



University of Virginia School of Medicine Postdoctoral Fellowship in Clinical Neuropsychology

UVA School of Medicine - Neuropsychology Assessment Clinic

Department of Psychiatry & Neurobehavioral Sciences

Stephanie D. Bajo, PsyD, ABPP-CN, Neuropsychology Fellowship Training Director Racheal M. Smetana, PsyD, ABPP-CN, Assistant Training Director Donna K. Broshek, PhD, ABPP-CN, Program Director

Application Deadline: December 15, 2025 Openings: 2

APPCN Member Program: Yes **Start Date:** July 1 to September 1, 2026 (flexible)

Introduction

The Department of Psychiatry and Neurobehavioral Sciences at the University of Virginia (UVA) School of Medicine offers a two-year full-time postdoctoral fellowship in clinical neuropsychology. We are currently recruiting for two postdoctoral fellows for the 2026 - 2028 training period. Our training program has been designed in accordance with the Houston Conference guidelines for postdoctoral training in clinical neuropsychology. We have been an APPCN Member Program since 1993 and we participate in the APPCN match. As an APPCN program, our training fulfills eligibility requirements for board certification in clinical neuropsychology through the American Board of Professional Psychology. This residency site also agrees to abide by the APPCN policy that no person at this facility will solicit, accept, or use any ranking-related information from any residency applicant. The application deadline is Monday, December 15, 2025. Interviews will be conducted via videoconference during January 2026.

Commitment to Individualized Training and Community

The Graduate Medical Education (GME) affirms to each housestaff (residents & fellows in specialty training) a commitment to ensuring a safe, respectful learning, and working environment. The GME department also works closely with UVA faculty to stimulate meaningful conversations about fostering an individualized training program in order to build skills necessary to best serve our patients and community. Our program specifically strives to ensure that all residents feel included at UVA. Just as we support, respect, and appreciate individual differences in our patients, we support, respect and appreciate the individual differences in our applicants and current fellows within our program. The UVA GME is also invested in providing <u>resources</u> to support housestaff well-being.

Overview of Fellowship Program Training Structure

The training site for the Neuropsychology Postdoctoral Fellowship program is housed within the Neuropsychology Assessment Clinic (NAC), which is located at the main UVA academic medical center campus in Charlottesville, Virginia. Each fellow has their own office on the same floor as other clinic staff. The fellowship program does not have dedicated rotations in other offsite or onsite clinics, but does offer specialty emphasis in certain clinical populations (please see descriptions below).

The principal components of the fellowship include adult neuropsychology outpatient assessment, inpatient consultation, and diagnostic services (80%); the remaining 20% time is primarily dedicated to didactics, professional development, supervision and teaching, and some opportunities for research.

Clinical Setting & Training Experiences

UVA School of Medicine - UVA Health



UVA has been rated the #1 hospital in Virginia multiple times by US News & World Report. The medical education and patient care programs were established in 1825 and UVA was the 10th medical school to open in the United States. The mission of UVA Health is to provide excellence, innovation and superlative quality in the care of patients, the training of health professionals, and the creation and sharing of health knowledge. The Graduate Medical Educational training program oversees the training of more than 800 residents or fellows across more than 85 specialties, sub-specialties, and training programs, including postdoctoral training in clinical psychology specialties such as neuropsychology.

Overview of Clinical Experiences

Fellows primarily conduct outpatient neuropsychological assessment of adults with neurological, neuropsychiatric, and complex medical disorders. We have three full-time psychometrists who administer neuropsychological testing. Fellows typically see 4-5 outpatient cases per week, with full psychometrist support. Fellows are supervised by a total of three full-time neuropsychologists, Drs. Broshek, Bajo, Smetana, and two part-time neuropsychology faculty (Drs. Bender and Mahoney). Fellows work with a combination of these attending faculty members throughout the week and across their two years of fellowship training.

In addition to outpatient experiences, fellows are on-call during clinic hours 1-2 days per week for inpatient consults (8:00am – 5:00pm M-F). The vast majority of inpatient consults are for psychodiagnostic assessment for psychogenic nonepileptic spells (PNES) or expedited lung transplant evaluation. The following sections provide an overview of the primary clinical experiences in both outpatient and inpatient settings.

