavioral health management. They also provide targeted evaluations prior to discharge and coordinate with the team to advise on return to home and learning environments.





## **Clinical Experiences**





#### **Epilepsy Surgery Program**

Riley Hospital for Children houses the only Level 4 epilepsy program in the state. Fellows conduct pre- and post-surgical neuropsychological evaluations and participate in the multidisciplinary epilepsy surgery conference. Over the course of training, fellows can follow patients through the epilepsy surgery program, conducting pre-surgical neuropsychological evaluations, observing fMRI, presenting in conference, observing a neurosurgical procedure, and re-evaluating patients post-surgery.

#### Sickle Cell Clinic

Fellows complete targeted screening neuropsychological evaluations in the multidisciplinary Sickle Cell Clinic for patients without major neurovascular events. This includes evaluations with school-age children, transition-age adolescents, and pre- and post-transformative therapies. Fellows participate in "same-day" targeted intake, testing, supervision, and feedback to families and the medical team.

#### Spina Bifida Clinic

Fellows provide consultation and liaison services to the multidisciplinary Spina Bifida Clinic. Fellows collaborate with the medical team to screen for cognitive and psychosocial issues, provide psychoeducation on cognitive risks, offer educational recommendations, and monitor the need for referral for outpatient neuropsychological evaluation.

## **Training Experiences**

#### **Professional Development**

Over the course of training, fellows are expected to develop an area of special interest and expertise. Faculty will mentor fellows to help them curate their training goals, research activities, didactic exposure, and clinical opportunities to develop this area of focus. Second-year fellows develop a job talk and consult with faculty in preparation for their job search.

#### **Diversity and Inclusion**

The goal of the pediatric neuropsychology fellowship is that all fellows feel included, and that diversity is valued. Our program focuses on providing continued training in culturally competent care and developing and maintaining an inclusive environment for patients, families, trainees, staff, and faculty. These values inform all programmatic activities, including our monthly seminar on Intercultural Competence, which is open to trainees, faculty, and staff.

#### Supervision

Fellows have the opportunity to supervise interns and graduate students across outpatient assessment, inpatient rehabilitation, and multidisciplinary clinic settings. Fellows are supervised using a vertical supervision model. The aim is to support fellows in building skills across various supervisory roles, while ensuring they receive ongoing mentorship and timely, constructive feedback on their supervisory performance.

#### **Program Development**

As Riley Hospital for Children at IU Health continues to grow, our neuropsychology service to the hospital is expanding.

Opportunities exist for motivated fellows to take initiative in developing programming in medical clinics of interest, as time and schedule permit.



### **Didactics**

Didactics cover major adult and pediatric neurobehavioral conditions, relevant clinical issues, clinical neurology and psychiatry, and functional neuroanatomy. The goal is to prepare fellows for independent practice and ABPP board certification in clinical neuropsychology.

#### **Pediatric Neuropsychology Seminar**

Fellows on the pediatric track participate in a Pediatric Neuropsychology Seminar that covers medical conditions, clinical syndromes, and issues that are unique to pediatric populations. This seminar also includes a trainee-led component, with trainees presenting topics of clinical or research interest. Pediatric fellows present once per training year.

#### Lifespan Neuropsychology Seminar

Fellows on the pediatric and adult track participate in Lifespan Neuropsychology Seminar, which consists of lectures on topics that cover major neurobehavioral conditions in adults and children, broad clinical issues in neuropsychology, lifespan clinical neurology/psychiatry, and functional neuroanatomy. Fellows also practice fact finding in the style of ABPP board certification.

#### **Professional Development Seminar**

Fellows across pediatric and adult tracks participate in the Professional Development Series. This series includes didactics on topics such as job search, ethics, board certification, supervision, program development, and promotion.



#### **Intercultural Competence Training**

Intercultural Competence Training includes discussion of readings relevant to the practice of culturally competent neuropsychology, as well as speakers with expertise on topics such as developing cultural awareness and increasing healthcare equity in neuropsychology.

#### **IUSM Didactics (Optional)**

IUSM offers a wide range of didactics that cover medical conditions, clinical issues, and new developments in the fields of neurology, psychiatry, and neuroscience. These didactic experiences are optional but can enhance clinical competence and promote a well-rounded understanding of how neuropsychology functions within a broader medical context. Example offerings include Grand Rounds (Pediatrics, Neurology, Psychiatry), Pediatric Brain Tumor Board, Pediatric Neuroradiology Conference, Brain Cuttings, and Medical Neuroscience Wet Labs.





