



2023 – 2025

# Fellowship in Clinical Neuropsychology *at Shepherd Center*

(APPCN Program Code: 9942)



Shepherd Center

2020 Peachtree Road, NW  
Atlanta, GA 30309-1465  
404-352-2020 [shepherd.org](http://shepherd.org)

## Letter to Applicants

### *Dear Prospective Applicant:*

We are excited to invite you to apply to Shepherd Center's postdoctoral neuropsychology fellowship training program. Our program is a member of the Association of Postdoctoral Programs in Clinical Neuropsychology (APPCN) and follows the Houston Conference Guidelines for postdoctoral training in clinical neuropsychology. We are also committed to competency-based training values that will be specified during the 2022 Minnesota Update Conference on Education and Training in Clinical Neuropsychology. Our program provides the preparation, support, and mentorship needed to attain board certification by the American Board of Professional Psychology in Clinical Neuropsychology. Shepherd Center is one of the premier rehabilitation facilities in the United States, and training here is collaborative. Our large faculty, four of whom are graduates of our fellowship program, are passionate about training our future colleagues!

We have two neuropsychology fellowship positions at Shepherd Center and will be accepting applications for both positions for 2023-2025. Our fellows gain experience working with diverse clinical populations, including traumatic brain injury, cerebrovascular disease (stroke, aneurysm, arteriovenous malformation), neoplasm, epilepsy, anoxia, and infectious diseases. Fellows gain experience in both rehabilitation psychology intervention and neuropsychological/neurobehavioral assessment within our interdisciplinary system. We support learning with a variety of structured didactic training activities. Second-year fellows have the opportunity to complete minor rotations within Shepherd Center's numerous programs or at off-site rotations, such as those specializing in pediatric populations or in private practice settings. We follow a scientist-practitioner model of training and provide wide-ranging opportunities for fellows to be involved in research.

COVID-19 has impacted the way many sites practice. We are very fortunate at Shepherd Center that we have continued our work and training with little to no impact while operating under the strictest safety conditions. We integrate telehealth where appropriate, and safety measures are in place to ensure high quality patient care and training opportunities.

After you have read about our training program and explored the provided hyperlinks, please feel free to contact us if you have further questions. We look forward to receiving your application.

Sincerely,



Michelle Jackson, Ph.D., ABPP-CN  
**Co-Training Director**  
404-367-1310  
Michelle.Jackson@shepherd.org



Susan K. Shwartz, Ph.D., ABPP-CN  
**Co-Training Director**  
404-603-1490  
Susan.Shwartz@shepherd.org



Gary A. James, Psy.D.  
**Senior Advisor, Rehabilitation and  
Clinical Neuropsychology Fellowships**  
Neuropsychology Fellowships  
404-603-1427  
Gary.James@Shepherd.org



"My favorite part about working at Shepherd Center is the opportunity and support for growth. I completed my fellowship here, as did many of our staff. I was always supported in my individual career interests, inside and outside of Shepherd Center, and that helped me grow as a professional."

**-Laurie N. Baker, Ph.D., ABPP, Director of Psychology  
(Postdoctoral Fellow, 2009-2011)**

<b>Our Mission and Setting</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Our Training Program</b>	<b>2</b>
<i>Primary Rotations</i>	<b>2 - 4</b>
<i>Minor Rotations</i>	<b>4 - 6</b>
<i>Research Rotations</i>	<b>6 - 7</b>
<i>Didactic Opportunities</i>	<b>7 - 9</b>
<i>Supervision</i>	<b>10</b>
<i>Diversity</i>	<b>10</b>
<b>Other Fellowship Information</b>	
<i>Exit Criteria</i>	<b>11</b>
<i>Stipend</i>	<b>11</b>
<i>Metropolitan Atlanta</i>	<b>12</b>
<b>Application Process</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>APPCN Applicant Agreement Package</b>	<b>14</b>

## Mission

Shepherd Center's clinical neuropsychology fellowship is a member of the Association of Postdoctoral Programs in Clinical Neuropsychology (APPCN) and provides postdoctoral training that conforms to the Houston Conference Guidelines on Specialty Education and Training in Clinical Neuropsychology (Hannay, Bieliauskas, Crosson, Hammeke, Hamsher, & Koffler, 1998).

