

WEILL CORNELL MEDICINE, DEPARTMENT OF NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY,
DIVISION OF NEUROPSYCHOLOGY: **POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP IN
CLINICAL NEUROPSYCHOLOGY (PEDIATRIC)**

Setting and Fellowship Vision:

The Neuropsychology Division within the Department of Neurological Surgery at Weill Cornell Medicine / New York Presbyterian has been in existence since October 2010. Weill Cornell Medicine's Department of Neurological Surgery's pediatric neurosurgery program is nationally recognized for its preeminence in the treatment of pediatric brain tumors, congenital malformations, craniofacial disorders, epilepsy, hydrocephalus, vascular abnormalities, and traumatic injuries. The country's leading neurosurgeons within this program regularly rely on and utilize the services of neuropsychology. Therefore, the overarching mission of the Fellow within the Neuropsychology Division would be to support the neurosurgical attendings and residents in their comprehensive pre-operative, intra-operative, and post-operative patient management. The Neuropsychology Division aims to improve the quality of life for neurosurgical patients and their families by providing:

- A complete continuum of care, from neurocognitive assessment and intraoperative support to post-operative neuropsychological treatment to facilitate recovery and return to functioning.
- Integrated neuropsychological services collaborating with multiple departments involved in the care of neurosurgical patients including neurology, interventional radiology, psychiatry, physical medicine/rehabilitation, pediatrics, and genetics.
- Participation and development in national and international research projects thus promoting the prominence of neuropsychology in the areas of the research, education, and development of innovative neuropsychological testing approaches and rehabilitative techniques.

The Fellowship is designed for a two-year experience, as consistent with Division 40 / Houston Conference Guidelines for training in Neuropsychology (<https://uh.edu/hns/hc.html>) . The Fellowship adheres to the scientist-practitioner model of training; including expectation of completion of comprehensive training in neuropsychological assessment, intervention and research.

Fellowship Faculty:

The Neuropsychology faculty within the Department of Neurological Surgery at Weill Cornell Medicine / New York Presbyterian have a combined 25+ years of experience in both evaluative and interventional neuropsychology services. Collectively, the Neuropsychology Attendings have trained nearly 100 students at the pre- and post-doctoral fellow level, including multiple Fellows in Clinical Neuropsychology.

All current members of the Neuropsychology Division Faculty are board-certified through the American Board of Professional Psychology (ABPP) and the American Board of Clinical Neuropsychology (ABCN).

Fellow Duties and Responsibilities:

We are recruiting **ONE** post-doctoral-level Fellow for a full time placement beginning July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2026. The Fellow will perform neuropsychological evaluations with diverse pediatric populations presenting with varying neurological, medical, and neurodevelopmental disorders, including, but not limited to: epilepsy, craniofacial disorders, Chiari malformations/cranio-cervical instability, brain tumor, neuromuscular and genetic disorders.

In addition to comprehensive neuropsychological assessments, the Fellow will have the opportunity to take part in evaluating patients who require Wada testing, as well as intra-and extra-operative functional language mappings.

Reflective of our Division's Scientist-Practitioner model, opportunities for scholarly activity is strongly encouraged and supported by Department of Neurological Surgery faculty. Research-related assessments will also be undertaken as part of intra-/extra-mural research, as well as through clinical trials work. A research requirement (up to 30% of the Fellow's time) will focus on the neurocognitive and behavioral impact of neurosurgical intervention, management and related surveillance across multiple pediatric patient populations. Publications and grant development is strongly encouraged and supported throughout the Fellowship and will be one criteria for successful completion of the Fellowship. WCM support services are available to facilitate this requirement.

The Fellow will also have the opportunity to participate in both individual and group cognitive remediation therapy with child and adolescent patients experiencing cognitive and emotional difficulties following treatment and intervention for neurological and neurosurgical disorders.

Fellows may participate in a number of didactic programs that include: Neurosurgery Grand Rounds, Neurology Grand Rounds, Epilepsy Conference, Interventional Neuroradiology/Cerebrovascular Rounds, Pediatric Fellow Case Conference, and Tumor Board, among others are available. Neuropsychology and Cognitive Remediation Seminars will be provided. Fellows are encouraged to take part in contributing to didactics for Neuropsychology externs throughout WCM.

The post-doctoral Fellow will have ample opportunity for tiered, mentored supervision of a large cohort of pre-doctoral externs. In this role, Fellows will have the opportunity to hone their own supervisory skills through direct observation, provide input on test selection and data interpretation, as well as aide in the preparation of extern-led neuropsychological test reports.

Bilingual students that would like advanced experience learning to administer Spanish-language measures can receive supervision by a Spanish-speaking neuropsychologist, if interested.

Application Pre-Requisites:

Fellows must have completed a doctoral degree in one of the health service delivery areas of psychology (e.g., clinical, counseling, school, clinical neuropsychology, health psychology) or a doctoral degree in psychology with additional completion of a “re-specialization” program designed to meet equivalent criteria as a health services delivery training program in psychology.

Although it is preferred that Fellows complete an APA or CPA approved program, exceptions can be made for strong, unaccredited programs which afford graduates high-level training in clinical neuropsychology in accordance with Division 40 recommendations, including coursework in clinical psychology, brain-behavior relationships, and the practice of other specific areas critical for clinical neuropsychology. Preference will be given to applicants who completed an internship in pediatric neuropsychology or with a significant rotation in working with child and adolescent populations.

All degree requirements must be completed before the start date of the Fellowship.

All accepted Fellows will have completed a one-year pre-doctoral internship (APA-accredited program is preferred) prior to beginning the Fellowship.

Support:

Support is calculated using NIH fellowship guidelines and are based on years of post-doctoral experience. Salary range is estimated to be \$55,937 - \$61,170.

Application Procedure:

All application materials are due on **December 1, 2023** in a single PDF file. Materials should include:

- Letter of interest
- Three letters of recommendations: one from internship, one from externship and one discussing research-related abilities
- Two deidentified neuropsychological testing reports (one must be pediatric)

Interviews are required and will be scheduled for December 2023-January 2024 virtually. Face-to-face meetings can be arranged, if desired, at the upcoming INS Meeting in New York.

All emails should be addressed to:

H. Allison Bender, Ph.D., ABPP

Director of Clinical Training – Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Clinical Neuropsychology

Email: hab9075@med.cornell.edu

Please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Bender at the email address above if you have any questions.