

The Center for OCD, Anxiety, and Tic Disorders in Children (COACH) is a clinical treatment research program at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine that focuses on improving the lives children, adolescents, and young adults suffering from obsessive-compulsive related disorders (ORCD; e.g., misophonia), Tourette Syndrome (TS), anxiety disorders, and related conditions. To achieve this goal, COACH team members conduct evidence-based assessments and deliver evidence-based treatments in the context of clinical research.

COACH will **accept two clinical pre-doctoral psychology externs** for the academic year of 2024-2025.

Orientation to Assessment and Treatment for Selected Clinical Populations: Doctoral psychology students will receive orientation, didactic training, and hands-on training in evidence-based assessment and treatment for obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD), ORCD, TS, and anxiety disorders. This includes cognitive behavior therapy (CBT) with exposure and response prevention (ERP), habit reversal training (HRT), and the comprehensive behavioral intervention for tics (CBIT).

Intervention Training: Doctoral psychology students will primarily have the opportunity to deliver CBT with ERP to youth with OCD (ages 8-17 years) and their caregivers, under the clinical supervision of Drs. Ramsey and McGuire (both licensed clinical psychologists in the state of Maryland). This intervention will be delivered within the context of a grant-funded research study. Externs will deliver regular therapy sessions of the manualized intervention following the study protocol to participating families; externs will receive supervision for their ERP work with participants. Externs will have the opportunity to engage in other assessment and intervention training opportunities, within the context of clinical research at COACH, pending future funding opportunities.

Face-to-Face Interaction Time: **Doctoral students who participate in this externship typically receive about 6-8 hours of face-to-face weekly interactions with patients through assessment and treatment activities.** Notably, the level of face-to-face interaction will increase over time as the doctoral student completes didactic and hands-on training in assessments/interventions.

Supervision: **Doctoral students are anticipated to receive a minimum of 2 hours of supervision on a weekly basis** with supervisors who are experts in anxiety, OCD, TS, and related conditions. Additionally, depending on the student's availability, doctoral students will also have the opportunity to attend relevant didactic seminars offered through Johns Hopkins University and COACH.

In-Person and Virtual Activities: Currently, COACH conducts clinical research assessments and therapy sessions in a hybrid format—some are conducted in-person, while others are conducted via Zoom (HIPAA-compliant telehealth platform). The externship would require some in-person activities for trainees at the Johns Hopkins East Baltimore Medical Campus.

Opportunities to Engage in Clinical Research: For those doctoral students interested to participate in COACH research activities, opportunities are available.

Time Commitment: This site requires the ability to complete a **12-month externship and commit 15 hours weekly.** Training typically begins July 1 (with some flexibility), and externs typically begin supervised face-to-face interactions after completing didactic and hands-on training with supervisors.

APPLICATION PROCESS

If interested in applying for this doctoral externship at COACH, send the following by email:

1. Letter of interest that states your interest and goals for participating in this externship.
2. Names and email contact information of two references
3. Curriculum vita (CV) or resume.

Externship candidates with the following qualities are strongly encouraged to apply:

- in their 3rd year (or higher) of their doctoral program;
- with experience providing evidence-based treatment (particularly CBT with ERP);
- with experience working with youth/families;
- with experience assessing/treating individuals with pediatric OCD.

Materials should be emailed to coach@jhmi.edu and directed to the attention of Kesley Ramsey, PhD and Joseph McGuire, PhD. Please visit our website (www.jhucoach.org) and/or email us if you have any additional questions about this externship opportunity (coach@jhmi.edu).