Our two-year fellowship program also trains and educates fellows in competencies that are necessary for state licensure, specialty practice in clinical neuropsychology, and board certification by the American Board of Professional Psychology in clinical neuropsychology.

## About Shepherd Center

Shepherd Center, located in Atlanta, Georgia, is a private, not-for-profit hospital specializing in medical treatment, research, and rehabilitation for people with spinal cord injury, brain injury, multiple sclerosis, spine, chronic pain, and other neurological conditions. Shepherd Center's mission is to help people with a temporary or permanent disability caused by injury or disease, rebuild their lives with hope, independence, and dignity, advocating for their full inclusion in all aspects of community life while promoting safety and injury prevention.

Founded in 1975, Shepherd Center is consistently ranked by *U.S. News* among the top 10 rehabilitation hospitals in the nation. In its more than four decades, Shepherd Center has grown from a six-bed rehabilitation unit to a world-renowned, 152-bed hospital that treats more than 740 inpatients, nearly 280-day program patients, and more than 7,100 outpatients each year in more than 46,000 visits.

The typical patient age range is 16 to 80, although patients from 12 to 90 years old are not uncommon. Shepherd Center is accredited by both The Joint Commission and the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation (CARF). Shepherd Center is also the largest of 14 SCI Model Systems of Care. Patients travel from across the nation – and even the globe – to Shepherd Center for its innovative brand of neurorehabilitation.

▶▶▶▶ [Learn more at shepherd.org/about.](https://shepherd.org/about)

"My favorite thing about working at Shepherd Center is the culture. Patients' families are encouraged and welcomed to be involved, and the work environment feels like a large family. Some staff have been here for decades, there are fun events throughout the year, and Senior Management welcomes direct communication from staff. It is a special experience to work at Shepherd, and I hope that you get to experience it!"

- Susan K. Shwartz, Ph.D., ABPP-CN

## Our Training Program

We will have two fellowship openings available for the 2023-2025 training year. Each fellow's specific interests and training goals are considered while structuring rotations. Fellows will have a balance of assessment, intervention, and consultation, reflecting prototypic contemporary neuropsychological practice in inpatient and outpatient settings. The fellow will be trained and evaluated in the competencies delineated by Smith (2019), which details the education and training in clinical neuropsychology and describes the 10 competencies for postdoctoral training listed below.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>1</b> Integration of Science and Practice                                  | <b>6</b> Assessment                      |
| <b>2</b> Ethical and Legal Standards/Policy                                   | <b>7</b> Intervention                    |
| <b>3</b> Individual and Cultural Diversity                                    | <b>8</b> Research                        |
| <b>4</b> Professional Identity and Relationships/<br>Self-Reflective Practice | <b>9</b> Teaching/Supervision/Mentorship |
| <b>5</b> Interdisciplinary Systems/Consultation                               | <b>10</b> Management/Administration      |

## Primary Rotations

*One fellow will be placed in each major rotation for the first year. The fellows will switch major rotations for the second year. A sample rotation structure is outlined below:*

Fellow A	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Year</b>	<b>Major:</b> Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Inpatient <b>Minor:</b> Outpatient Neuropsychology (October-March)
	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Year</b>	<b>Major:</b> Shepherd Pathways Post-Acute <b>Minor:</b> Internal and/or external rotation(s); (two, three month rotations, March - August)
	Research Rotation	
Fellow B	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Year</b>	<b>Major:</b> Shepherd Pathways Post-Acute
	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Year</b>	<b>Major:</b> Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Inpatient <b>Minor:</b> Outpatient Neuropsychology rotation (October - March) <b>Minor:</b> Internal and/or external rotation(s); (two, three month rotations, March - August)
	Research Rotation	

## Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Inpatient Rotation

### Primary Supervisors:

Alex Alverson, Ph.D., ABPP-CN,  
Chelsea Day, Psy.D.,  
Michelle Jackson, Ph.D.,  
ABPP-CN, and  
Vanessa Watorek, Psy.D

Fellows are embedded members of the team and work with patients, families, and staff regarding cognitive, behavioral, and emotional issues.

