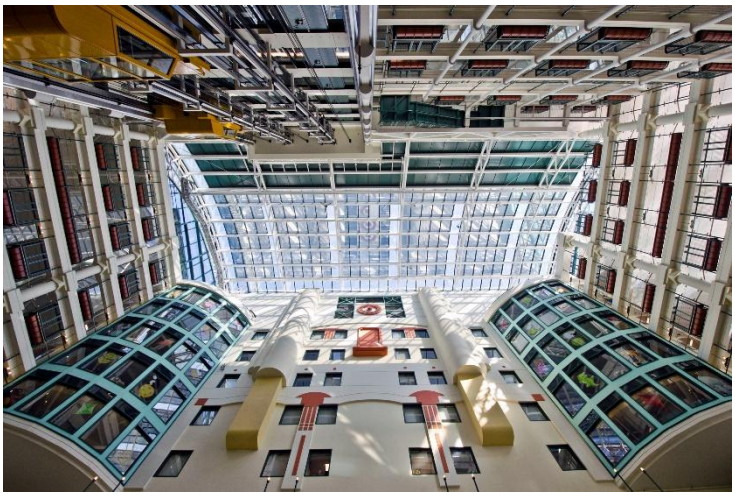
Postdoctoral Fellowship in Paediatric Psychology

2027-2028





Department of Psychology
The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, ON, Canada

Paediatric Psychology Fellowship Coordinator: Joel Tourigny, Ph.D., C.Psych
Director of Training: Hannah Gennis, Ph.D., C.Psych

SickKids®

Overview

The Department of Psychology at The Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids) in Toronto, Ontario is pleased to offer a postdoctoral fellowship in paediatric psychology. As one of the fastest growing sub-specialties in psychology today, paediatric psychology offers clinicians the opportunity to work in partnership with a wide range of professionals to enhance children's health and well-being at the intersection of mind and body. The fellowship may be completed on a full-time (1.0 FTE), or part-time (0.5 FTE) basis, and primarily involves direct clinical service to the children, youth, and families served by the hospital. This one-year training position begins on September 1, 2027 (date negotiable).

Our program is a member of the Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC). The fellowship adheres to a scientist-practitioner model and training is intended to prepare fellows for registration with the College of Psychologists of Ontario (CPO) and sub-specialty practice in the area of paediatric health psychology.

The philosophy of the fellowship mirrors that of SickKids in that the needs of the patient and family are primary. An evidence-based/best practice approach is used and fellows work closely with various members of the multi-disciplinary team. Conceptualizing the child's medical, psychological, social, emotional, and spiritual needs within a developmental framework is integral to practice.

The hospital staff and the administration are dedicated to developing greater mental health equity in accordance with SickKids' core values of compassion, integrity, collaboration, inclusion, innovation, and excellence. In addition to their primary focus on direct patient care, fellows will be offered additional opportunities to do this through engaging in research, advocacy, and/or engaging with community or inter-departmental partnerships. Fellows will have opportunities to participate in the maintenance and development of these essential collaborations.

SickKids, affiliated with the University of Toronto, is Canada's largest paediatric academic health care institution and one of the world's leading children's hospitals. As innovators in child health, SickKids improves the health of children by integrating care, research and teaching. It is a centre of excellence in the delivery of cutting edge health care to the paediatric population, and is supported by Canada's strongest hospital-based Research Institute.

The Department of Psychology at SickKids exists as an independent department within a Child Health Services cluster model of service provision, and includes approximately 40 psychologists, 13 psychometrists, and numerous research staff and trainees providing services and conducting clinical research within the hospital. In addition to specialty training in Paediatric Psychology, the Department offers clinical training at the post-doctoral level in Paediatric Neuropsychology (2 positions), internship level (3 positions, accredited by the Canadian Psychological Association), and graduate practicum level. Several programs within the hospital secure independent grants for clinical and/or research fellows from year to year which enriches the collegial atmosphere amongst trainees at all levels.

