

Roberto Clemente Center (RCC): Clinical Psychology Internship Program Overview

About

The Roberto Clemente Center (RCC) Internship in Clinical Psychology, offered through NYC Health + Hospitals Gotham Health, is a one-year, full-time doctoral internship designed to provide advanced clinical training to doctoral candidates in clinical psychology. The program offers four internship positions annually and prepares trainees to become competent, entry-level psychologists in integrated community and healthcare settings.

Interns hold the title of *Psychologist-in-Training* and participate in a comprehensive training experience that includes individual and group supervision of patient care, didactic seminars, interdisciplinary collaboration, and ongoing evaluation of development clinical competencies.

Training Environment

The internship is based at the Roberto Clemente Center in Lower Manhattan, a community-based behavioral health and primary care center serving a diverse and underserved population. Since 1983, RCC has been committed to providing culturally responsive care to individuals, families, and communities across New York City.

RCC operates within the NYC public health system and maintains an academic affiliation with NYU School of Medicine. Our program director, Jaime Inclán, Ph.D., oversees all aspects of training, including supervision, curriculum development, and program evaluation.

Training Model

The RCC Internship follows a practitioner-oriented model that emphasizes intensive clinical experience, cultural responsiveness, interpersonal and systems-based care. Interns receive supervised training in a range of evidence-informed and relational approaches.

A defining feature of the program is its strong focus on family systems and ecological perspectives, helping interns understand individuals within their broader relational, cultural, and social contexts.

Clinical Experience

Interns work with a highly diverse patient population, including individuals from African, Caribbean, Latino, Asian, and European backgrounds. Many patients are immigrants or part of bilingual households, and a significant portion of services is provided in Spanish.

Training includes experience in:

- Individual, family, couples, and group therapy
- Psychological assessment
- Crisis intervention and psychiatric collaboration
- Collaboration with interdisciplinary healthcare teams

Because of the program's emphasis on culturally and linguistically responsive care, fluency in both English and Spanish is required.

Programs and Services

RCC provides services through two licensed programs:

- Clinic Treatment Program
- Continuing Day Treatment Program (CDTP)

These programs offer a full continuum of behavioral health services, including psychotherapy, psychiatric care, and rehabilitative support for adolescents, adults, and families.

Our Mission

Through this intensive training experience, the RCC Internship in Clinical Psychology prepares future psychologists to deliver **comprehensive, culturally responsive, and systemically informed care** to individuals, families, and communities within complex healthcare environments.

Application Requirements & Selection Process

The Roberto Clemente Center (RCC) Internship in Clinical Psychology accepts applications through the APPIC Psychology Internship Centralized Application Service (AAPIC).

Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must be enrolled in a doctoral program (Ph.D. or Psy.D.) in Clinical Psychology and should have:

- Completed all required coursework
- Completed supervised clinical practicum training
- Successfully passed comprehensive or qualifying examinations
- An approved dissertation proposal

While there is no formal minimum requirement for clinical hours, applicants with approximately **500 or more practicum hours** have historically demonstrated strong readiness for internship-level training.

Application Materials

Applicants are required to submit the following through AAPIC:

- Current Curriculum Vitae
- Two letters of interest (**one in English and one in Spanish**)
- Three letters of recommendation
- Official graduate transcripts
- Verification of doctoral program status (including completion of coursework, practicum training, qualifying exams, and dissertation proposal approval)

Selection Process

Applications are reviewed by the RCC Training Committee with particular attention to the alignment between the applicant's clinical interests, professional goals, and the program's training model.

The selection process includes:

1. **Application Review:** The Director of Training and Training Committee review all submitted materials
2. **Interview Selection:** Invitations are extended based on qualifications and program fit
3. **Interviews:** Selected applicants participate in an individual interview
4. **Match Process:** Final selection occurs through the APPIC Match
5. Applicants selected through the Match must complete pre-employment requirements, including background checks, fingerprinting, child abuse registry clearance, and health screening

Preference is given to applicants who:

- Have completed or are near completion of all doctoral requirements
- Demonstrate strong clinical training and letters of recommendation
- Have approximately **2–3 years of relevant practicum experience**
- Show interest in community mental health and culturally responsive care

Additional Information

We strongly encourage applications from individuals who demonstrate interest in working with **diverse, multilingual, and underserved communities**. Bilingual (Spanish-speaking) applicants are particularly encouraged to apply given the bilingual needs of the population served.