[shepherd.org/patient-programs/brain-injury/inpatient-rehabilitation](https://shepherd.org/patient-programs/brain-injury/inpatient-rehabilitation)

**Population:** Inpatient neurorehabilitation of persons with traumatic brain injury, stroke, anoxic brain injury, tumors, cerebral infection, and other acquired neurologic disorders. Primarily adult populations but serve adolescents as well.

**Assessment:** Neurobehavioral status exams; capacity evaluations; neuropsychological evaluations (i.e., test selection, administration, scoring and interpretation, report writing, and provision of feedback).

**Intervention:** Neurobehavioral treatment plans; individual, group, and family therapy; family and patient educational programs.

**Interdisciplinary Systems:** Embedded within the interdisciplinary neurorehabilitation team, which is comprised of a treating physician, case manager, speech therapist, physical therapist, occupational therapist, nursing, and other disciplines.

This rotation includes specialized experience with Shepherd Center's Disorders of Consciousness program, including assessing and tracking patient's level of consciousness using evidence-based assessments and providing education to the family. For more info about our DoC program, visit [shepherd.org/DOC](https://shepherd.org/DOC).

## Outpatient Rotation

### Primary Supervisors:

Susan Shwartz, Ph.D., ABPP-CN

The fellow will complete neuropsychological evaluations for a wide range of referral questions.

[shepherd.org/patient-programs/outpatient-clinics/neuropsychology](https://shepherd.org/patient-programs/outpatient-clinics/neuropsychology)

**Population:** Internal and external referrals related to Alzheimer's disease and other neurodegenerative conditions, brain tumors, multiple sclerosis, epilepsy, stroke, and traumatic brain injury. May include dual diagnosis (SCI/TBI). Primarily adults, some adolescents.

**Assessment:** Neuropsychological evaluations (i.e., interview, test selection, administration, scoring and interpretation, report writing, and provision of feedback).

**Intervention:** Therapeutic interviews and feedback.

**Interdisciplinary Systems:** Provide feedback to internal and external referring providers. As appropriate, communicate with rehabilitation teams, referring providers, and/or Worker's Compensation case managers.



## Shepherd Pathways Post-Acute Rotation

### Primary Supervisors:

Gary James, Psy.D. and  
Kristian Nitsch, Ph.D.

The fellow will work with patients, families, and staff as a member of the interdisciplinary team to provide assessment and intervention services at Shepherd Center's post-acute program. Fellows develop a comprehensive understanding of the long-term sequelae of cognitive and emotional function following ABI on this rotation.

[shepherdpathways.org](http://shepherdpathways.org)

**Population:** Post-acute neurorehabilitation of persons with traumatic brain injury, stroke, anoxic brain injury, tumors, cerebral infection, and other acquired neurologic disorders. Primarily adult populations but serve adolescents as well.

**Assessment:** The emphasis of post-acute neuropsychological assessments is aimed toward characterizing residual cognitive strengths and weaknesses, assessing capacity to return to work and/or school, decision-making abilities/capacity, medico-legal issues, and readiness to drive.

**Intervention:** Individual, family, and group psychotherapy, provision of psychoeducation related to ABI and substance use, as well as design, execution, and monitoring of neurobehavioral plans.

**Interdisciplinary Systems:** The fellow serves as a consultant to various interdisciplinary neurorehabilitation teams, which are comprised of a treating physician, case manager, speech therapist, physical therapist, occupational therapist, nursing, and other disciplines.

