## PSYCHOLOGY 491

**Current Available Placements**

(updated 1/31/2022)

NOTE: Placements in gray are not currently accepting students.

Practicum placements are normally offered at the following community agencies. Updates will be posted at: <http://psychology.wvu.edu/undergraduate/field-experience>. Because each program is unique and has its own requirements, the individual supervisor at the site should be consulted for additional information about that program. However, please do not contact site supervisors before being accepted into the program and being given instructions on how to proceed. The placements listed below include agencies that have frequently participated in the practicum program over the past several years, and that have agreed to have practicum students and to supervise them responsibly. Note that this list changes from time to time, and students are also encouraged to seek out placements that are not on this list following the guidelines provided in the Description of the Program. Please note: a background check is required for all placements that require work with individuals younger than 18 years, as well as for selected other placements (as noted below).

## Placements in Morgantown

**Agency: Ascension Recovery Services**

Dist. From Campus: 1.5 miles

Description: Ascension Recovery Services (Ascension) is dedicated to all aspects of addiction recovery and has been recognized as an industry leader in program development consulting services and clinical recovery services. Through our program development services, we assist individuals, investor groups, and hospitals in developing new substance use disorder (SUD) / addiction treatment programs or enhancing the performance of existing treatment programs. Through our clinical recovery services, we assist individuals and families with drug and alcohol intervention, treatment placement and ongoing monitoring services.

**Agency: Center for Excellence in Disabilities (CED)**

Dist. from Campus: 3 miles

Description: The mission of the West Virginia University Center for Excellence in Disabilities is to improve the lives of West Virginians with disabilities by supporting more diverse, inclusive communities.

## Agency:                  Chestnut Ridge Center, Department of Behavioral Medicine & Psychiatry – Neuropsychology & Pediatric Neuropsychology

Dist. from Campus: On Health Sciences Campus (accessible by PRT)

Description:               Clinical neuropsychology.  Administer and score tests to patients with dementia, substance abuse, mood disorders and other medical and neurological conditions.  Opportunities to observe brain cuttings, group therapy, clinical interviews and neurobehavioral examinations. Participate in weekly case conferences (required), neurology grand rounds, psychiatry grand rounds, much one-on-one clinical experience and supervision available.  Participation in research is usually also available.  16 hours per week minimum with Tuesday attendance (AM) required.

## Agency: Guides - Behavior Analysis Services Program for Public Schools. (Fall & Spring only)

Dist. from Campus: varies

Description: Assist in developing behavior management programs, conducting behavioral assessments, and collecting required data for public school students who need extra support to achieve their potential, including students with disabilities. Prefer students who have completed PSYC 474. May be used to complete hours for BCABA certification.

## Agency: Heart of Gold (The Human-Animal Bond, Inc.)

Dist. from Campus: 2.8 miles

Description: Hearts of Gold trains service dogs for individuals with mobility and psychiatric disabilities. Students can modify the curriculum to suit their interests. Tasks include administrative, outreach, education, research, and/or training responsibilities.

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## Agency: Key Learning Autism Center

## Dist. From Campus: 5 miles

## Description: Key Learning Autism Center (KLAC) will use Applied Behavior Analysis to provide therapy to individuals diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder. ABA is the practice of applying the principles of learning theory in a systematic manor to achieve behavior change. ABA focuses on reinforcement to increase positive behaviors. These principles can be applied on an individual basis to fit your child’s developmental level and learning style. ABA can teach children verbal skills, pre-academics, daily living skills, and social/play skills. Problem behavior such as compliance issues, aggression, and self-injurious behavior can all be decreased by choosing a replacement behavior to reinforce or teaching the individual a functional response to use instead.

## Agency: Madison Center Rehabilitation Unit

Dist. from Campus: 5 miles

Description: Work 1-on-1 with elderly people undergoing rehabilitation therapy, many of whom have depression and other psychological disorders as well as dementia (including Alzheimer’s). Interact with residents' families, help residents with activities. Observe therapy. Must be available at least 16 hours per week (20 preferred).

