

# Navy Clinical Psychology



## APA-Accredited Doctoral Internships





Inquiries regarding internship accreditation can be addressed to the American Psychological Association at:

Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation

American Psychological Association

750 First Street, N.E.

Washington, D.C., 20002-4242

(202) 336-5979

### Important Dates:

AAPIC deadline: 13 Nov 2023

Navy commissioning application  
deadline: 15 Dec 2023

Interviews:

San Diego: 28—30 Nov 2023

Bethesda: 5 - 7 Dec 2023

ODS: 14 July to 16 Aug 2024

Navy Medicine 101 Course: 19 - 23  
Aug 2024

Internship start dates:

Bethesda: 26 Aug 2024

San Diego: 3 Sep 2024

The Navy has two fully accredited pre-doctoral internships for clinical psychologists. These are located at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, MD, and at Naval Medical Center San Diego, in San Diego, California. Both internships are dedicated to producing highly-qualified, resourceful, and autonomous professional psychologists who are prepared to function effectively in a variety of military settings. More information on both internships is available at the following website:

<https://walterreed.tricare.mil/About-Us/Navy-Psychology-Training-Programs/Navy-Doctoral-Internships-In-Clinical-Psychology>



## General In-

1. The Navy's doctoral internships in clinical psychology are organized around a Practitioner-Scholar model, and provide an intensive, 12-month period of clinical, didactic, and leadership experiences.
2. Prior military experience is neither a requirement nor an expectation for applicants. Most applicants for the Navy internships have no prior military experience. You do not have to be in the military to apply, and there is no military service obligation unless you match with the internship through APPIC. There is no military obligation for applicants who do not match with a Navy internship.
3. Internship applicants who match with a Navy internship are commissioned as Lieutenants in the U.S. Navy's Medical Service Corps. They serve a minimum of four years on active duty, one year as a clinical psychology intern, and three years as a staff psychologist.
4. Navy internships give careful consideration to all available information about each applicant, and select interns on a competitive basis without regard to race, sex, religion, creed, color, national origin, gender identity, or sexual orientation.
5. The two Navy internships are not a consortium. They are separately accredited by the APA, and they are listed separately on the APPIC website. Applicants may apply to one or both internships. Applicants who wish to be considered for both internships must apply to them separately on the APPIC website. Interns will attend the specific internship program with which they match (i.e., Bethesda or San Diego).

## Internship: Walter Reed Bethesda

1. Three major clinical rotations of varying lengths, including outpatient care, health psychology, and an inpatient rotation consisting of inpatient psychiatry, emergency evaluations, and psychiatric consultation/liaison.
2. Training also consists of several trans-rotational experiences including long-term psychodynamic therapy cases, empirically-supported trauma therapy cases, a Navy Leadership Seminar, diverse supervision, and extensive didactics.
3. Out of hospital training includes operational experiences aboard a Navy combat vessel, training with Marine Corps units in Quantico, Virginia, and visits to the Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery and the United States Naval Academy.
4. Learning objectives are to prepare interns to function as broadly-trained clinical psychologists, and to equip them with additional knowledge and skills needed to practice competently in the Navy.
5. Training Director: Dr. Richard Bergthold, Ph.D.  
Richard.d.bergthold.civ@health.mil



## Internship: Naval Medical Center San Diego

1. Major rotations include adult outpatient, health psychology, an inpatient & consultation/liaison rotation, and experience in operational mental health clinics in military settings throughout the San Diego area.
2. Trans-rotational experiences include several long-term therapy cases for clients with PTSD or other complex mood, anxiety, or personality issues. Interns also benefit from extensive didactics and supervision experiences throughout the internship year.
3. Out-of-hospital training includes underway time aboard a Navy combat vessel, and training with Marine Corps units at Camp Pendleton. Interns can also witness Marine Corps recruit graduation ceremonies, participate in weapons training, and take advantage of other military events in the San Diego area.
4. Learning objectives include training psychologists for generalist practice in health service psychology, and providing the knowledge and skills necessary to practice effectively within the military.
5. Training Director (Interim): Dr. William M. Hunt, Ph.D., ABPP. [william.m.hunt.civ@health.mil](mailto:william.m.hunt.civ@health.mil)



Helpful links:

Navy Psychology Accessions Page:

<https://walterreed.tricare.mil/About-Us/Navy-Psychology-Training-Programs>

Navy Recruiting Web Site:

<https://www.navy.com/careers/clinical-psychology>

Navy Psychology Recruiting Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/navypsychologyrecruitment/>

Officer Development School:

<https://www.netc.navy.mil/Commands/Naval-Service-Training-Command/OTCN/ODS/>



For additional information, please contact:

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