

# **Update on Psychology Education**

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# Topics for today

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- **VA Training Impact on Psychology**
- **Psychology Educational Enhancement**
- **Associated Health Supervision Handbook**
- **Web Migration**
- **Affiliation Agreements**
- **Uniform Notification Date**

# VA Training Impact on Psychology

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**Nationally, 35.5% of psychologists have had some VA training.**

**(estimated from numbers who had VA training and number who passed EPPP in 2006)**

**74% of new VA Psychologist hires have had VA training.**

**(informal survey of all VA facilities in 2007)**

# Psychology Educational Enhancement

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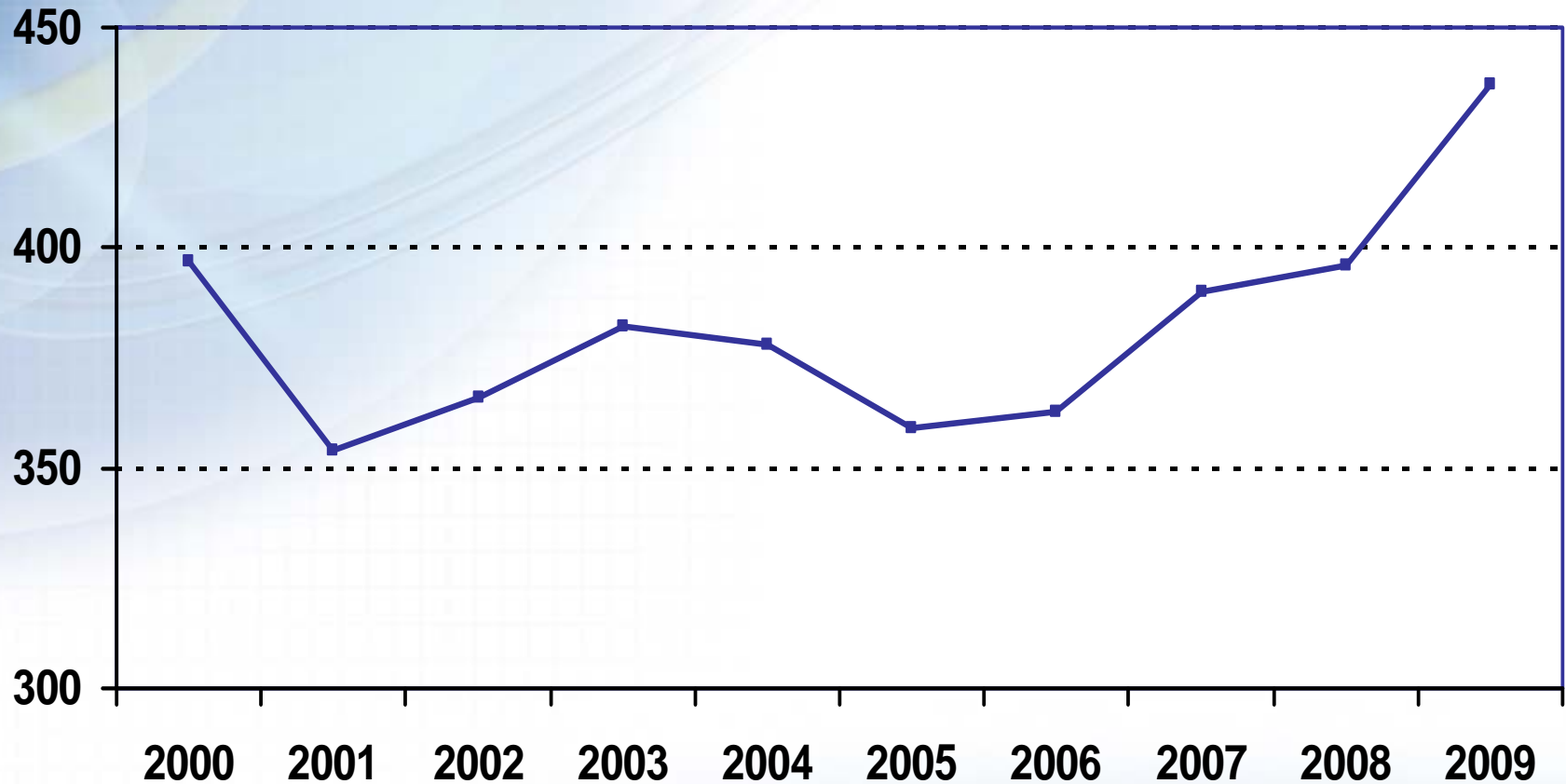
- **RFP Process announced last year**
  - **105 Proposals requesting**
  - **246 Positions**
  
- **Peer Review Panel of 21 VA Psychologists**
  - **Approved 167 positions in 79 programs**
  - **4 New Internship Programs**
  - **26 New Postdoctoral Fellowship Programs**