Goals of the Fellowship

The goal of our program is to prepare fellows for independent specialty practice in paediatric health psychology. Fellows are exposed to a wide range of patient populations in both inpatient and outpatient settings. Each fellow will select major and minor rotations in accordance with their interest and with the guidance of the fellowship coordinator. Fellows will also choose from various 'exposures' to broaden their training experience. A primary goal of the fellowship is to develop a working model of psychological assessment, consultation, and intervention that allows for effective, thorough, yet efficient service delivery in the fast paced and complex setting of an academic health sciences centre. A secondary goal of the fellowship is supporting fellows to obtain registration as psychologists with the CPO, and thus the training activities may include sufficient breadth to support registration, such as offering opportunities to perform cognitive assessments or provide intervention services from clinical and health perspectives. Complementary goals include becoming adept at working within a multi-disciplinary team and developing sub-specialty expertise through depth rotations in specific areas such as pain, obesity management, or eating disorders. Graduates of our program have entered into positions in academic medical centers, private practice and multi-disciplinary community clinics.

Training Activities

The fellowship offers clinical training in outpatient and inpatient psychological assessment, consultation, and intervention for children, youth, and families. Children and families served come from a wide range of paediatric medical clinics with the full-spectrum of medical, psychological, and social issues.

Upon completion of the fellowship, graduates will have developed specialty expertise in paediatric health psychology. They will be well versed in consulting with medical teams and educating team members on how health psychology can positively impact children's lives. They will be practiced in the art of conducting assessments and consultations in the hospital setting and providing effective direction to medical teams where appropriate. Graduating fellows will have had opportunities to develop a broad intervention skill set including individual, group, and/or family therapy skills.

They will have developed expertise in a variety of health psychology interventions, including:

- prevention of disease and injury,
- enhancing coping and adaptation to illness,
- improving adherence to treatment regimens,
- treating mental health disorders related to physical well-being,
- balancing family systems that have been disrupted by an illness or its treatment,
- harmonizing sleep, eating, and elimination irregularities,
- stress, pain, and symptom management, and
- treating somatic and conversion disorders.

Program Structure & Rotations

Fellows have opportunities for paediatric health and clinical psychology training in a range of programs and clinics. Rotations are selected based upon fellows' interests, availability of supervisors and program capacity, and the goals of providing a range of clinical experiences including both depth and breadth, inpatient and outpatient contacts, and small and large clinics serving a varied patient population. In conjunction with the fellowship coordinator fellows will select from major rotations which will fill approximately 2 days per week of their time for the full year, and minor rotations which will fill approximately 1 day per week of their time for a full year or 2 days per week for a half year. Fellows will have the opportunity to select exposure experiences, which will fill smaller time windows. Exposures may include co-leading a treatment group in a new clinic to enhance breadth of training, engaging in developing an inter-departmental partnership focused on mental health equity, or taking a small number of assessments to satisfy goals of registration with the CPO.

Major Rotations:

Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect Program (SCAN)

The Suspected Child Abuse & Neglect (SCAN) program at Sickkids provides medical and psychosocial intervention for children, youth and their caregivers. The program is multidisciplinary and services 400-500 children/youth per year who have experienced physical abuse, sexual abuse/assault, neglect and/or emotional abuse. In addition, we offer specialized psychosocial services for children and youth who have experienced Internet sexual exploitation and sex trafficking. The program has expertise in complex trauma and is seen as a leader in the field. Clinicians engage in training, research and leadership activities.

Healthy Living Clinic

For an in-depth view of the Healthy Living Clinic, visit: https://www.sickkids.ca/en/care-services/clinics/healthy-living-clinic/. The program's multidisciplinary team assesses approximately 50 new patients annually. Its program offerings include:

- Teen Program: for teenagers with complex obesity aged 12 to 17.5 years.
- Early Years Program: for children living in the GTA aged six months to five years.
- Day Treatment Program: this new initiative is temporarily funded by an internal grant and explores the benefits of providing intensive day-treatment at SickKids.

