



**Postdoctoral Fellowship Program in Early Psychosis
Program for Early Assessment, Care, and Study (PEACS)
University of Colorado School of Medicine (CUSOM), Anschutz Medical Campus
Department of Psychiatry (DoP)**

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The University of Colorado School of Medicine Department of Psychiatry (CUSOM DoP) is seeking applicants for a full-time, 1-year postdoctoral fellowship in clinical psychology to begin July 1, 2022 (with flexibility to start September 1, 2022). The position will provide an opportunity to join a new, thriving clinical and research program, The Program for Early Assessment, Care, and Study (PEACS; <https://medschool.cuanschutz.edu/psychiatry/programs/PEACS>). PEACS focuses on care for individuals approximately ages 12-30, who are showing signs of clinical high risk for psychosis (CHR-p, previously called “prodrome”) often combined with comorbid concerns (e.g., mood, anxiety, substance use, personality, and trauma). Our program integrates specialized clinical care, innovative research, and teaching. It is one of a small but growing number of specialty CHR-p programs in the US.

The primary objective of this fellowship is to develop expertise in the early identification, assessment, and treatment of young people showing signs of risk for psychosis spectrum diagnoses. PEACS offers a range of treatments, including individual and family therapy, psychiatry, care coordination, and school/work “coaching. This fellowship provides a unique opportunity to work with a multidisciplinary team to collaboratively conceptualize, plan, and provide these treatments for young people with complex and evolving diagnostic presentations. Fellows also build their competence by providing consultation to other providers in the community, including schools, clinicians, and psychiatrists.

FELLOWSHIP TRAINING EXPERIENCES

The supervisor (Michelle L West, PhD) works with trainees to formulate training goals and to discuss interests. Although certain tasks are required for all trainees (e.g., providing individual and family therapy and intake assessments), others are tailored as much as possible to meet the goals and interests of each trainee.

Assessment/Consultation

- Training and supervision in the Structured Assessment for Psychosis-Risk Syndromes (SIPS).
- Conduct clinic evaluations and intakes, which involve providing comprehensive assessments and consideration of differential diagnosis for young people (12-30) who present for assessment of possible CHR-p. PEACS clients provides rich opportunities for working with youth and families that are richly diverse in ethnicity/ culture, race, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability, and clinical presentation.

Psychotherapy

- Individual therapy: Carry a caseload of individual therapy clients with varying symptom presentations. The supervisor works primarily from CBT, DBT, and ACT perspectives, with openness to conceptualizing clients from other therapeutic orientations (e.g., interpersonal, psychodynamic). Typically, some clients are seen for time-limited treatment and some are longer-term clients that trainees may carry for the duration of training.
- Family therapy: PEACS emphasizes inclusion of families in treatment, so learning to work with families is an important focus of this fellowship. Fellows typically work with families of their

individual clients and carry separate family therapy case(s). The supervisor has expertise with evidence-based family treatment for early psychosis, particularly family focused treatment (FFT).

School Coordination and Case Management

- Many clients are experiencing declines in school and/or work functioning, and benefit from supports that may range from learning strategies to manage school/work tasks, writing school letters, speaking to school staff about support options and recommendations, attending IEP/504 meetings, and providing documentation supporting medical leave.

Clinical Research

- PEACS is focused on early psychosis research, with several projects ongoing and in development. Current project interests include clinical research focused on understanding early psychosis and developing effective treatments to help people. Fellows are encouraged to contribute to current research projects.

APPLICANT QUALIFICATIONS

Required Qualifications

- Doctoral degree from an APA-approved Ph.D. or Psy.D. program in clinical or counseling psychology, and on track to successfully complete an APA approved internship.
- At least 1 year experience in clinical assessment and treatment of individuals with psychotic disorders.
- Experience conducting structured clinical and research assessments (e.g., SCID) and psychological testing
- Background in clinical research methodology, statistics, and manuscript preparation, including peer-reviewed publications
- Demonstrated experience and interest in working with youth from culturally diverse backgrounds and a commitment to value cultural competence
- Prior experience with CBT, DBT, and/or ACT treatment modalities

Preferred Qualifications

- Fluency in another language (especially Spanish)
- Grant writing experience or successfully received grant funding
- Structured Interview for Psychosis Risk Syndromes (SIPS) training
- At least 2 years of experience in clinical assessment and treatment of individuals with psychosis
- Experience with family therapy, which may include family focused therapy (FFT)

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications are due by **Monday 1/17/2021**. Applications received after this date will not be considered. Applications should include the following materials:

- Brief application of basic information which we collect from applicants:
<https://redcap.ucdenver.edu/surveys/?s=EKJPKNYETLFCWM9L>
- Cover letter/letter of interest (applicants will be prompted to upload in the application link above)
- Curriculum vitae (CV) (applicants will be prompted to upload in the application link above)
- 3 letters of recommendation (preferably sent directly by your references) to peacs@ucdenver.edu

If you have questions or concerns about the program and/or application process, please contact us at peacs@ucdenver.edu, or Michelle L West, PhD, PEACS Director (michelle.west@cuanschutz.edu).

Selected applicants will be invited for interviews in approximately January through February; we will notify all applicants of their application status by March 2022.

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