## Minor Rotations

*Completed during the last six months of the second year, one day per week. Options for two 3-month rotations or one 6-month rotation.*

### Multiple Sclerosis Rotation

Neuropsychological assessment and therapeutic intervention with individuals with MS. Consultation opportunities are also available through participation in an interdisciplinary team, as well as through shadowing physicians and mid-level providers in rounding during clinic. Fellows may also choose to participate in research and community programs provided by MS Institute staff.

**Primary Supervisor:** Susan Schwartz, Ph.D., ABPP-CN

▶▶▶▶ [shepherd.org/MS](http://shepherd.org/MS)



### ***Mild Traumatic Brain Injury (Concussion) Rotation***

Fellows gain experience working with concussion injuries in both veteran and civilian populations. The SHARE Military Initiative at Shepherd Center is a comprehensive rehabilitation program that focuses on assessment and treatment for active duty or separated service members and veterans who have served in the U.S. military since September 11, 2001, sustained a mild to moderate brain injury, and have a co-occurring psychiatric diagnosis. Fellows will also have the opportunity to work with civilian populations in the Complex Concussion Clinic. This clinic offers comprehensive assessment and treatment for individuals with persisting symptoms following a concussion with a focus on return to play, return to learning, and return to work. The fellow will provide individual and group treatment, complete neuropsychological testing, provide education to clients and family members, participate in the interdisciplinary treatment team, and implement behavioral interventions as necessary.

**Primary Supervisor:** Gregory Brown, Psy.D.

▶▶▶▶ [shepherd.org/concussion](http://shepherd.org/concussion)   ▶▶▶▶ [shepherd.org/share](http://shepherd.org/share)

### ***Dual Diagnosis Rotation***

Fellows have the unique opportunity to conduct psychotherapy within a rehabilitation psychology model with individuals with dual ABI and SCI diagnoses. Fellows will experience the consultation model on both inpatient SCI units and the SCI Day Program. Fellows will follow some patients throughout their rehabilitation treatment as an integrated team member. For other cases, they will follow a consultation model, providing neuropsychological consultation and education to the treatment teams. Neuropsychological assessment of select dual diagnosis patients will also be expected.

**Primary Supervisor:** Katie Harris Rains, Psy.D.

▶▶▶▶ [shepherd.org/SCI](http://shepherd.org/SCI)

### ***Comprehensive Rehabilitation Unit (CRU) Rotation***

CRU staff work with patients who have sustained a catastrophic injury resulting in an amputation, multiple trauma, spinal cord injury, and acquired brain injury. Fellows are expected to provide psychotherapeutic interventions, work collaboratively within a multi-disciplinary team, and conduct neuropsychological evaluations.

**Primary Supervisor:** Lauren Thomas, Psy.D.



## Off-Site Minor Rotations

### ***Pediatric Neuropsychology Rotation***

Fellows gain experience in the assessment of children with various neurologic disorders. Fellows participate in programs provided by Children's Healthcare of Atlanta (CHOA), including brain mapping and WADA testing of children referred for epilepsy surgery. Goals for exposure and education will be discussed with interested fellows to ensure the training experience meets their needs. For example, past fellows have arranged to focus on Sports Neuropsychology with an emphasis on brief cognitive assessments and return-to-play protocols or pediatric epilepsy. Fellows may also participate in ongoing research.

**Available Supervisors:** Donald Bearden, Ph.D., Jacqueline Kiefel, Ph.D., and Thomas Burns, Psy.D., ABPP-CN

▶▶▶▶ [choa.org](http://choa.org)

### ***Private Practice Rotation***

Fellows gain experience in neuropsychological assessment and forensic/medico-legal evaluations within a busy private practice setting in the Atlanta community with a board-certified neuropsychologist.