Chronic Pain Program

The Chronic Pain Clinic at SickKids is a specialized service for the assessment and treatment of children and adolescents with chronic pain. It is made up of an experienced team of anesthesiologists, advanced practice nurses, two psychologists, a psychiatrist and physiotherapists. They provide family-centered care and offer treatments and therapies based on the best evidence. For more information, visit: https://www.sickkids.ca/Anesthesia/Chronic-Pain-Clinic/. The Chronic Pain Program engages in:

- Multidisciplinary consults,
- Individual assessment and treatment,
- Group treatment programs.

The Outpatient Psychiatry Program

The Department of Psychiatry at SickKids provides psychodiagnostic assessment and evidence-based intervention for children, adolescents, and their caregivers, who present with anxiety and/or depressive disorders, obsessive-compulsive disorders, and somatic symptom and related disorders. Interdisciplinary team members include psychiatrists, clinical and health psychologists, social workers, therapists, nurse-practitioners, and medical trainees who engage in a breadth of clinical work, research, and training.

Common presentations include social and generalized anxiety, selective mutism, obsessive-compulsive disorder, low mood, suicidal ideation, and significant somatization. Patients may present with acute or chronic medical conditions, behavioural difficulties, attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder, parent-child relational challenges, and learning disabilities.

Fellows work with school aged children, adolescents, and their caregivers in a combination of individual therapy and group interventions. Evidence-based treatment modalities are varied, with cognitive behaviour therapy being most widely utilized and other therapeutic modalities (e.g., acceptance and commitment therapy, dialectical behaviour therapy, interpersonal psychotherapy) incorporated as indicated. Group opportunities may include DBT-informed Multi-Family Skills Group, Mind Body Together Group (for Somatic Symptom and Related Disorders), and CBT Group for Mood and Anxiety Management. Opportunities may also be available for program evaluation research, education, multidisciplinary collaboration, as well as inpatient health psychology assessment, symptom management and consultation.

This rotation emphasizes developing proficiency in providing evidence-based interventions with school-aged children, youth and their caregivers across a broad range of psychiatric and health presentations. Strong candidates would have foundational training in CBT, familiarity with ACT/DBT, and an interest in intervention with youth with complex and comorbid mental and/or physical health presentations.

Eating Disorders Program

The ED Program provides outpatient, day treatment, and inpatient services to children and adolescents with a primary diagnosis of an Eating Disorder (ED) and their families in a multi-disciplinary setting. The youth served in the ED Program typically present with complex ED symptoms and comorbid mental health difficulties such as depression, anxiety, and obsessive-compulsive disorder. Many of the youth are also struggling with emotion dysregulation, suicidal ideation/behavior, and non-suicidal self-injurious behavior.

While this is an intervention rotation with ample opportunities to deliver family-based, group, and individual therapy to patients, the fellow will also conduct psychodiagnostic assessment of the Eating Disorder and comorbidities alongside the multidisciplinary team. Treatment will primarily take place in the outpatient program and the ED day treatment program. Modalities include Family-Based Therapy for Anorexia or Bulimia, Dialectical Behavior Therapy (individual therapy and skills group), Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and Emotion Focused Family Therapy Caregiver group. Fellows will also learn to provide Meal Support to patients in the ED day treatment program. Fellows will also participate in regular multi-disciplinary meetings, which will include opportunities to provide consultation to other professionals on the team (physicians, nurses, dieticians, social workers, child and youth counsellors and teachers). Applied clinical research and program evaluation studies are ongoing and resident involvement is welcomed.

A strong candidate for this rotation is one who is interested in learning to deliver Family-Based Therapy for Anorexia or Bulimia and in working with youth with emotion dysregulation, severe and complex mental health difficulties, and/or limited insight into their symptomatology. Familiarity with family therapy, DBT, CBT, EFFT, and motivational interviewing will be assets in this rotation.