Outpatient Clinic

Fellows gain generalist training in neuropsychological assessment due to the variety of clinical presentations seen in the outpatient NAC clinic, including patients with concussion/TBI (including sport concussion), epilepsy, functional neurologic disorders (including psychogenic non-epileptic spells), as well as student-athletes and solid organ transplant (lung, liver, and kidney) candidates. We additionally see a wide range of patients with other conditions, including autoimmune and infectious disorders (e.g., HIV/AIDS and encephalitis), early-onset/atypical dementias, medication- or substance-induced cognitive impairment, hypoxic/anoxic brain injury, cerebrovascular disease, sleep disorders, psychiatric comorbidity, postoperative cognitive dysfunction, and neurodevelopmental disorders. Fellows will also gain experience with issues related to secondary gain and performance validity testing. With the exception of individuals with TBI, epilepsy, or organ transplant, we do not typically see patients over the age of 65 with primary memory concerns.

Specialty Training Areas

While fellows will gain experience with a wide range of clinical populations, our neuropsychology fellowship program offers specialized training in the following areas.

Epilepsy

We conduct pre- and post-surgical evaluations for patients with epilepsy as part of UVA's Level 4 Epilepsy Center. Fellows gain experience presenting neuropsychology findings to a multidisciplinary team consisting of epilepsy specialists within neurology, neurosurgery, neuroradiology, psychiatry, and nursing during the weekly epilepsy surgical planning conference. See more information about the epilepsy program here.

Traumatic Brain Injury

Fellows gain significant experience conducting assessments for individuals who have experienced traumatic brain injury. While our clinic sees patients who have sustained the spectrum of TBI (mild to severe), many of the cases seen in our clinic fall into the mild TBI (concussion) category. Fellows obtain substantial training in both neuropsychological assessment of this clinical population and how to provide comprehensive education to patients on concussion recovery and symptom management.

Dr. Smetana also holds a half-day consultative clinic at the UVA Sports Medicine Clinic, where she conducts clinical interviews and provides education to adolescents and adults who have experienced a sports-related concussion. A sports neurologist is also integrated in this clinic to provide multidisciplinary care. Neuropsychological testing is not administered, but patients are sometimes referred to our main clinic for comprehensive assessment. Fellows who are interested in gaining more experience with sports-related concussion are able to see patients with Dr. Smetana at the Sports Medicine Clinic.

Lung Transplant

We see every patient who is being considered for lung transplant to evaluate their cognitive abilities, emotional functioning, understanding of transplant, motivation and willingness, and aftercare plan. Based on our results, we identify and provide recommendations for potential neuropsychological concerns that could impact transplant outcome. We also participate in the weekly lung transplant selection committee meeting. The lung transplant service has a highly coordinated multidisciplinary team that includes pulmonologists, surgeons, social work, nurses and nurse coordinators, dieticians, pharmacists, and physical therapists. See more information here.

Learning Disorders and ADHD

We partner with the UVA Athletics Department to conduct screening assessments and comprehensive psychoeducational evaluations for UVA Division I student-athletes. Common referral questions include ADHD and learning disorders. We also occasionally see athletes for concussion-related evaluation and comprehensive evaluation to inform decisions about medical retirement secondary to multiple sports related concussions.

Functional Neurological Disorder (FND)

Fellows gain substantial experience assessing patients who have either been formally diagnosed with FND, or are suspected to have functional neurological symptoms. By the conclusion of their two-year training, fellows can expect to have the skills necessary to conduct targeted psychodiagnostic evaluations with individuals who have confirmed functional symptoms, be able to provide psychoeducation about FND to patients, and to identify and provide appropriate mental health treatment resources. The inpatient NES consult service line (see more information below) serves as the major pathway for fellows to gain these experiences; however, we often see patients in our outpatient clinic who present with symptoms that raise substantial concern for a somatic contribution to their overall clinical picture.

Inpatient Consults

Fellows gain experience providing inpatient consult services to select clinical populations. The majority of consults include psychodiagnostic assessments for individuals with newly diagnosed psychogenic nonepileptic spells (PNES). Fellows also complete consults for patients undergoing work-up for lung transplant and who require an expedited inpatient transplant evaluation.

