Update on Psychology Education

Robert Zeiss, Ph.D.

Associated Health Education
Office of Academic Affiliations
VA Central Office, Washington, DC

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Topics for today

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

- 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

• Interns – 437

• Postdoctoral Fellows – 201

• Total: 638 positions (128 more than current yr = 25% increase)
Internship Training, the Last Decade

Graph showing the number of students participating in internship training from 2000 to 2009.
Postdoctoral Training, the Last Decade

![Graph showing the number of postdoctoral training positions over the last decade.](image-url)

- The number of postdoctoral positions has shown a steady increase from 2000 to 2007.
- A significant increase is observed from 2007 to 2008.
- The number of positions reached a peak in 2009.
What’s Next?

• Hoping for modest increments in Training Positions

• May need to be more focused

• APA Model Licensing Act
Associated Health Supervision Handbook

• 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

- 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

• 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

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

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

• 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

• 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

- 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

• Russell Lemle Update
The Future?

- 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
Thank You -

Questions?