Minor Rotations:

Health Psychology Service

The Health Psychology Service (HPS) provides outpatient consultation, assessment, and intervention for children, adolescents, and families experiencing emotional, behavioural, or functional challenges related to medical conditions and their treatment. Patients present with concerns including adjustment to medical diagnosis or illness, coping with physical symptoms, treatment adherence, and procedural anxiety. The HPS also provides parent coaching to support caregivers in managing these challenges. The service receives referrals from a range of medical clinics and divisions, including cardiology, nephrology, gastroenterology (including Inflammatory Bowel Disease [IBD]), neurology, rheumatology, urology, cystic fibrosis, dermatology, and endocrinology. The patient population spans infancy through adolescence and represents a wide range of medical diagnoses and healthcare experiences. Fellows will have opportunities to develop skills in supporting children, adolescents, and families coping with a wide range of acute and chronic medical conditions. Fellows will gain experience conducting psychological consultations and health psychology and/or psychodiagnostic assessments, developing biopsychosocial case formulations, and providing evidence-based interventions to children, adolescents, and caregivers. Treatment opportunities may include individual, caregiver-focused, and group interventions (e.g., Coping with Chronic Health Challenges Teen Group, iACT child and teen groups for IBD, Circle of Security Parenting) utilizing approaches such as Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT), Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT), motivational interviewing, behavioural interventions, and parent coaching strategies. There may also be opportunities to follow outpatients during inpatient admissions to promote continuity of care for HPS patients while they are in hospital. The rotation provides broad exposure to paediatric health psychology practice within a tertiary paediatric hospital and emphasizes interdisciplinary collaboration. Fellows will have the opportunity to participate in interdisciplinary activities, including consultation with physicians, nurses, and allied health professionals, as well as psychosocial rounds with various medical teams led by the HPS team. The rotation is particularly well suited to fellows with a strong foundation in cognitive behavioural interventions who are interested in broadening their experience in paediatric health psychology. Exposure to ACT and previous experience working with paediatric medical populations would be assets but are not required.

Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome Clinic and Connective Tissue Disorders

The Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome (EDS) Clinic and Connective Tissue Disorders Program provides assessment, diagnosis, intervention, education and expertise in the treatment and management of Ehlers-Danlos, Marfan, and Loeys-Dietz syndromes. The EDS Clinic and Connective Tissue Disorders Program is an outpatient, multidisciplinary clinic consisting of a nurse practitioner, paediatrician, clinical geneticist, genetic counsellor, physiotherapist, social worker, and psychologists. Although the clinic serves children of all ages, psychology services are typically provided to school-aged children and youth. Common clinical presentations include low mood, generalized and social anxiety, panic, somatization, body dissatisfaction, emotion dysregulation, functional impairment, and chronic pain. Medical worries and trauma, difficult hospital experiences and adjustment challenges related to diagnosis and prognosis are often co-occurring. The fellow will be trained in developing and adopting a trauma-informed approach to care. The fellow will receive training and exposure in both clinical and health psychology and be involved in various clinical activities including health psychology

assessments, individual therapy, group intervention, and professional consultations. Trainees may also have opportunities to participate in comprehensive psychoeducational assessments to explore cognition, learning, social and emotional functioning, and health-related considerations. The rotation will also consist of weekly multidisciplinary pre-clinic rounds as well as participating in weekly EDS clinic. There will also be opportunity for clinical research and quality improvement projects. Primary treatment modalities include Acceptance and Commitment therapy (ACT) and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT). Mindfulness, Dialectical Behavioural Therapy (DBT), and behavioural approaches are also integrated based on individual patient characteristics and needs. Strong candidates would have a foundation of CBT and/or ACT training. A biopsychosocial approach to case formulation and conceptualization is emphasized. An interest in education, knowledge dissemination, and clinical research is also an asset.

Hematology/Oncology

Two rotations are offered, each focusing on a different chapter of care.

