Site Information:
Address: 9030 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, MD, 20892 (Medical Center metro stop)
Phone #: 240-760-6040
Fax #: 240-451-4429
Website: https://ccr.cancer.gov/Pediatric-Oncology-Branch/training-psychology

Primary Supervisor’s Information:
Name: Staci Martin Peron, Ph.D.
Degree/Licensure: Ph.D. in clinical psychology, licensed in Maryland
Title: Clinical and Training Director
Phone #: 240-760-6025
E-mail address: martins@mail.nih.gov

Description of externship:
This externship will provide the student with experience working with children, adolescents, and adults with chronic illness, especially those with neurobehavioral effects (e.g., relapsed leukemia, sickle cell anemia, neurofibromatosis type 1), enrolled on treatment protocols at the NCI and other NIH institutes. Depending on level of experience and interest, the student will be involved in a variety of clinical and research activities, including interviewing and assessing patients (ranging from brief, focused neurocognitive batteries to comprehensive evaluations), report writing, conducting short-term weekly therapy, performing adherence interventions, attending multidisciplinary case conferences and medical rounds, entering and analyzing data, and contributing to manuscripts and/or paper/poster presentations. General topics of current/future projects include neurobehavioral effects of chronic illness, psychological interventions (e.g., mindfulness, ACT, physical activity) for coping with pain and illness in children and parents, medication adherence among adolescents and adults on clinical trials, quality of life in children with cancer, and validation of patient-reported outcomes in medical populations. Empirically supported treatment models are taught, particularly Acceptance and Commitment Therapy.

The extern will have at least one hour of individual supervision per week with a licensed clinical psychologist (typically Dr. Martin Peron). An hour of group supervision will be provided in weekly case conference meetings. Additional supervision available as needed, as we have an open-door policy with our trainees. Numerous other didactic opportunities exist.

Start date: Summer start date preferred (i.e., July – early August). The externship is flexible as to specific days/times, but Tuesdays are preferred; at least two full (8 hour) days are required and no full days on Fridays.
**Prior training/skills/experience required of externs:** Interest in working with individuals with chronic illness is preferred; proficiency with clinical interviewing and cognitive assessment measures is **required**. This externship is best suited for more advanced students (third year and above) who have completed at least 4 to 5 comprehensive assessments.

**Stipend:** A small stipend is sometimes available, pending funding.

**Deadline for applications is February 2.** Interested applicants should email a letter of interest, CV, 2 letters of recommendation, and a list of all tests administered (including number of administrations of each test) to:

Staci Martin Peron, Ph.D.
martins@mail.nih.gov

We will interview students between February 15 through March 3 and will make offers by March 12th, the uniform notification day (based on Washington DC Externship Consortium guidelines), as applicable.