



What is Neurotherapeutic Pediatric Therapies (Neuro)?

Neuro is a unique local-to-Portland, OR non-profit that specializes in neurodivergent and medically fragile populations (though not exclusively). For ages 0-25, Neuro offers Occupational Therapy (OT), Physical Therapy (PT), and speech therapy (ST). Medical and Mental Health services accept clients of all ages, through adulthood. Mental Health services may include working with toddlers, kids, teens, adults, parents/caregivers, couples, and families. To learn more about all of Neuro's specialties, you can explore our website.

What Mental Health modalities are used at Neuro?

As a Graduate Student Mental Health intern at Neuro you will have the opportunity to learn about many mental health therapy modalities including systems work, Nature Based Therapy (with option to shadow outside therapy sessions at local parks), PCIT, experiential therapies (including play therapy, somatic therapy, art and music techniques, etc.), attachment therapy, group therapy, and so much more. You will also have the opportunity to collaborate across disciplines (OT/PT/ST, medical) to be a part of a holistic treatment approach.

What kind of training can interns participate in?

There are many opportunities for professional development at Neuro including mental health group supervision, grad group supervision, all-staff meetings, and professional development training.

What does supervision look like?

The requirement to engage in 1 hour of individual supervision per week is met alongside grad group supervision. Neuro also provides other supervision/training opportunities such as our four focused group supervision sessions throughout the month. These sessions are held on Tuesday at noon, and cover medical consultation, board exam prep, nature-based therapy, and general consultation.

When and how long are the internship positions?

Neuro requests that all Mental Health Interns commit to a full-year internship, though we are hopeful that our interns will stay on at Neuro after graduation! We have availability to 2 interns in April/May, and 2 interns in August/September.

What locations are available for Mental Health Interns to work? What does the schedule look like?

We have 6 offices in and around the Portland area that offer Mental Health services- site placement will be determined by office availability, need, and intern preference. We ask our interns to choose 2 different locations for 1 day each to gain experience in different sites and to collaborate with different therapists/programs. Clients are scheduled both in-person (in office) and virtually, within the hours the intern has available.

Though Neuro is open Mon-Fri, we want to allow for flexibility regarding schedules while also maintaining the requirement to provide at least 1 evening session (5pm or later) to allow for after-school time slots. Schedules do depend on clinic availability, as office space is shared day-to-day between therapists and programs (every Mental Health therapist/intern has their own office for the entire day).

What does onboarding as a Mental Health Intern look like?

Typically, Mental Health Interns will begin their internship with Practicum, allowing for a “soft-start” to internship through shadowing and learning the process of documentation and rapport building, to gain insight with how mental health therapy at Neuro may look. When an intern feels ready to start seeing their own clients, we slowly build caseloads up with the intention of providing a solid understanding of documentation and policies/procedures before offering a full caseload.

Is the position paid?

Our hope is to hire our Interns after graduation. Neuro offers our Graduate Student Mental Health Interns financial stipends: \$1,500 when signing on as an Intern, and \$1,000 at the completion of the internship with a signed contract for working full-time the 2 years following.

The internship position is unpaid, however we believe in showing our staff (including interns) how appreciated they are throughout the year- this is shown by offering gift cards, holiday bonuses (if we are able to financially), outings, occasional lunches, etc.

Is there an opportunity to be trained in Nature Based Therapy?

The Graduate Student Supervisor is Alice who specializes in Nature Based Therapy and created Neuro's Nature Based Program. If you are interested in learning more about Nature Based Therapy (though not required for internship), she can provide training through Neuro's DBA Grow With Nature Consulting.

Is there an opportunity to be trained in Play Therapy?

The Mental Health Therapy Director, Jamie Watson, LMFT, RPT-S™, specializes and supervises therapists in Play Therapy. While she would not be the direct supervisor, she offers Play Therapy specific supervision to all therapists at Neuro, by request. Jamie is one of 14 RPT-S™s in the state of Oregon, so if you are interested in eventually becoming a Registered Play Therapist™, learning the process of becoming a Registered Play Therapist™, or you are simply interested in learning more about Play Therapy and its therapeutic benefits, you can reach out to Jamie directly at: jamie.w@nt4kids.org

How do you apply for a Graduate Student Mental Health Intern position at Neuro?

If interested in one of the four internship positions, please email Alice Nelson alice@nt4kids.org with your resume and share a little bit about why you are interested in Neuro as an internship site! We look forward to hearing from you!