1. Active Treatment & Short-Term Follow-Up: This rotation covers the period from diagnosis through treatment and into the first five years off-treatment.
2. AfterCare: This rotation focuses on long-term survivorship care and monitoring for late effects of treatment.

In both rotations, trainees may work with additional cases from the general hematology and sickle cell clinics. Most children and families are seen as outpatients. However, some cases involve consultations during medical appointments and inpatient visits for hospitalized children. Inpatient health psychology referrals for consultation and intervention are common during active treatment. Patients typically range in age from toddlers to young adults. There is a greater focus on parenting interventions and support for pre-school aged children, while individual therapy is typically offered to older children and adolescents. Health psychology provides support to oncology patients and their families as they navigate complex and emotional journeys, including diagnosis, treatment, remission, adjustment to survivorship, relapse, and/or end-of-life care. Many children experience long hospital stays, lengthy courses of treatment, frequent outpatient visits, invasive medical procedures, and treatment side effects that can impact their short- and long-term well-being (e.g., physical, emotional, cognitive, and social). Common psychological presentations include health-related anxiety, medical trauma in youth and family systems, adjustment difficulties related to diagnosis/prognosis, and needle phobias and other procedure-related fears. Patients seen by psychology may have challenges adhering to treatment plans, struggle with functional impairments, or have difficulty coping with physical symptoms such as nausea, fatigue, and pain. Physical symptoms can be disease or treatment related, while others may be somatic with medical overlap. Mental health issues often co-occur within the context of cancer as a chronic health condition and can also be a focus of intervention. Trainees will be integrated into the interdisciplinary team, collaborating closely with physicians, nurses, neuropsychologists, social workers, child life specialists, physiotherapists, dietitians, and others. Clinical work offers opportunities to conduct brief consultations in fast-paced medical settings, engage in team-based discussions, and provide more traditional psychological assessments, diagnostic interviews, case conceptualizations, treatment planning, and interventions. Candidates who excel in this placement typically have prior experience with interviewing and intervention, along with some background or exposure to the principles of health psychology.

Exposure Experiences:

Opportunities for training within the hospital are numerous and exciting. Fellows are often excited about the chance to participate in an interesting clinic or learn from experienced staff. To allow fellows the chance to explore some of these opportunities, fellows may opt to engage in some exposure experiences. Exposures are less time intensive than minor rotations, and are intended to offer the fellow some familiarity with a given clinic, an improved understanding of an issue within paediatrics, or provide some training in a given assessment or therapeutic modality. Exposure opportunities vary from year to year, but could include:

- A more narrow exposure to one of the rotations listed above,
- Participation in a group intervention in a given clinic such as a mindfulness group or a parent education group,
- Engagement in a therapy training program run by staff in any of the above departments for various trainees
- A contribution to one of SickKids' initiatives with a focus on equity, inclusion, and social justice. Options will vary from year to year, but may include experiences with interprofessional education within the hospital or other areas of social paediatrics.
- Completing a small number of cognitive assessments from a novel clinic in order to satisfy registration requirements with the College of Psychologists of Ontario.

EDI at SickKids

SickKids is committed to fostering an equitable, diverse, inclusive, and accessible learning and work environment where trainees, staff, patients, and families are treated with dignity and respect. As a hospital community, we believe that an equitable and inclusive workplace culture empowers staff and trainees to freely explore and express their ideas without fear, supporting new ideas and innovations.

Consistent with SickKids' Health Equity and Inclusion Strategy, the Psychology Department and residency program strive to foster an environment of acknowledgement and recognition, possibility, and belonging among its people.