**Primary Supervisor:** John Sass, Ph.D., ABPP-CN

▶▶▶▶ [rehabgeorgia.com/jsass](http://rehabgeorgia.com/jsass)

## Research Rotation

**Research Mentor:** Kristian Nitsch, Ph.D.

There are numerous research studies being conducted across Shepherd Center, including efforts within the Acquired Brain Injury program. Additional opportunities may also be identified in other areas such as spinal cord injury, Multiple Sclerosis, and the SHARE Military Initiative. Fellows will have access to our robust neuropsychology registry database (REDcap) for use in their own investigations and will have the option of engaging in faculty research as part of their two-year-long research rotation. Interdisciplinary research is highly encouraged, with potential opportunities to explore research being conducted by allied health, vocational rehabilitation, and other rehabilitation clinicians. Fellows are encouraged to collaborate. They will participate in regular research meetings which involve project development, research article reviews and critiques, and ongoing project and database updates.

### ***Research Requirements:***

Fellows will produce two separate research deliverables prior to the end of the fellow's second year of training.

**Minor Project** - Peer-reviewed research poster or presentation at a national/international conference.

**Major Project** - First-author manuscript submitted for publication in a peer-reviewed research journal. Manuscript publication can include a write-up and submission of the minor research project. The manuscript is not required to have been accepted by the time the fellow completes their training to meet this specific requirement.

### ***Sampling of recent fellow's research projects:***

- ▶▶ **Watorek, V.**, Shwartz S., & Day, C. (2021, November). Examining self-awareness in acute stroke and traumatic brain injury populations [Virtual poster presentation]. National Academy of Neuropsychology Conference. <https://doi.org/10.1093/arclin/acab062.121>
- ▶▶ **Hoyman, L.**, Robbins, J., Bayer, C., Murthy, J., Quirk, M., Day, C., & Jackson, M. (2019, February). Performance on reliable digit span vs. reliable digit span-revised in an inpatient acquired brain injury (ABI) rehabilitation sample. Poster presented at the annual conference of the International Neuropsychological Society, New York, NY.

### ***Additional research opportunities:***

- 1** Supervision of doctoral students conducting research within the department, pending fellow development and availability of research students.
- 2** Assisting in the management of the department's neuropsychological research database in REDcap.
- 3** Assisting with Institutional Review Board submissions and maintaining institutional research compliance.

### ***Didactic Opportunities***

Didactic opportunities expand fellows' existing knowledge base in neuroanatomy, neuropathology, and the neurosciences, and foster the fellow's development as a neuropsychology scientist-practitioner. Through didactic and experiential training, the fellow develops a strong understanding of brain-behavior relationships and furthers their knowledge in basic psychological principles, research methodology, psychometric issues, and general clinical psychology, as well as practice and professional issues. A variety of didactic training opportunities are available to the fellow, including:

#### ***Neurorehabilitation Seminar***

This is a collaborative, joint training seminar for the clinical neuropsychology fellows, rehabilitation psychology fellow, and faculty. Fellows and faculty regularly present on foundational neurorehabilitation topics, present relevant cases, and discuss and critique neurorehabilitation psychology literature. Combined didactics are on the first and second week of the month (neurorehabilitation topics), while the third didactic of the month will be more focused on neuropsychology areas, and the fourth will be more focused on rehabilitation psychology areas. Fellows will present at least four times per training year.



## Neuroimaging Seminar

To allow for greater resident collaboration and teaching opportunities, Wellstar Medical Group's APPCN training faculty have opened their neuroimaging seminar to the Shepherd Center fellows/residents to join via Microsoft Teams. The neuroimaging seminar spans the two years of the training program and is led by neuropsychologists from Wellstar Medical Group. The seminar is held on the first and third Fridays from October to July of each year. Each year, there will be residents in their first (junior) and second (senior) years of training attending the seminar. The fellows will be expected to present and actively participate throughout the two years.

## Diversity Seminar

The diversity seminar meets monthly and is open only to trainees. The objective of the seminar is to provide trainees with the sensitivity, awareness, knowledge, and skills for multiculturally competent clinical care.

## Professional Development

Fellows will meet with faculty to discuss issues pertaining to career development, job search and experience, and other matters of relevance to development as an independent clinician. Fellows will also meet with the training directors monthly to review professional development scenarios, discuss adjustment to fellowship, review any concerns, and provide feedback.