# Trainee Allocations AY 2008-2009

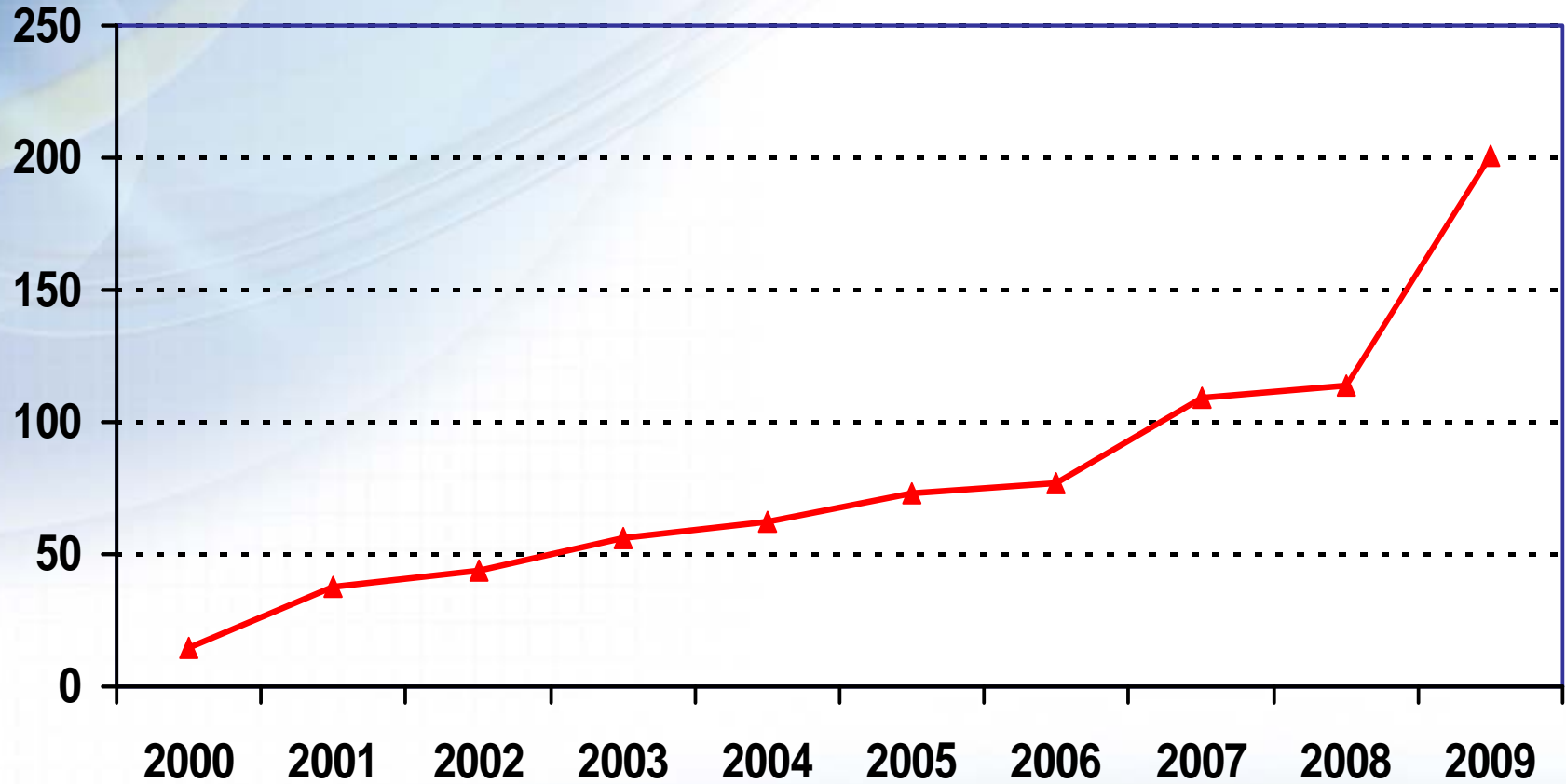
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- Interns – 437
- Postdoctoral Fellows – 201
- Total: 638 positions (128 more than current yr = 25% increase)

# Internship Training, the Last Decade



# Postdoctoral Training, the Last Decade



# What's Next?

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- **Hoping for modest increments in Training Positions**
- **May need to be more focused**
- **APA Model Licensing Act**



# Associated Health Supervision Handbook

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- **Now with the Publications Office**
- **Will be posted on OAA website**  
<http://vaww.va.gov/oaa>
- **We will publicize broadly when it is released**

# Associated Health Supervision Handbook

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- **Each trainee must have an identified supervisor for each patient**
- **Supervisor has clinical and legal responsibility**
- **Supervisor is the Primary Provider**  
*(VHA Directive 2006-026, Patient Care Data Capture)*
- **Level & type of supervision must be consistent with assigned level of responsibility**

# Graduated Levels of Responsibility

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- **Trainees earn progressive responsibilities**
- **Levels of responsibility must be formally assigned and documented**
- **At highest levels of responsibility, the minimal standard is that supervisor must be in the facility, immediately available, and able to be physically present as needed.**
- **Other levels require closer supervision**

# 3 Types of Supervision

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1. **ROOM.** Physically present in the same room
2. **AREA.** In the same physical area and immediately available
3. **AVAILABLE.** Supervisor not in the immediate area, but in facility and able to be present if needed

# 3 Types of Documentation

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1. **Separate progress note**
2. **Addendum**
3. **Co-signature implies full concurrence with the trainee note**

# Billing Concerns

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- **VA follows CMS rules**
- **CMS rules do not allow billing for any student-provided services**
- **Only services provided by a credentialed provider may be billed**
- **Only documentation by the credentialed provider may be used for billing purposes**

Per Chief Business Office

# Web Migration

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- **Phase I. All Training Web Sites located on any non-VA domain**
  - **Must be brought into VA Domain**
  - **By July 2008**
- **Phase II. Build on Phase I to create one location for all Training Sites.**

# Affiliation Agreements

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- **For VA Internship Programs, Affiliation Agreements with the interns' graduate programs are required.**
- **Affiliation Agreements do not expire**
- **For Postdoctoral Fellowships, they are not required. The Fellow, having already received the degree, is no longer associated with the graduate program.**



# Uniform Notification Date for Fellowships

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- **Russell Lemle Update**

# The Future?

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- **Anticipate a few more good years at least**
- **May be able to create some paid Practicum positions for the summer**
- **Modest increments in training positions**
- **Big VACO emphasis on Rural Needs**
- **Educational Innovations**
- **1 vs 2 year postdoctoral fellowships**

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# Thank You - Questions?

19 -April 26, 2008