Our Health Equity and Inclusion Strategy provides a path to embed EDI across SickKids' care, research, and education initiatives. Developed through engagement and consultation with patients, families, staff and community partners, the Strategy advances a more equitable and culturally safe future at SickKids. Examples of actions supporting this commitment include:

- Leveraging the hospital-wide EDI Committee as a platform for discussion and guidance on equity-focused initiatives, program and policy development, research and learning

- Continuously reviewing and strengthening the Anti-Racism in the Workplace Policy and related policies and procedures that support an anti-racist and anti-oppressive environment

- Growing the Indigenous Health Program to support culturally safe care for Indigenous patients and families, including the Elder-In-Residence and Indigenous Health Navigation Team

- Signing the BlackNorth Initiative Pledge (2020, 2023, 2026), and championing activities that enhance the experiences of Black staff across our campus

- Supporting a Network of Inclusion – which includes nine Inclusion Groups (Employee Resource Groups) – to foster identity pride, advocacy and social connection, and cultural celebration across our communities

- Adopting the Inclusive Pride Flag and the acronym 2SLGBTQIA+ as visible expressions of gender diversity and justice

Supervision

Supervision is provided by senior staff in the Department of Psychology and involves observation, report review, and one-to-one supervision. Fellows will receive at least two hours of individual face-to-face supervision per week. Regularly scheduled, one-to-one supervision will include setting and monitoring of training goals, review of clinical cases, and issues related to professional development. Supervision follows a developmental model and fellows will work with a variety of faculty members throughout the fellowship for broad exposure to different styles of clinical practice and supervision. Regular meetings with the Fellowship Coordinator will allow fellows an opportunity to raise any questions or concerns that they may have regarding their fellowship or their experience integrating into the Sick Kids' community. These meetings also provide an opportunity to review the fellow's progress towards their training goals and ensure that their fellowship experience is meeting SickKids' high standards for training and clinical practice.
Fellows often have the opportunity to supervise pre-doctoral interns and practicum students within their major rotation and will receive supervision on the training they provide.

Safe Consultation

Integrating with the hospital culture of Sick Kids can be both a daunting and rewarding experience. The Department of Psychology is committed to ensuring fellows feel welcomed, included, supported and heard. Fellows will have access to the fellowship coordinator and the director of training to discuss the process of becoming part of the Sick Kids team and address any barriers to fellows feeling accepted and supported to succeed. Fellows will also have the opportunity to discuss early career issues with staff and trainees in the early career discussion group within the Department of Psychology.

In addition to having access to the fellowship coordinator and director of training, fellows will have access to Safe(r) Spaces at SickKids. This initiative comes from the Office of Health Equity and Inclusion and the organization's EDI Steering Committee and is a part of our ongoing efforts to create positive environments through the EDI Strategy. Safer Spaces allow individuals who are members of specific communities, and allies, to network, establish a sense of community and create affirming spaces at SickKids. Safer Space sessions are available on a drop-in basis and are led by EDI Steering committees caucus. These caucuses are situated around identity and community groups including:

- 2SLGBTQIA+
- Accessibility, Access and Inclusion
- Anti-Black Racism
- Women in Science
- Indigenous Reconciliation Working Group (coming soon!)
- Racialized, Unity, and Solidarity (coming soon!)

Employee Wellness

SickKids is committed to supporting its staff in their movement toward wellness in a variety of ways, including:

SickKids Wellness Centre: spanning 2,140 square feet, the facility features a fitness studio equipped with a range of machines to help you achieve your fitness goals. You'll find cardio and strength equipment, a stair climber, a leg press/extension machine, a squat rack, and much more!

- **Location:** 175 Elizabeth St, Toronto, ON M5G 2G3, Level 1 (main floor- close to the Elm side doors) Room 01-14-306.
- **Hours:** 24/7
- **Cost:** FREE for all SickKids Staff

Employee Assistance Program: The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) is a confidential and voluntary support service that can help you develop strategies to help you with personal or work-related concerns, tensions and stress before they lead to more serious difficulties. EAP is available at no cost to employees and their families.

Employee Relations: The Employee Relations group provides support to all staff who work at SickKids when dealing with difficulties in the workplace such as interpersonal conflict or issues related to discrimination, breaches of the Code of Conduct, the Respect in the Workplace policy and the Prevention of Workplace Violence and Harassment policy.