Functional Neurological Disorder

We are consulted when individuals admitted to the UVA Epilepsy Monitoring Unit (EMU) are diagnosed with non-epileptic spells. We conduct psychodiagnostic interviews to assess for risk factors for psychogenic non-epileptic spells (PNES), and we provide patient and family education and treatment recommendations. These consults do not involve any objective neuropsychological/psychological testing.

Expedited Lung Transplant Evaluations

On occasion, we are consulted to see potential transplant candidates on an inpatient basis when they are admitted to the hospital for expedited work-up due to rapidly declining pulmonary status. These evaluations involve a clinical interview with the patient and/or family members and abbreviated cognitive testing on an inpatient unit.

Additional Training Opportunities

Additional opportunities may be possible on a case-by-case basis for minor rotations in forensic neuropsychology or neurodegenerative disorders depending on interest and the agreement of our colleagues overseeing those services. There are occasional opportunities to complete independent medical examinations, fitness for duty, and other forensic evaluations with Drs. Bender and Bajo at the NAC clinic. For fellows particularly interested in forensics, additional training opportunities may be available with Dr. Bender through the UVA Institute of Law, Psychiatry, & Public Policy(ILPPP) Forensic Clinic.

Supervision

Fellows typically work with each attending faculty weekly. Training is individualized and developmental, and is designed to prepare fellows for independent practice. Fellows are treated as junior colleagues and are an integral part of our clinic. Depending on their level of experience with various patient populations, fellows initially observe or co-interview with faculty. As fellows gain experience in our clinic, they are expected to independently conduct clinical interviews and feedback sessions, coordinate with other providers, and take a primary role in all aspects of a patient's care. During the first year, weekly structured supervision is provided, in addition to case-by-case as-needed discussion. As fellows progress through their first year and into their second year, supervision becomes less structured and more akin to consultation. Second-year fellows take on more administrative tasks necessary for running a neuropsychology clinic, and provide training to first-year fellows. Fellows also provide formal tiered supervision to psychology practicum students and medical/psychiatry residents completing a rotation in our clinic.

Didactics and Education

Professional Development Seminar/Journal Club: Our clinic holds a weekly meeting to discuss professional development, clinical best practices, journal articles, current topics in the field, quality improvement projects, and complex clinical cases.

Neuropsychology Seminar Series: Neuropsychology fellows from the Departments of Psychiatry and Neurology meet once a week for a seminar series designed to prepare fellows for board certification in neuropsychology. Speakers are brought in from other departments and institutions to cover a wide range of neuropsychology, neurology, and professional development topics. Fellows are required to present once per training year on topics related to the clinical practice of neuropsychology (e.g., neuroanatomy; clinical syndromes) which can assist fellows with board preparation. Additionally, each fellow completes a full mock ABPP exam, including written exam, fact finding, and work sample defense, administered by faculty members who also serve as ABPP examiners.

Neurology Grand Rounds: We typically attend the weekly Department of Neurology Grand Rounds. Recent examples of presentation topics include: *Interactions of Sleep and Epilepsy; Functional Neurologic Disorders; Parkinson's disease and DBS: Neuropsychological assessment and non-motor outcomes; <i>Islam and health issues.*

Monthly Psychology Fellows Seminar: Fellows attend a monthly professional development seminar series with the health psychology and forensic psychology fellows in the Department of Psychiatry and Neurobehavioral Sciences. Dr. Donna Broshek, Director of the UVA Medical Psychology Fellowship Program, and Dr. Stephanie Bajo, Assistant Director of the UVA Medical Psychology Fellowship Program, coordinate this monthly seminar.

Additional Didactic Opportunities: UVA Psychiatry Grand Rounds, UVA Neuropathology Rounds (brain cuttings), UVA Neuroradiology Rounds, UCSD web didactic series, and ILPPP forensic case series. There are numerous opportunities to present during grand rounds/departmental meetings, or to guest lecture in graduate classes.

Research

Participation in research is not a core component of our clinical fellowship, but fellows are expected to complete one research project over the course of the two-year fellowship. Fellows may choose to participate in independent or ongoing clinical research, with work presented as abstracts at national conferences and/or through manuscript submission. Collaborative research opportunities are available with our colleagues in the epilepsy program, with current projects focused on post-surgical outcomes from epilepsy surgery and using novel neuroimaging techniques in presurgical decision-making. Collaborative opportunities are also available with our academic colleagues in Kinesiology, with access to large sports concussion databases. Fellows also co-review articles with faculty members for a variety of academic journals. Fellows have access to research support and resources through the Claude Moore Health Sciences Library, including stats consults, data analyses programs, and support with scientific writing and publishing.

