

## Postdoctoral Fellowship in Clinical Psychology for 2010-11



Advanced training in  
cognitive behavioral  
treatment and applied  
behavior analysis

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*“Excellence in service, training, and research is a critical element of May Institute’s philosophy and mission. Our postdoctoral program strongly supports that mission through this intensive, advanced program for May Institute fellows.”*

*— Lauren C. Solotar, Ph.D.*

*Chief Psychologist, May Institute*



## About May Institute

May Institute is a nonprofit organization that provides educational, rehabilitative, and behavioral healthcare services to individuals with autism and other developmental disabilities, brain injury, mental illness, and other behavioral healthcare needs. The Institute also provides training and consultation services to professionals, organizations, and public school systems.

Since its founding more than 50 years ago, May Institute has evolved into an award-winning national network that serves over 25,000 individuals and their families annually at more than 200 service locations in the Northeast, Southeast, and on the West Coast. Several May Institute schools serve children and adolescents with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) and other developmental disabilities; another school serves individuals with brain injury. Over 90 percent of the Institute's eligible programs have received three-year accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF).

The Institute is an active center of research and training, maintaining affiliations with more than 55 universities, hospitals, and human service agencies worldwide. In addition to the Postdoctoral Fellowship in Clinical Psychology, the Institute offers an APA-accredited Predoctoral Internship Program.

May Institute is the first non-profit human services organization in the country to receive top national honors from the Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis and the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies.

In 2005, May Institute sponsored the initial development of the National Autism Center<sup>sm</sup>, a groundbreaking nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting effective, evidence-based treatment approaches for autism, and to providing direction to families, practitioners, organizations, policy-makers, and funders. Together, May Institute and the National Autism Center are committed to identifying and applying universal standards for the treatment of autism and to providing care and hope to families throughout the country.



## Program and Clinical Philosophy

This program provides advanced training in cognitive behavioral psychology and applied behavior analysis (ABA) to individuals who have completed a predoctoral internship accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA) and have completed their doctoral studies. Postdoctoral fellows complete a yearlong training program in either the Behavior Health Services track or the applied behavior analysis (ABA) track. Fellows generally train at one service site at May Institute and follow an individually based program that includes clinical training (assessment and therapy or behavioral consultation and intervention), research, teaching in the predoctoral internship seminar series, and attaining post-internship supervision hours. Fellows are expected to apply for licensure at the end of the postdoctoral year, attend continuing education seminars, and participate in conferences in their areas of specialization.

The postdoctoral fellowship provides an advanced supervised training experience in psychology based on the scientist-practitioner model of training. Our interpretation of this model holds that the scientist-practitioner psychologist selects empirically based clinical strategies, references research literature while developing an intervention plan, collects treatment data using a valid methodology, and shares findings at professional conferences or through publications. This model supports an integrated approach to science and practice, with the ultimate goal of developing a set of interlocking skills that foster a career-long process of assessment, intervention, investigation, and dissemination.

Training in this model occurs through supervised clinical placement experiences designed to meet licensure requirements. The integration of research and practice is applied and directly instructed during the following training experiences:

- individual and group clinical supervision;
- presentations of clinical work to faculty and peers;
- participation in the May Institute Continuing Education (CE) Seminar Series; and
- supervision of practicum students with input and feedback from the fellow's primary supervisor.



## Training Model

The field training component of our program is structured around a primary training site. This model was chosen to capitalize on the fine-tuning of clinical skills and specialization during the postdoctoral year. There may be an opportunity to train at a second site, depending on supervisor availability and interest.

The program is divided into two training tracks: **Behavioral Health Services** and **Applied Behavioral Services** (see “Training Placements” on pages 6 and 7 for a complete description of training settings).

All placement sites train fellows to function independently as psychologists. However, because each site may differ in service model and population, the postdoctoral fellow may have different responsibilities and requirements.

## Goals and Objectives of the Postdoctoral Fellowship Program

The objectives of the Postdoctoral Fellowship Program in Clinical Psychology are focused on helping fellows attain competency in the following areas: refined clinical training (assessment and therapy or behavioral consultation and intervention), research, teaching, and attaining post-internship supervision hours. Fellows are expected to apply for licensure at the end of the postdoctoral year.