Peer Support Program: A confidential resource, offering individual mental health outreach and trauma support 24/7 to staff in need. Peers can connect with their colleagues in a variety of ways, including meeting one-to-one or providing support via telephone, email or text.

Spiritual & Religious Care Department: The SickKids Spiritual Care Department Consists of Four Pillars: Chaplaincy, Clinical Pastoral Education, Counselling, and The Mindfulness Project. Visit the site to find information about the four pillars, religious observances and related events.

For more details about the SickKids facility and the benefits and perks associated with working at this leading institution, visit https://www.sickkids.ca/en/careers-volunteer/careers/why-work-at-sickkids/.

Didactics

A rich array of didactic learning opportunities are available to fellows, residents, and staff at SickKids. Rotation-specific readings will be suggested by individual supervisors. More formal didactics are provided to ensure a broad knowledge base in paediatric psychology. Fellows are expected to attend all of the health psychology didactics, while attendance at the neuropsychology offerings is optional. In addition to these seminars, other optional didactic opportunities exist within the psychology department and the hospital as a whole.

Monthly Educational Curriculum:

- Professional Practice Seminar
- Clinical Didactic Seminar
- Clinical Neuropsychology Seminar and/or Health Psychology Seminar

Additional Clinical Learning Opportunities:

- Psychology Department Rounds (monthly)
- Clinical Health Evaluative Science (CHES) Rounds (weekly)
- Brain and Behavior Cross-Talks (monthly)
- Neuroscience and Mental Health Symposia (SickKids Research Institute, monthly)
- Clinical and research rounds associated with individual rotations (e.g., Neurology, Eating Disorders, Hematology/Oncology, Palliative Care) Paediatric Mental Health Grand Rounds (weekly)
- Bioethics Rounds : Bioethics Grand Rounds hosted by the Department of Bioethics are intended to address relevant and timely issues. These Rounds accredited by The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, take place every third Thursday of the month from Noon to 1:00 p.m.

Additional EDI Learning Opportunities:

- EDI Champions Program: The EDI Champion program helps prepare EDI Champions at SickKids to engage in EDI conversations, share knowledge and create safe spaces for reflection and learning among their peers. Registration for upcoming cohorts is shared on DailyNews throughout the year!

- Dialogues in Diversity: A series of conversations among leading academics, EDI practitioners, and social justice advocates discussing equity, diversity, and inclusion across a wide spectrum of topics. The series is intended to explore the various ways in which the application of an EDI lens, and engagement of EDI best practices and principles, can impact equitable health outcomes.

Scholarship & Research



The Hospital for Sick Children is an active and exciting research environment. The program in Neuroscience and Mental Health within the Research Institute and the Brain and Behavior Centre integrate state of the art clinical, education, and research initiatives. Research at SickKids ranges from characterizing the impact of various adverse insults on development, to understanding the core neurocognitive deficits associated with neurodevelopmental disorders or acquired brain damage, to clinical trials of cutting edge interventions such as mindfulness informed group therapy for chronic pain patients and peer to peer mentoring offered to cancer survivors virtually. Fellows may opt to engage in a research project as one of their minor rotations.

Paediatric Health Psychology Fellows are required to demonstrate their knowledge, expertise, and scholarship by offering talks, didactics, and/or case presentations during their fellowship. These presentations may include provision of education on specialty topic areas to colleagues, presentations on broader topics of mental health to patients and families, and/or a review of research activities or activities with equity initiatives conducted while at SickKids.

Evaluation

Formal written progress evaluations are introduced early on in the supervision process as the supervisor and the fellow discuss relevant past experience and their joint pedagogical goals for the fellow in that rotation. Supervisors provide feedback on a regular basis, but do so formally at the mid-point and conclusion of the rotation. At these times the fellow and supervisor will review progress to date, discuss any changes that may be necessary to keep the fellow's learning on track, and identify areas of strength and relative challenge for the fellow. Fellows whose performance is not at an expected level of competence will be advised regarding the problem areas in their performance, and a specific plan to remediate those weaknesses will be developed.

