

Practicum in Clinical Neuropsychology 2026-2027
Cognitive Neurology Unit/Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

The Cognitive Neurology Unit (CNU) at BIDMC welcomes advanced doctoral students in psychology seeking experience in adult clinical neuropsychology. The CNU is an outpatient clinic staffed by a multidisciplinary team of neuropsychologists, neurologists, neuropsychiatrists, social workers, and trainees from all disciplines. Specialty clinics include the DiAD (anti amyloid therapy), Memory A2Z, Epilepsy, DBS, and Concussion/TBI. Neuropsychological evaluation is an integral part of all treatment teams. Therapeutically focused evaluations are provided to adult patients (age 16-90) with a variety of neurological problems including neurodegenerative disorders, head injury, stroke, multiple sclerosis, epilepsy, and neurodevelopmental disorders. Opportunities for assessing individuals who are diverse regarding socioeconomic status, race, ethnicity, culture, language, education, gender identity, and sexual orientation are offered. For fluent Spanish speaking students, training for evaluation in Spanish and supervision from a bilingual neuropsychologist on staff may be available.

The CNU practicum is designed to promote mastery of skills in all areas of neuropsychological evaluation, including interviewing, testing, scoring, report writing, and providing patient feedback. The practicum trainee is involved in assessment of two to three patients per week. During some training years, supplemental clinical activities may include cognitive remediation and therapy groups coordinated through the Brain Fit Club. Academic expectations include participation and case presentation in rounds and didactic seminars. Up to two hours of weekly supervision as well as didactics are provided. Although the practicum is designed with a clinical emphasis, research opportunities are sometimes available for interested students able to commit additional time on site. The practicum is unpaid and is a 12-month training program (July 1st - June 30th); a year-long commitment is required. Applicants should be in the third or fourth year of their doctoral program. Concentration in neuropsychology, demonstrated by strong prior neuropsychological testing experience, is preferred.

Expectations for practicum students:

Mastery of test administration and scoring during the early months of the practicum
Complete scoring/data sheet and behavioral observations on each case
Report writing responsibilities (weekly report)
Attend and present at weekly neuropsychology seminar (Wed 3-4)
Attend CNU/CNBS Grand Rounds (Wed 4-5)
Attend weekly supervisory sessions with primary supervisor

Optional experiences:

Weekly BIDMC Neurology Grand Rounds (Wed 11:30-12:30)
Weekly Neuropsychology Seminar through MMHC/BIDMC postdoctoral program in neuropsychology (available depending on number of students) (Thurs 9-10:30)
Participation in clinical research studies
Co-leading cognitive remediation groups

To learn more about the CNU, please see our website: www.cognitiveneurologyunit.com.

Interested students should forward a letter of interest, CV, transcript, and three (3) letters of recommendation to Sara Hoffschmidt, PhD at shoffsch@bidmc.harvard.edu.