## Neuroanatomy Courses

### Marquette University

In the summer following the first year of training, the fellows have the opportunity to attend an intensive neuroanatomy course ("Neuroanatomical Dissection: Human Brain and Spinal Cord") at Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. All associated travel and course fees are covered by Shepherd Center. In the event that this course is not offered, other resources will be identified.



## Morehouse School of Medicine

Fellows have the opportunity to attend classes and laboratories associated with the Medical Neurobiology course at the Morehouse School of Medicine. This course is typically offered from March through May. Fellows are encouraged to review the course syllabus once it is available and to select lectures and labs that are of interest and work with their schedule at Shepherd Center. They can review their choices with their supervisor for final approval. Topics include but are not limited to gross anatomy of the brain, meninges, brainstem, spinal cord, cranial nerves, hypothalamus, and applied anatomy. It is a medical course, so the focus is primarily on neuroanatomy and neuropathology with some emphasis on implications for functional presentation and treatment.

## Additional Opportunities

Fellows also have the opportunity to attend various grand rounds, such as neurology and neuroradiology grand rounds at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta (CHOA). There is ample opportunity to attend local workshops and national conferences. Internally, fellows will also participate in preparation exercises for the ABCN board exam (e.g., fact finding and sample report review).



## Supervision

Supervision is provided in all aspects of the fellow's clinical, research, and teaching activities. All supervising faculty are licensed in Georgia. All fellows are assigned a primary supervisor or supervisors for each clinical rotation. Each week, the fellow will receive one to two hours of individual supervision, in addition to approximately two hours of group supervision obtained through clinical and didactic activities. Additional informal supervision regularly occurs as the fellow manages the demands of clinical services. Styles and modes of supervision vary according to setting. The fellow receives supervision on case presentations, performance in team meetings and seminars, consultative/supervisory work, writing skills, and overall professional conduct. Professional development, career planning, and interviewing skills are also addressed during supervisory sessions. By the completion of the fellowship, all fellows will have more than the requisite 1,500 hours of supervised work experience needed for licensure in Georgia and all other jurisdictions of the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards.

## Diversity

Shepherd Center is deeply committed to training future neuropsychologists from a culturally competent framework and fostering an environment that is highly sensitive to and appreciative of all aspects of diversity. We believe that increased self-awareness and appreciation for other viewpoints and cultures make psychologists more effective practitioners, scientists, supervisors, and teachers. For this reason, sensitivity to individual differences and cultural humility are integral aspects of our training philosophy. Our overall objective is to provide fellows with the awareness, knowledge, and skills to provide clinical services across cultures and diverse settings. Training is focused on the integration of diversity-related knowledge into clinical services. A specific emphasis is placed on incorporating diversity-related concepts and knowledge into evidence-based assessment and intervention practices. Our fellowship is committed to the Relevance 2050 Initiative.

▶▶▶▶ [theaacn.org/relevance-2050/relevance-2050-initiative/](https://theaacn.org/relevance-2050/relevance-2050-initiative/)



## Exit Criteria

*Successful completion of the training program is reflected by the following accomplishments, as delineated by the Houston Conference Guidelines:*

- 1** The fellow demonstrates advanced skill in the neuropsychological evaluation, treatment, and consultation with patients and professionals sufficient to practice on an independent basis.
- 2** The fellow demonstrates an advanced understanding of brain-behavior relationships.
- 3** The fellow demonstrates sufficient scholarly activity, e.g., submission of a study or literature review for publication, presentation, submission of a grant proposal, or outcome assessment.
- 4** A formal evaluation of competency in the exit criteria one through three shall occur in the residency program—fellows are evaluated using a competency-based model every six months.
- 5** The fellow is eligible for licensure in the state/province where they intend to practice.
- 6** Eligibility for board certification in clinical neuropsychology by the American Board of Professional Psychology.