#### Research

Fellows are required to produce one tangible scholarship project with first authorship, or achieve equivalent academic contribution (i.e., co-authoring a book chapter, presenting at a conference). Fellows may pursue an original research/academic project or may contribute to ongoing faculty-led studies. Faculty have active affiliations with various multisite research studies including the Cardiac Neurodevelopmental Outcomes Collaborative (CNOC) and Pediatric Epilepsy Research Consortium (PERC). Within-site research databases also exist, including an archival dataset of neuropsychological test performance from clinic patients, and an archival dataset of neuropsychological test performance and structural and functional MRI performance on working and episodic memory from patients with mTBI, chemotherapy to treat leukemia, and temporal-onset epilepsy.



#### Liz Begyn, PhD, HSPP, ABPP

Assistant Professor of Clinical Neurology Clinic Director, Pediatric Neuropsychology Service

Dr. Begyn completed her doctorate at the University of North Texas and her fellowship in pediatric neuropsychology at Children's Medical Center Dallas. She is board certified in Clinical Neuropsychology, with subspecialty certification in Pediatric Neuropsychology. Dr. Begyn has clinical interests in working with people with visual impairment/blindness. She is the supervising neuropsychologist in the Spina Bifida Clinic. Outside the hospital, Dr. Begyn is busy raising two kids with her husband and huge inventory of seasonal animatronics.



#### Jana Chan, PhD, HSPP, ABPP

Assistant Professor of Clinical Neurology Director, Neuropsychology Track, Predoctoral Internship Program Co-director, Pediatric Neuropsychology Fellowship Program

Dr. Chan completed her doctorate at Ohio University and her internship and fellowship in pediatric neuropsychology at Nationwide Children's Hospital. She is board certified in Clinical Neuropsychology. Dr. Chan has interest in working with children and families across the range of TBI. She is the attending neuropsychologist on the Inpatient Rehabilitation Unit. She also has interest in working with children with cardiac disease and spearheads the section's contributions to the CNOC database. Outside the hospital, Dr. Chan is a Hoosier native who enjoys thrift shopping, DIY projects, biking the Monon Trail, playing outside with her nature-loving daughter, and eating anything her husband cooks.



#### Anne-Marie Fleckenstein, PhD, HSPP

#### **Assistant Professor of Clinical Neurology**

Dr. Fleckenstein completed her doctorate at Fielding Graduate University and fellowship in pediatric neuropsychology at Akron Children's Hospital. She has expertise in adoption and adverse childhood experiences and brings a unique traumainformed perspective to her clinical work. Her clinical interests include autoimmune and genetic disorders, and she is the supervising neuropsychologist in the Neurofibromatosis/RASopathy Clinic. Outside the hospital, Dr. Fleckenstein enjoys exploring the outdoors and discovering new things with her son and playing with her two exuberant and highspirited goldendoodles.



#### Emily Kalscheur, PhD, HSPP, ABPP

#### **Assistant Professor of Clinical Neurology**

Dr. Kalscheur completed her doctorate at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine & Science, internship in adult/pediatric neuropsychology at Emory University School of Medicine/Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, and fellowship in pediatric neuropsychology at Medical College of Wisconsin. She is board certified in Clinical Neuropsychology. Dr. Kalscheur has interest in understanding risk for change following neurosurgical intervention and the memory system as it relates to a variety of neurological conditions. She is a supervising neuropsychologist for the Epilepsy Surgery Program. Dr. Kalscheur lives in the Fort Ben area with her husband, son and two cats. In her free time, she enjoys hiking, gardening, visiting family and watching the Packers.



#### Sarah Koch, PhD, HSPP, ABPP

#### **Assistant Professor of Clinical Neurology**

Dr. Koch completed her doctorate at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, internship in pediatric neuropsychology at Texas Children's Hospital/Baylor College of Medicine, and fellowship in pediatric neuropsychology at Indiana University School of Medicine/Riley Hospital for Children. She is board certified in Clinical Neuropsychology. Dr. Koch has interest in working with children with developmental disabilities within the context of their medical condition. She is the supervising neuropsychologist for the Neuro-Oncology Program and Sickle Cell Clinic. Outside the hospital, Dr. Koch lives in downtown Indianapolis with her husband, daughters, and golden retriever. She and her family enjoy frequenting the city's canal walk, parks, and restaurants. She is an Indianapolis native and Butler basketball fan – go Dawgs!



