



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
Edward Hines, Jr. Hospital  
Hines IL 60141-5000

Dear Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in the psychology practicum training program at Hines VA Hospital.

The practicum starts in early July and concludes at the end of May or June, depending on practicum placement.

Our Practicum program complements our APA-approved Internship Program to offer excellent training for students at both levels of education and experience. We offer eight primary practicum rotations: 1) Neuropsychological Assessment 2) Substance Abuse Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Program 3) TBI/Polytrauma Psychology Outpatient Clinic 4) Trauma Services 5) Primary Care Behavioral Health 6) Oak Lawn Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) Therapy 7) Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Recovery Center (PRRC) and 8) Spinal Cord Injury Program.

The Neuropsychological rotation offers only assessment experience, while the TBI/Polytrauma Psychology Clinic, Oak Lawn CBOC, Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Recovery Center and Spinal Cord Injury rotations offer primarily psychotherapy experience with some minimal assessment opportunities. The Trauma Services, Substance Abuse Treatment Program, and Primary Care Behavioral Health rotations will offer both clinical and some assessment opportunities but best serve as advanced treatment/intervention practicum placements for students (please see our Practicum Program brochure for more detailed information about each rotation).

The completed application package (Hines VA application, letter of readiness, letters of recommendation, transcripts, vita, and cover letter) from applicants will be accepted any time. However, the completed application package must be received on or before Friday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015. After review of your application materials, you may be contacted for an interview. Please keep in mind that early applications will have an advantage, since these applicants will have an opportunity to interview earlier. Please note that the VA requires applicants to be from an APA-approved program.

While offers for placement may be made to some students before March 23, 2015, we understand that those students whose programs comply with the ACEPT guidelines may not be able to receive or respond to such offers until that date. We expect to make offers to students bound by the ACEPT dates and will wait for responses to offers when needed.

Sincerely,

*Dr. Rene Pichler-Mowry & Dr. Jeff Sieracki*

Practicum Coordinators

Email: [Rene.Pichler-Mowry@va.gov](mailto:Rene.Pichler-Mowry@va.gov) & [Jeffrey.Sieracki@va.gov](mailto:Jeffrey.Sieracki@va.gov)

## **APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS**

Clinical and counseling students in APA-approved doctoral (PhD and PsyD) programs are eligible for training in the Hines Psychology Practicum Training Program. These are either 11-month or 12-month practica, starting in July and concluding at the end of May or end of June. Your acceptance is binding and a switch to an appointment at another facility after signing our contract violates your school's affiliation with us.

Completed application packages may be submitted at any time. However, all completed packages must arrive by the **deadline of Friday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015** to be considered. Questions about the practicum program can be addressed to Jeff Sieracki, Ph.D., Practicum Coordinator at [Jeffrey.Sieracki@va.gov](mailto:Jeffrey.Sieracki@va.gov).

Cover letters and letters of recommendation can be addressed to: Hines Psychology Practicum Committee

Send the following application materials to:

Karen Santia  
Program Support Assistant  
Mental Health Service Line  
Email: [Hinespsychologypracticum@va.gov](mailto:Hinespsychologypracticum@va.gov)

**All materials must be submitted by EMAIL with attachments, subject line: (your last name) practicum application. Letters of Recommendation can also be submitted via EMAIL using the same subject line.**

- A) Completed current Hines VA Hospital Psychology Practicum Training Application.**
- B) Two letters of recommendation, preferably from doctoral level psychologists, who are familiar with your academic work, practicum performance, or other pertinent experience. One of these letters can also be from your Director of Clinical Training if this individual is familiar with your work. Letters of recommendation should be submitted via email to [Hinespsychologypracticum@va.gov](mailto:Hinespsychologypracticum@va.gov)**
- C) Graduate transcripts for second, third, and fourth year students. Undergraduate and Graduate transcripts for first year students. Unofficial transcripts are fine.**
- E) Current Curriculum Vitae - please include the following:**
  - education
  - practicum experience
  - prior job experience
  - publications and presentations
  - honors and awards
  - professional affiliations
- F) A cover letter.**

After reviewing your application materials, we may contact you for an interview. Interviews will begin in January, 2015

**APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED by email to [Hinespsychologypracticum@va.gov](mailto:Hinespsychologypracticum@va.gov) (subject line: (your last name) practicum application, IN FULL, BY FEBRUARY 6<sup>th</sup>**