**Program-specific requirement:** Successful completion of the Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology (EPPP): Part 1 is expected by December of the second year.

### HR Benefits

- ▶ Stipends are based on the NIH-fellowship rates that calculate years of post-graduate experience.
- ▶ **Year One:** \$55,937
- ▶ **Year Two:** \$57,056
- ▶ Eligible for comprehensive health, dental, and vision insurance, as well as basic life and disability insurance.
- ▶ 24 days of paid time off per year.

### Department Benefits

- ▶ Professional development funds are available for conference presentations and travel .
- ▶ Three educational days per year to attend conferences.
- ▶ One educational day to take the EPPP. *EPPP test fee reimbursement after successfully passing the exam during fellowship range of dates.*

**Other benefits include free parking, access to dictation software, full access to medical library services, and numerous perks (e.g., discounts) in the community.**

## Metropolitan Atlanta

With a population of approximately 5.9 million, the Atlanta metropolitan area manages to be urban while retaining southern charm and hospitality. Here is why our staff loves Atlanta:

“The food and coffee scene, the Georgia Aquarium, and driving distance to great places.”

– *Dr. Alex Alverson, Clinical Neuropsychologist, ABI Inpatient Unit*

“There is a lot of diversity in terms of Atlanta residents, as many people are transplants. I really think this adds to the cultural and identity diversity that thrives in the Atlanta area, making it feel very welcoming to people from all backgrounds.”

– *Dr. Kristian Nitsch, Clinical Neuropsychologist, Shepherd Pathways*

“I love how Atlanta has been steadily expanding its walking/biking trails (e.g., the Beltline). It makes the city more pedestrian/biker friendly and connects neighborhoods.”

– *Dr. Susan Shwartz, Clinical Neuropsychologist, Outpatient Neuropsychology Clinic, and Co-Training Director*

“Hiking up Stone Mountain’s walk-up trail to greet the sunrise is a thrill that never gets old!”

– *Jane DeMaria, Psychometrist*

“Atlanta is accessible for domestic and international travel, has great festivals and activities, and as a fellow I could easily afford my rent close to work in a great, fun neighborhood.”

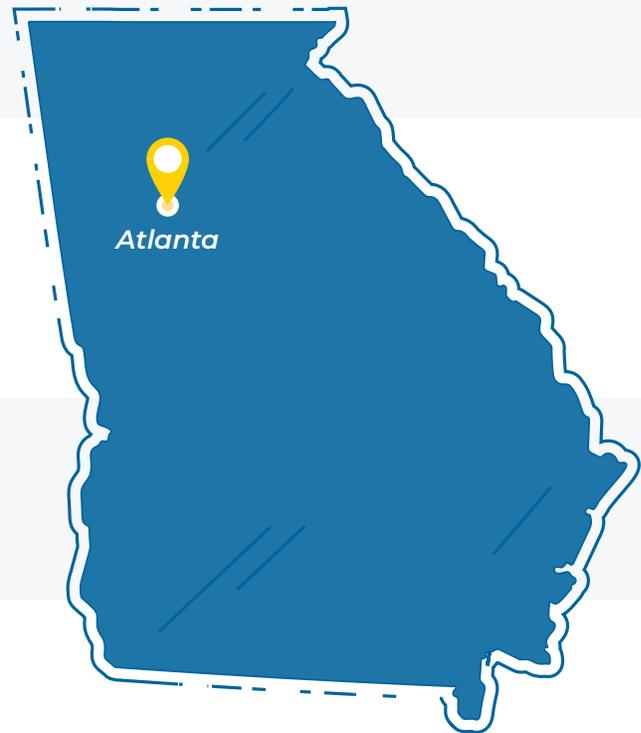
– *Dr. Laurie Baker, Director, Department of Psychology (Shepherd Center neuropsychology postdoctoral fellow, 2009-2011)*

“Dog-friendly, amazing food, so much greenery even in the city proper, and endless opportunities to be outside (hiking, festivals, walking the city’s beltline, Braves baseball).”