## Agency: Monongalia County Child Advocacy Centers

Dist. from Campus: 6 miles, Requires a car.

Description: The Monongalia County Child Advocacy Center (MCCAC) is a nonprofit organization that provides free services for child abuse victims and children at-risk for abuse. We provide a child-friendly and safe environment where children can be interviewed, educated, and healed. We also support non-offending family members, and the multidisciplinary team of professionals that investigate child abuse cases in Monongalia County and/ or provide services.

Interns will have opportunities to interact with Child Protective Services, law enforcement, prosecutors, medical professionals, mental health professionals, victim advocates, and educators. The agency provides the following services: community education on child abuse, child abuse prevention programs, parent-training and education, forensic interviews, clinical evaluations, therapy/support groups for abused children and non-offending family members, school-based mental health services (for children who have experienced trauma, emotional pain, or loss), victim support/advocacy for abused children, crisis intervention, case review, and case tracking.

## Agency: Monongalia County Victim Assistance Program

Dist. from Campus: 1 mile (High St.)

Description: Conduct administrative interviews, collect financial data, assess medical and psychological damages to victims of crimes. Interns will attend and observe court proceedings to include plea and sentencing hearings as well as motions and arraignments in both Magistrate and Circuit Courts. They will routinely review and document case files as well as contact victims. Must be available from 9-12 and/or 1-5 several days per week.

## Agency: Morgantown Area Youth Services Project

Dist. from Campus: 2 miles

Description: Students have several options: assist with underage drinking prevention program, assist with marijuana use prevention program. May also provide tutoring and mentoring for high risk teens, provide programming for teen girls with PTSD. Prefer students available at least 16 hours per week.

## Agency: Mountaineer Boys and Girls Club

Dist. from Campus: TBD

Description: After-school and summer program for high-risk children and adolescents in grades 1-12. Programming includes: homework help, high yield activities, prevention, good character and leadership, community service, money management, career exploration and graduation encouragement.

## Agency: Mountaineer Psychological Services

Dist. from Campus: 4 miles

Description: Mountaineer Psychological Services is a client-centered behavioral healthcare facility. We are designed to meet the needs of people who desire compassionate, mental health services in a comfortable setting.

## Agency: Neuropsychology Group of West Virginia

Dist. from Campus: 5 miles

Description: The Neuropsychology Group of WV specializes in the assessment of developmental, medical, neurological and psychiatric disorders including traumatic brain injury, epilepsy, dementia, learning disorders, attention deficit disorder, autism spectrum disorders, behavior disorders, mood disorders and cognitive disorders associated with a wide range of general medical and neurological conditions.

## Agency: Neurodevelopmental Center (formerly iASD)

Dist. from Campus: 2.5 miles

Description: Our mission is to provide intensive individualized behavioral intervention to young children with autism while providing state-of- the-art, hands-on experience in applied behavior analysis. Using one-on-one therapies, each child has a specific curriculum to increase skills and decrease problem behavior.

## Agency: North Elementary: Special Needs Preschool or Inclusive Head Start Preschool Program (Fall & Spring only)

Dist. from Campus: 3 miles

Description: Placements available in two different classrooms:

* 1. Use of behavioral techniques with children with developmental disabilities in a special needs preschool. (Fall and spring only.)
  2. Preschool serving children with variety of needs: developmental delay (e.g., autism, Down syndrome, traumatic brain injury), low socioeconomic status, English as a second language, etc. Assist in implementation of play curriculum and developmental/behavioral interventions.

## Agency: PACE Enterprises

Dist. from Campus: 6 miles

Description: Day habilitation and supported employment services for people with developmental disabilities and/or dual diagnoses. We provide vocationally based, day habilitation program conducting training in functional academic skills, social skills for the work place, work place expectations, and vocational skills. Supported employment services (on the job training and support) provided to our clients either in PACE Enterprises’ own work programs or within the community.