Leadership and Service

All faculty of the fellowship program hold leadership positions in national and international organizations, and are committed to cultivating leadership and service skills in fellows. We foster this by connecting fellows with leadership programs through UVA or national neuropsychology groups, supporting and promoting fellow involvement in larger professional groups, and providing opportunities for departmental committee participation. Many graduates of our program have gone on to hold prominent leadership roles in national and international organizations. Fellows are also encouraged and given opportunities to participate in community-based outreach initiatives.

Full-Time Faculty

Donna K. Broshek, PhD, ABPP-CN



Dr. Broshek is the John Edward Fowler Professor of Psychology at the UVA School of Medicine with a primary appointment in Psychiatry and Neurobehavioral Sciences, where she is Director of the Neuropsychology Assessment Clinic, Chief of Psychological Services, and Director of the Psychology Fellowship Program. Clinically, Dr. Broshek sees a large volume of patients with sports concussion, mild to moderate traumatic brain injury and persisting symptoms after concussion, as well as patients with intractable epilepsy and a variety of other neurologic and medical conditions. She is a Fellow of the National Academy of Neuropsychology, the Sports Neuropsychology Society, and the American Epilepsy Society. Dr. Broshek is the inaugural Executive Director of the Sports Neuropsychology Society, of which she is also a Past President. She is a member of the Concussion Committee for the NBA and former board member of the international Concussion in Sport Group. She has been active in research on sports concussion and mTBI, as well as national clinical trials for the treatment of intractable epilepsy. Dr. Broshek has been active at the local, regional, and national levels in promoting concussion education and safety. In 2014, Dr. Broshek was recognized with the Master Educator Award through the UVA Graduate Medical Education Program after nomination by her fellows; she is the only psychologist and non-MD faculty in the School of Medicine to have been awarded this distinction. In 2019, she was awarded the Distinguished Service Award by the National Academy of Neuropsychology.

Stephanie D. Bajo, PsyD, ABPP-CN



Dr. Bajo is an Assistant Professor at the UVA School of Medicine, with a primary appointment in the Department of Psychiatry and Neurobehavioral Sciences, where she also serves as the Training Director of the Neuropsychology Fellowship program and Assistant Program Director of the Medical Psychology Fellowship program. Dr. Bajo completed her neuropsychology fellowship at University of Virginia School of Medicine and subsequently joined the faculty at UVA in 2016. Clinically, she sees patients with a range of medical, neurological, and psychological co-morbidities, although primary clinical interests include concussion/TBI, epilepsy, infectious disease, and functional neurological disorders. As an equestrian, she also has a specific clinical and research focus in sports concussion related to horse-back riding. Dr. Bajo conducts forensic neuropsychological assessments, including Worker's Compensation/ Independent Medical Examinations and Fitness for Duty evaluations. She also heads the Spells Workup Assessment Team (SWAT), which is an inpatient consult service line dedicated to providing targeted clinical interviews to patients newly diagnosed with Non-Epileptic Spells. Outside of her role at UVA, Dr. Bajo has been an active member within the National Academy of Neuropsychology, most recently serving on the NAN board of Directors as a Member at Large (2022-2025).

Racheal M. Smetana, PsyD, ABPP-CN



Dr. Smetana is an Assistant Professor at the UVA School of Medicine, with a primary appointment in the Department of Psychiatry and Neurobehavioral Sciences. Dr. Smetana completed her neuropsychology fellowship at University of Virginia/Western State Hospital, and joined the faculty at UVA in 2022. Clinically, she sees patients with a range of medical and neurological conditions, with primary clinical interests in sport-related concussion, traumatic brain injury, and epilepsy. Dr. Smetana is a provider within the OCIR Sports Concussion Clinic, providing consultation services to adolescent and early-adult athletes after concussion. Her current research is focused on epilepsy and concussion. Dr. Smetana has a strong interest in leadership and service. She serves as Secretary of the Concussion in Para Sport Group, is Co-Chair of the Legislative Action and Advocacy Committee through the National Academy of Neuropsychology, and is the Co-Symposium Director of the Sports Neuropsychology Society. She also actively volunteers in the community of Charlottesville.