## Introduction to Clinical Supervision and Management

Throughout the year, fellows are exposed to clinical situations or given specific assignments that will allow them to practice and refine the skills associated with each competency domain. Supervisors and other faculty observe fellows at work, review their work during supervision, or review clinical reports or research projects to continuously evaluate the fellows’ progress. This training strategy helps guide supervision and feedback most effectively – as fellows achieve outcomes, they attain competence.



## Fellowship Placements:

### Applied Behavioral Services

- Combined National Autism Center and May Center for Child Development, Randolph
- May Center for Education and Neurorehabilitation, Brockton
- Autism Spectrum Disorders Clinic, Randolph

### Behavioral Health Services

- Fernandes Center for Children and Families, Fall River
- May Institute Behavioral Health Services, West Roxbury (Boston)
- May Counseling Center, Walpole

## Training Placements

The program is designed around two training tracks: **Applied Behavioral Services** and **Behavioral Health Services**. Not all sites are available each year. They vary based on program needs and ability. The 2010-11 postdoctoral placements are described on the following pages.

**Applied Behavioral Services** placement sites conduct applied research and deliver consultation and direct services, primarily for children and adolescents with severe behavior disorders associated with brain injury, autism, and other developmental disabilities. The primary clinical approach is based on the principles of ABA.

Fellows report working in the range of 45-60 hours per week.

**Behavioral Health Services** placement sites deliver a range of outpatient, consultation, and day services across all age groups and diagnoses. These sites utilize clinical approaches primarily founded on the principles of behavioral and cognitive psychology. Clinical populations include adults, adolescents, children, and families with mild to moderate mental health disorders and developmental disability presentations; and adults with severe and persistent mental illness. Several placement sites have a large percentage of culturally and ethnically diverse clientele.



## Seminars

The CE Seminar Series provides an opportunity for fellows to increase depth of knowledge in areas directly related to their clinical work, and to broaden knowledge into areas peripherally associated with their clinical work. Seminars emphasize the application of scientific psychology to clinical and systems problems. The seminar series includes advanced presentations by invited speakers.

## Stipend and Benefits

Postdoctoral fellows receive a competitive stipend while participating in the program. May Institute offers health and dental insurance, basic life insurance, a 403(b) plan, and short-term disability. Fellows also receive 20 days paid leave and nine paid holidays. All benefits are available on a pro-rated basis for fellows who attend less than full-time.

# 2010–2011 Expected Training Placements

## Applied Behavioral Services Track

**Combined National Autism Center and May Center for Child Development**

41 Pacella Park Drive  
Randolph, MA

The primary responsibility of fellows at this placement is to conduct applied research in the area of treatment for Autism Spectrum Disorders. Fellows are expected to participate in all aspects of the publication process including but not restricted to: maintaining a caseload and/or consulting to classrooms in order to complete applied research activities, data analysis, as well as contributing to the peer-reviewed articles, chapters, and/or books. Fellows would also participate in the completion of future versions of the National Standards Project. In addition to research activities, fellows may be involved in capacity-building activities such as a delivering and/or evaluating strategies for building systemic capacity to deliver evidence-based practice.

**May Center for Education and Neurorehabilitation**

596 Summer Street  
Brockton, MA

Fellows in this placement provide applied behavioral **services to individuals who have experienced brain injury** as a result of trauma or illness, and are currently served in a private school, and/or a community-based residential program. Fellows conduct assessments of severe behavioral challenges, develop individual treatment plans, and provide behavioral consultation to support staff working with severely challenged clients. In addition, this placement provides opportunities for fellows to participate in IEP and curriculum development and ongoing research activities.

**Autism Spectrum Disorders Clinic**

41 Pacella Park Drive  
Randolph, MA

Training and experience in clinical, educational, and behavioral **consultation for children with autism**. Fellows in this setting provide services to the families of children with autism, or teachers serving children with autism in a private school setting. Fellows learn to conduct a comprehensive clinical assessment that considers the child's health and well-being; setting and contextual variables; traditional functional behavior assessment; and functional analysis. Fellows learn to design comprehensive support plans to address a range of problems such as behavior disorders, feeding problems, sleep problems, and skill deficits. Opportunities to provide short-term treatment to families and caregivers are available.