Application Deadline

All application materials must be submitted through the APPIC Psychology Internship Centralized Application Service (AAPIC) and it must be completed fully as requested.

Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to submit materials in advance of the deadline to ensure timely processing.

Training Objectives & Competencies

The Roberto Clemente Center (RCC) Internship in Clinical Psychology is designed to provide an intensive, year-long clinical training experience within a multicultural, community-based healthcare setting. The program prepares doctoral trainees to become competent, entry-level psychologists capable of delivering culturally responsive and systemically informed care.

Training Objectives

The primary objective of the RCC Internship is to support the development of clinical psychologists who can effectively work with diverse, underserved populations in integrated healthcare environments.

Interns gain experience working with individuals, families, and communities impacted by complex psychological, cultural, social, and economic factors. The training emphasizes the integration of theoretical knowledge with applied clinical skills, allowing interns to develop strong competencies in assessment, intervention, and interdisciplinary collaboration.

A central focus of the program is helping interns understand psychological functioning within broader **family, cultural, and ecological systems**, particularly in the context of immigrant and urban populations.

Clinical Training Experience

Interns are exposed to a wide range of clinical presentations and levels of care, including:

- Individual psychotherapy (brief, long-term, and crisis-focused)
- Family and couples' therapy (ecological system approach)
- Group therapy (process and skills-based groups)
- Psychological assessment
- Crisis intervention and diagnostic evaluation
- Interdisciplinary collaboration with psychiatry and medical providers

Interns work with patients across the continuum of care and develop skills in clinical interviewing, diagnosis, and treatment planning.

Core Competencies

Interns are evaluated throughout the training year across the following competency areas:

- **Ethical and Legal Standards**
- **Individual and Cultural Diversity**
- **Professional Values and Attitudes**
- **Communication and Interpersonal Skills**
- **Assessment**
- **Intervention**
- **Consultation and Interdisciplinary Skills**
- **Supervision**
- **Research and Scholarly Inquiry**

Training emphasizes the integration of science and practice, encouraging interns to apply research to clinical work and engage in critical evaluation of evidence-based approaches.

RCC-Specific Training Focus

A distinguishing feature of the RCC Internship is its emphasis on working with **immigrant and underserved urban populations**. Interns develop specialized skills in:

- Culturally and linguistically responsive care
- Multigenerational family assessment and intervention
- Understanding the impact of systemic factors (e.g., immigration, socioeconomic stress, cultural identity) on mental health

Professional Development

Throughout the year, interns are supported in developing their professional identity as psychologists. Training includes:

- Ongoing supervision and feedback
- Didactic seminars
- Live supervision
- Live consultation
- Opportunities for case presentation and discussion
- Engagement in research-informed practice

Interns are encouraged to reflect on their clinical work, develop areas of specialization, and contribute to the professional community.

Program Goal

The overarching goal of the RCC Internship is to prepare psychologists who are capable of delivering comprehensive, ethical, culturally responsive, and systemically informed psychological services within diverse and complex healthcare settings.

Contact Information

Jaime Inclán, Ph.D.

Clinical Associate Professor of Psychiatry, NYU School of Medicine
Director, Roberto Clemente Center (RCC)
NYC Health + Hospitals – Gotham Health

Email: Jaime.inclan@nychhc.org

Phone: 212-387-7427

Lorraine E. Gonzalez Rentas, PsyD

Coordinator, RCC Internship in Clinical Psychology
Roberto Clemente Center (RCC)
NYC Health + Hospitals – Gotham Health

Email: gonzalel60@nychhc.org

Phone: 212-387-77422