Part-time Faculty

Scott D. Bender, PhD, ABPP-CN



Dr. Bender is an Associate Professor of Psychiatry & Neurobehavioral Science at the UVA School of Medicine. He obtained his PhD at the University of North Texas where he began his studies of malingering detection under the mentorship of Richard Rogers, PhD. After completing his internship in clinical neuropsychology at Yale University, Dr. Bender completed his postdoctoral fellowship in the department of Neurology at the University of Virginia. He joined the UVA department of Psychiatry and the Neurocognitive Assessment Lab in 2002 and has been with the Department's Institute of Law, Psychiatry & Public Policy since 2005. His primary duties include conducting clinical and forensic neuropsychological evaluations, teaching, and publishing manuscripts. His areas of research involve differential diagnosis of malingering and the effects of traumatic brain injury (particularly mild TBI) on neurocognitive and emotional functioning. He is often invited to speak at national conferences and is frequently called to testify in both civil and criminal legal cases. Dr. Bender has authored multiple published manuscripts, articles, and chapters and is co-editor of the 4th edition of *Clinical Assessment of Malingering and Deception*.

James J. Mahoney, PhD



Dr. Mahoney is an Associate Professor at the UVA School of Medicine, with a primary appointment in the Department of Psychiatry and Neurobehavioral Sciences where he also serves as the Director of the Psychiatric Neuromodulation Research Program (PNRP). Dr. Mahoney completed his neuropsychology fellowship at the UVA School of Medicine in 2016, subsequently joining the faculty at the West Virginia University (WVU) School of Medicine and Rockefeller Neuroscience Institute (RNI) before transitioning to his current position at UVA in August 2025. Clinically, Dr. Mahoney sees patients with a range of medical and neurological conditions, with primary clinical interests in substance use disorder and cognitive sequelae related to addiction. During his time at WVU/RNI, he served as the Chair of Research in the WVU Department of Behavioral Medicine and Psychiatry and also served as the Director of the RNI Addictions Research Program. Over the past several years, Dr. Mahoney has been heavily involved with the management and oversight of various first in the world or US clinical trials involving neuromodulation investigations for psychiatric indications. These have included studies involving Deep Brain Stimulation and Low Intensity Focused Ultrasound (FUS) for Substance Use Disorder and FUS for Binge Eating Disorder. Dr. Mahoney has accumulated over 20 years of clinical research experiences, has served as co-investigator on several NIDA and NIGMS funded proposals, has co-authored 82 peerreviewed manuscripts (33 first/senior authored) and several book chapters, and has presented original research findings at numerous international conferences. In his current role as Director of the PNRP, Dr. Mahoney's current research focus includes investigating, refining, and optimizing various forms of neuromodulation for the treatment of substance use disorders and other behavioral/psychiatric indications.

Instructional Faculty at NAC

Bernice A. Marcopulos, PhD, ABPP-CN, Adjunct Faculty



Dr. Marcopulos was formerly Professor of Psychology at James Madison University. She maintains an active teaching role at UVA, which reflects her involvement in our neuropsychology didactic program. The former Director of Behavioral Medicine at Western State Hospital and Co-Director of the fellowship, she has a long history of being an integral part of our fellowship. She has conducted research on rural mental health and established neuropsychological test norms for rural elderly. Dr. Marcopulos has multiple peer-reviewed publications and book chapters on a variety of topics within neuropsychology, including forensic practice, delirium assessment, capacity evaluations in the elderly, and schizophrenia. She was Chair of the Examination Committee for the American Board of Clinical Neuropsychology from 2006 until 2021 and is currently the Executive Director. Given her experience in these roles, Dr. Marcopulos provides significant expertise as part of our Mock Board Examination process for fellows. A Fellow of the American Psychological Association and the National Academy of Neuropsychology, she received the American Academy of Clinical Neuropsychology Distinguished Neuropsychologist Award in 2015.