Occupational Health Requirements

Fellows will be required to show evidence of immunity to measles, mumps, rubella (MMR), and varicella. If fellows have prior documentation of a two-step TB test (including results, date administered, and reading date), regardless of when it was completed, they will need to undergo a one-step TB test within 4 weeks prior to the residency start date. If fellows do not have prior documentation of a two-step TB test, they will need to undergo a two-step TB test within 4 weeks prior to the start date. Fellows are strongly encouraged to receive COVID-19, tetanus, diptheria, pertussis (dTap), influenza and hepatitis B vaccinations.

Stipend and Benefits

The stipend for the 2027 -2028 year is $68,000. This salary may be supplemented by a grant ranging from $2000 to $5000 for a total of $70,000 to $73,000. Fellows are eligible for the modified SickKids benefits package (health and dental), 3 weeks paid vacation, and 5 days of paid professional development leave.

Fellows have workspace, a computer, internet connection, and access to electronic medical journals through the University of Toronto Library.

Eligibility

Applicants should be graduates of a graduate program in Clinical Psychology and have completed a pre-doctoral internship in clinical psychology. All degree requirements must be completed before the fellowship start date. Applicants who have successfully defended their doctoral dissertation are preferred. It is expected that the applicant will meet the requirements for issuance of a Certificate for Supervised Practice and pursue registration with the College of Psychologists of Ontario during the fellowship year. Applicants who bring diversity to the program (e.g., fluency in French or experience with under-served populations) are especially encouraged to apply.

SickKids' Commitment to Employment Equity:

We welcome and encourage applications from members of equity-deserving groups. Selection decisions are made using equitable processes that recognize a broad range of experiences, strengths, and contributions.
All applicants are encouraged to reflect on and, where appropriate, include in their written submission materials details about their intersecting identities and lived experiences, including how these factors have shaped their path to psychology, interest in the program, and career goals. This context can give SickKids reviewers a fuller understanding of individual applicants and help the program track the range of communities and perspectives represented among applicants and residents.
Sharing personal sociodemographic information as part of this process is entirely voluntary, and applicants are not required to disclose it. Where applicants choose to share this information, the review committee may consider it as part of its holistic assessment and in accordance with SickKids' approach to employment equity. Disclosure does not guarantee selection to the program. All information applicants choose to share will be securely stored and accessible only to hospital staff responsible for reviewing applications.

Application

To Apply:

Interested applicants may contact Dr. Tourigny directly at the email address below. Applications are due by January 2nd, 2027.

The application requirements include:

- A letter of interest describing clinical training, teaching, and research/scholarly interests
- A curriculum vitae
- Three (3) letters of reference (at least one of these from the Director of Training of the applicant's residency program)
- Graduate transcripts listing courses, grades and degrees.

An offer will be made to the successful candidate in **February, 2027.**

Contact:

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Information about SickKids and Toronto

The Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids), affiliated with the University of Toronto, is recognized as one of the world's foremost paediatric health-care institutions. It is Canada's leading centre dedicated to advancing children's health through the integration of patient care, research and education. To learn about the SickKids Strategic Plan 2030 please see: https://2030.sickkids.ca/

With a staff that includes professionals from all disciplines of health care and research, SickKids provides the best in complex and specialized care by creating scientific and clinical advancements, sharing knowledge and expertise and championing the development of an accessible, comprehensive and sustainable child health system. The Peter Gilgan Centre for Research and Learning is a hub where researchers and learners can congregate and share ideas to transform the current state of child health care since its 2013 opening.

SickKids is located in downtown Toronto, Canada's largest city. Toronto lies on the shore of Lake Ontario, the easternmost of the Great Lakes. Over 6 million people live in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). Toronto is a clean, safe, cosmopolitan city with a wonderful network of parks, recreational, and cultural facilities. For more information: www.seetorontonow.com