**Agency: Quin Curtis Center (QCC)**

Dist. from Campus: 0 miles (WVU Life Sciences Building)

Description: The Quin Curtis Center is a psychological service, training and research center that provides innovative, time-efficient treatments for clients with a variety of problems. The Center provides general mental health services as well as treatment in specialty areas such as anxiety, trauma, depression and childhood behavior problems. Therapists provide services with and/or under the supervision of licensed psychologists. The Center is designed to provide high quality services to clients and to gain information that will contribute to the further understanding and treatment of other individuals who experience similar concerns. Interns have the opportunity to complete client intakes, become familiar with different therapy modalities, shadow cases, and learn the latest in technology.

**Agency: Stepping Stones**

Dist. from Campus: 6 miles

Description: Stepping Stones provides year-round recreation for children and adults with disabilities. Stepping Stones is a non-profit organization whose goal is to help people with disabilities achieve their maximum level of independence through innovative recreation and personal development programs. Students would assist with the planning and execution of activities for program participants.

## Agency: Sundale Nursing Care Residence

Dist. from Campus: 3 miles

Description: At Sundale, students will work with older adults alongside our psychology graduate students. Experiences can include working with individuals (either one on one or in small groups) with a chronic mental illness, or individuals with a dual diagnosis of mental illness. Attendance at weekly team meetings, as well as scheduled days at the site is expected.

## Agency: Valley Health Care Mental Health Services

Dist. from Campus: 4 miles

Description: Experiences can include working with individuals (either one on one or in small groups) with a chronic mental illness, individuals with a dual diagnosis of mental illness and chemical dependence in programs, such as Service Coordination, Community Engagement, Assertive Community Treatment, and Day Programming. We also work with intellectually or developmentally disabled clients and experiences within that division can include service coordination, one on one skill training work, and habilitation training. We also work with clients or other community members and their families in our Crisis Intervention Program.

## Agency: The Village at Heritage Point

Dist. from Campus: 3 miles (on Gold Line bus route)

Description: Work directly with residents in a continuing care retirement community. Activities may include sharing hobbies or interests, leading programs, teaching computer skills, researching topics for presentations, collecting information on residents' activity interests, interviewing and documenting residents’ lives. Assignments are dependent on the unique skills and interests of the student. Must be available at least 16 hours per week (20 preferred).

## Agency: WV Family Grief Center

Dist. from Campus: 3 miles

Description: The West Virginia Family Grief Center provides professional and peer support for children, teens, and adults experiencing bereavement. The center promotes an atmosphere of hope and healing through the sharing of stories and similar experiences. The center provides a safe setting which allows children and teens to see they are not alone in grief.

## Placements further from Morgantown in West Virginia & Western Pennsylvania

## Agency: Hopemont Hospital

Location: Terra Alta Dist. from Campus: 30 miles

Description: Residential nursing & psychogeriatric facility for older adults with debilitating health problems, dementia, & serious mental disorders. Learn to administer & interpret psychological tests & the development & implementation of behavior management programs. Students must be able to work all day on Fridays.

## Agency: United Hospital Center

Location: Bridgeport,WV Dist. from Campus: 30 miles

Description: Observe and participate in the day-to-day functions of a Human Resources Department for a 300-bed community hospital.

## Agency: William R. Sharpe, Jr. Hospital

Location: Weston, WV Dist. from Campus: 60 miles

Description: A 200-bed psychiatric unit for the mentally ill who have been

involuntarily committed. The facility is under the direction of the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources. Patient ages range from young adult to the elderly. Approximately 40% of patients are forensic commitments: incompetent to stand trial – restorable, incompetent to stand trial – not restorable, and not guilty by reason of mental illness. Patient diagnoses include a mix of psychotic, affective, substance abuse, and personality disorders. The student will receive training in the application of behavior analysis, conduct various phases of "positive behavior support plans", observe clinical psychological assessments, attend morning rounds, attend patient treatment planning, observe final civil commitment mental hygiene hearings, and shadow psychology staff throughout the clinical day. Didactic discussions with on-sight West Virginia University School of Medicine faculty frequently will take place.

**Note: Students will be in the presence of, or observed by, a staff member at all times.**