Psychometrists

- Merry Kelty Chief Psychometrist
- Jessica S. James
- Monica Sarker

Current Fellows

Emmy Velazquez, PsyD Second Year DFJ8RZ@uvahealth.org

Anthony Longoria, PhD Second Year NTF2EH@uvahealth.org Michelle Mui, PhD First Year DAB2PV@uvahealth.org

Benefits

The salary will be no less than \$60,375 for the first year and \$60,798 for the second year. An additional monthly stipend is provided to cover UVA parking fees. Excellent health insurance, dental insurance, vision insurance, and prescription benefits are provided to fellows and their families for an extraordinarily low monthly premium. There are typically no additional co-pays or other fees to see UVA health care providers.

Fellows have 15 days of annual leave and up to 14 days of sick leave per year, inclusive of time needed for mental health. At the discretion of the Program Director, additional professional leave is provided for conference attendance, EPPP, job interviews, and other professional activities. Poster printing services are available, and fellows can receive travel support for presenting research at conferences. In addition, UVA has Paid Parental Leave.

See the Graduate Medical Education (GME) website for more information about salary, benefits, and leave policy.

Eligibility Requirements

Qualified applicants will have completed an APA- or CPA-accredited doctoral training program in clinical psychology and APA- or CPA-accredited internship in clinical psychology. The candidate's doctoral degree must be conferred no later than 1 month in advance of their fellowship start date. Hospital policy states that all incoming housestaff must pass a background check and drug screening as a function of employment.

Applicants with a strong background and training in neuropsychology are preferred, as this fellowship is designed for individuals seeking board certification in clinical neuropsychology. It would be expected at the start of fellowship that individuals will already have advanced knowledge of the foundational neuropsychology and clinical interviewing, test administration and interpretation, and report writing skills.

To Apply

Application materials should be sent electronically to Dr. Bajo at the email address listed below and must be received by **December 15, 2025**. To reduce travel burden on applicants, all interviews will be conducted virtually (video call).

Materials to submit:

- Cover letter/letter of interest describing your training goals and clinical and research interests
- Curriculum vitae
- Graduate school transcript an unofficial copy is sufficient for the application; official transcripts will be required for all fellows upon matching
- 3 letters of recommendation
- 1 de-identified sample report
- APPCN Doctoral Training Verification Form
- Application form

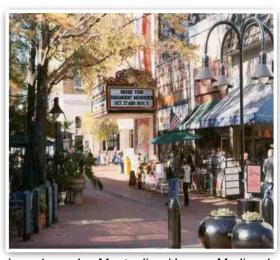
Please direct all application materials and inquiries to:

Stephanie D. Bajo, PsyD, ABPP-CN Neuropsychology Training Director sdb7q@uvahealth.org

Please note there is another neuropsychology fellowship through the UVA Neurology Department under the direction of our colleagues Drs. Fuchs, Manning, Reilly, and Rossetti. That program has a separate application and interview process and also serves different patient populations, including dementia and movement disorders.

Living in Charlottesville

Charlottesville is a metropolitan city located in the center of the Commonwealth. The City of Charlottesville and the surrounding Albemarle County have a combined population now exceeding 150,000. The Blue Ridge Parkway, Skyline Drive, and ski resorts are approximately one-half hour by car to the West; Virginia Beach, three hours to the Southeast; and Washington, D.C., two hours to the Northeast. The focal point of the city is the University of Virginia, which was founded by Thomas Jefferson. In 2021, the university unveiled a memorial to the enslaved labors who built UVA to honor 5,000 men and women who contributed so much to the award-winning beauty of our campus. UVA has renowned programs in African-American and African studies and the largest Buddhist studies programs in North America. The area is rich in history and popular tourist spots include Monticello (Thomas Jefferson's home).





Ash Lawn-Highland (James Monroe's home), and nearby Montpelier (James Madison's home). Exhibits also prominently highlight the contributions of enslaved workers and African American History. Money magazine has named Charlottesville among the top cities in the United States, Outside magazine listed it as one of their "dream towns," and Charlottesville has been lauded as one of the top cities for charming atmosphere, book lovers, wine enthusiasts, college football, as well as one of the healthiest cities. Charlottesville is home to several chapters of national organizations and local groups dedicated to community engagement. UVA is also home to numerous Division I athletics teams, with an astounding five back-to-back national championships in women's swimming and diving and past national championships in men's NCAA basketball and lacrosse and men's tennis.