## Behavioral Health Services Track

### Fernandes Center for Children and Families at Saint Anne's Hospital

795 Middle Street  
Fall River, MA

This placement is situated in a community-based outpatient hospital program focusing on **pediatric and child psychological services**. Duties may include participation on an interdisciplinary, clinical team; outpatient behavioral treatment of a variety of child disorders (e.g., anxiety, depression, behavior disorders, developmental disabilities); the psychosocial aspects of medical disorders (e.g., medical adherence, living with chronic illness, school adjustment); and group-based treatments and consultation.

### May Institute Behavioral Health Services

2020R Centre Street  
West Roxbury, MA

Training and experience in **outpatient clinical services** with a culturally, ethnically, and socio-economically diverse population. The population includes exposure to severe and persistent mental illness and complex "dual diagnosis" cases. Fellows have the opportunity to work with a culturally diverse caseload and cases of significant complexity within a large outpatient clinic, a psychiatric day treatment program, an Adult Day Health Program and/or a Children's Therapeutic After-School Program. In addition, fellows can provide school-based therapeutic services to children and adolescents in the Boston area.

### May Counseling Center

95 West Street  
Walpole, MA

Training and experience in the provision of **outpatient psychological services** to children, adolescents, and adults. These services include individual, family, and group therapy as well as consultation to community agencies. The populations include individuals with psychiatric and behavioral disorders, and a variety of other mental health problems including anxiety and stress-related problems, depression, and eating disorders. Psychological testing experience is also available.

## Completion Requirements:

2160 hours of training (45 hours/week x 48 weeks), that includes:

- At least 1000 hours of direct service;
- Four hours per week of supervision (two of which are individual supervision);
- Rated as “fully competent” by supervisors and faculty on all training outcomes; and
- Completion of the above requirements within 24 months of start date.

## Admissions Requirements and Application Process

The program is designed for advanced-level doctoral students in accordance with the specific standards set by the APA. Applicants who have completed an APA-accredited predoctoral internship program in clinical or school psychology are most competitive. It is expected that the applicant will have completed all doctoral requirements, including the dissertation defense prior to the start of the postdoctoral fellowship.

### Admissions Requirements

Applicants must be completing their doctoral degree in professional psychology from a regionally accredited, degree-granting institution in the United States.

Applicants must have completed an APA-accredited predoctoral internship program in clinical or school psychology that included delivery of professional psychological services appropriate for their targeted placement sites. Applicants must demonstrate ethical conduct and interpersonal skills appropriate to the professional practice of psychology. Applicants' interests and aptitudes must be in concert with our program's goals and objectives. Applicants should have an understanding of our program's philosophy and model of training.

Applicants are evaluated on the basis of academic preparation, internship and practicum experience, letters of recommendation, and degree of fit between the applicant's goals and the goals of the program. May Institute does not discriminate on the basis of race, gender, age, ethnicity, sexual preference, or religious affiliation.

## Application Process

Applicants must submit the following:

- A letter of interest listing top May Institute placement sites
- Two letters of recommendation
- Consent for CORI and driving record check (available as a download from [www.mayinstitute.org](http://www.mayinstitute.org), Click on Careers & Training and Pre-doctoral Internships)

*Massachusetts Law requires criminal record checks to be conducted of all applicants to Human Service agencies. In addition, we require driving record checks of all employees. A match to our program is contingent upon the successful completion of a criminal record (CORI) and driving record check with the Department of Motor Vehicles.*



**The deadline for  
application is  
March 31, 2010**

Mail your completed  
application to:

Caroline Harrington  
Coordinator of Clinical Training  
May Institute

41 Pacella Park Drive  
Randolph, MA 02368  
781.437.1346

After all materials are received,  
we will notify candidates who are  
selected for an interview.



E-mail inquiries and  
submissions invited:

[psychinternship@mayinstitute.org](mailto:psychinternship@mayinstitute.org)

**MayInstitute**  
*Shaping Futures. Changing Lives.*

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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