## Brenna McDonald, MBA, PsyD, HSPP, ABPP

Professor of Radiology and Imaging Sciences, Neurology, and Clinical Psychology in Psychiatry Director, Pediatric Neuropsychology Associate Director, Center for Neuroimaging Co-director, Pediatric Neuropsychology Fellowship Program

Dr. McDonald completed her doctorate and internship at Widener University and fellowship in Neuropsychology and Neuroimaging at Dartmouth Medical School. She is board certified in Clinical Neuropsychology, with subspecialty certification in Pediatric Neuropsychology. Dr. McDonald has clinical interests in preand post-surgical populations, for whom she also provides fMRI evaluations. She is a supervising neuropsychologist for the Epilepsy Surgery Program. Dr. McDonald's research program includes cognitive and MRI studies of children with epilepsy, mild TBI, and leukemia, as well as cognitive effects of breast cancer chemotherapy. Outside the hospital, Dr. McDonald is a proud Baltimore native and sports fan. She spends free time with her husband and daughter, ideally in the great outdoors, and enjoys running and playing soccer.



#### Tania Morales Zelaya, PhD, HSPP

#### **Assistant Professor of Clinical Neurology**

Dr. Morales completed her doctorate at Ball State University and pediatric neuropsychology fellowship at the Thompson Center for Autism & Neurodevelopment within the University of Missouri Health Care system. Her interests include genetic disorders, cerebral palsy, and epilepsy. As a bilingual and bicultural provider, she integrates multicultural care into her neuropsychological evaluations, with a special affinity for working with Spanish-speaking individuals. Originally from Honduras, Dr. Morales enjoys exploring different international cuisines, dancing, and traveling with her husband in her free time. Dr. Morales and her husband also share a passion for nature walks, biking, and running 5ks (but not marathons).

## **Salary and Benefits**

#### **Salary**

Salary is \$62,232 for the first year and \$62,652 for the second year.

#### **Benefits**

Benefits offered at no cost to fellows include:

- Health insurance (individual and family)
- · Vision and dental insurance
- Life insurance
- · Disability insurance
- Malpractice insurance

Campus parking is provided at no extra cost. PTO is 20 days per year. These are in addition to standard institutional holidays. Professional funds total \$3,000 across the entirety of the two-year fellowship.

#### **Nondiscrimination Policy**

The fellowship adheres to IU's nondiscrimination policies and does not engage in discrimination based on characteristics such as age, color, disability, ethnicity, sex, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status. All of our training facilities are fully ADA-compliant in terms of accessibility. If a fellow is in need of additional resources to succeed, the program will work with that person on accessing additional available resources.



## **Application and Selection**

The pediatric track will be recruiting one fellow for the 2026-2028 training cycle. Preferred applicants are doctoral candidates in an APA-accredited graduate program in clinical, counseling, or school psychology, and are currently completing an APA-accredited internship. Applicants must participate in the APPCN-affiliated National Matching Service.

#### **Application Procedure**

Interested applicants should submit the following materials:

- Cover letter
- CV
- 3 letters of recommendation
- Graduate transcript (copies issued to student are acceptable)

Interviews will take place after initial screening of applications. Interviews will be scheduled January 27 or 29, 2026, and will take place virtually (by phone or videoconference) in line with current recommendations from APPCN.



Submit materials via email to
Angie Seibers, Program
Coordinator (aseibers@iu.edu)

All materials must be received by **December 15, 2025** 

## Life in Indianapolis

Affectionately referred to as the "Crossroads of America," Indianapolis combines the metropolitan perks of city life with the accessibility of Midwest America. Whether you're seeking excitement, culture, or commerce, Indy truly has it all.

Active residents of Indiana's capital can walk, run, or bike the Cultural Trail that encircles and sprawls through every major section of downtown, before slowing to enjoy the scenic Canal Walk or checking out the gold mine of wine and dine that is Mass Ave. For those who prefer to watch others be active, Indianapolis has nearly every major sport covered, between the Colts (NFL), Pacers (NBA), Fever (WNBA), and world-famous Indy 500, along with minor league baseball and ice hockey, and professional volleyball and soccer. Spend a quiet day at our nationally ranked zoo or one of several museums in the area, including the world's largest children's museum. Fellows enjoy a free family membership to Newfields arts and garden museum. Take in a show with the Indiana Repertory Theater company or Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, located in the heart of downtown on Monument Circle. Use the city as your starting point for travel through the Indianapolis International Airport, placed among the top spots for Best Airport in North America.