– *Dr. Michelle Jackson, Clinical Neuropsychologist, ABI Inpatient Unit, and Co-Training Director*

“The ability to be outside almost year-round!”

– *Dr. Punam Rahman, Rehabilitation Psychologist, Spinal Cord Program, and Training Director of Rehabilitation Psychology Fellowship Program*



## Awards and Accreditations



Spinal Cord Injury Model System and Traumatic Brain Injury Model System

### Eligibility

**Applicants must meet the following prerequisites to be considered for our postdoctoral training program:**

- 1** Completion of doctoral degree, including defense of dissertation, from a clinical or counseling psychology doctoral program accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA) or the Canadian Psychological Association (CPA) before the start date of the residency.
- 2** Completion of an APA/CPA-accredited psychology internship program with Major Area of Study or Emphasis in neuropsychology training/education.  
▶▶▶▶ [scn40.org/wp-content/uploads/taxonomy\\_clin\\_neuro.pdf](https://scn40.org/wp-content/uploads/taxonomy_clin_neuro.pdf)
- 3** While one's dissertation does not need to be completed at the time of application, no applicant will be permitted to begin fellowship training if their dissertation has not been completed.



## Application Checklist

Submit the following documents scanned into a single compressed PDF file via email to [susan.shwartz@shepherd.org](mailto:susan.shwartz@shepherd.org).

- Letter of interest, including training and clinical experiences and an explanation of your specific interests in our fellowship program.
- Curriculum Vitae.
- APPCN Verification of Completion of Doctorate Form.
- One de-identified clinical case, preferably one relevant to our clinical population.

The following materials should also be submitted directly from the source to [susan.shwartz@shepherd.org](mailto:susan.shwartz@shepherd.org) or mailed to: **Dr. Susan Shwartz, Shepherd Center, 2020 Peachtree Rd NW, Atlanta, GA 30309**

- Official graduate school transcripts sent directly from the program.
- Three letters of recommendation from professionals familiar with your academic or clinical work, at least one of which is from a current supervisor.
- For applicants that have not completed the dissertation defense, a letter from the dissertation chairperson indicating the stage of research project and the anticipated date of completion. Note: If the dissertation chairperson is also writing a letter as a clinical supervisor, information regarding dissertation status can be included in that letter. No applicant will be permitted to begin fellowship training if their dissertation has not been completed.

**The complete application should be received by *December 15, 2022*. Earlier submissions are preferred.**

**All applicants must register with National Matching Services to be ranked for the fellowship – [natmatch.com/appcnmat](https://natmatch.com/appcnmat).**

**Our APPCN Matching Program Code is *9942*.**

## Interview Process

Interviews will be held via video conferencing and in person at the 2023 International Neuropsychological Society annual conference in San Diego, California. Select candidates may also be invited on-site for interviews (expenses paid by Shepherd Center). We look forward to meeting you.

Shepherd Center is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer. We invite applications from members of minority and other underrepresented groups in professional neuropsychology or rehabilitation psychology. In compliance with federal law, all persons hired will be required to verify identity and eligibility to work in the United States and to complete the required employment eligibility verification form upon hire. Shepherd is unable to commit to sponsoring H-1B visas at this time.



Shepherd Center, located in Atlanta, Georgia, is a private, not-for-profit hospital specializing in medical treatment, research and rehabilitation for people with spinal cord injury, brain injury, stroke, multiple sclerosis, spine and chronic pain, and other neurological conditions. Founded in 1975, Shepherd Center is ranked by *U.S. News* among the top 10 rehabilitation hospitals in the nation. In its more than four decades, Shepherd Center has grown from a six-bed rehabilitation unit to a world-renowned, 152-bed hospital that treats more than 740 inpatients, 280 day program patients and more than 7,100 outpatients each year in more than 46,000 visits.



## Shepherd Center

2020 Peachtree Road, NW  
Atlanta, GA 30309-1465  
404-352-2020 [shepherd.org](http://shepherd.org)