

THE ROAD TO BOARD CERTIFICATION

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ADVICE ON NEUROPSYCHOLOGICAL TRAINING

- Competition for neuropsychology internships and post-doctoral fellowships is strong
- Internship imbalance is well known and well-documented. Last year was better, but little data on long term trends
- However, there are even fewer neuropsychology track internships out there.
- The good news is interns may be able to still meet Houston Conference internship criteria
- But caveat emptor!

COMPETITIVENESS FOR INTERNSHIP

- Top tier candidates have several characteristics in common:
 1. At least 2 years of neuropsychology practicum training
 2. With multiple ABPP/CN supervisors
 3. From an APA accredited program with a Neuropsychology emphasis run by ABPP neuropsychologist
 4. Co-authorship on at least 1-2 peer reviewed publications. First authorship is even better
 5. Consistent record of conference presentations (at least 1 per year for each year of graduate school)

COMPETITIVENESS FOR INTERNSHIP

- 5. Very strong letters of recommendations from at least one ABPP neuropsychologist (> 1 is better)
- 6. Dissertation complete prior to internship
- 7. No academic problems
- 8. At least 5 years in graduate school prior to internship
- 9. The keys are LOTS of fully integrated assessment batteries and a record of sustained commitment and work to becoming a neuropsychologist
- 10. Be prepared to spend extra time in graduate school and do more than peers who are pursuing clinical psychology careers.

COMPETITIVENESS FOR POST-DOC

- APA accredited internship! (I cant emphasize this enough).
 - Seriously, don't rank non-APA accredited programs
 - If you don't match the first year, get more neuropsychology experience, more research, finish your dissertation.
 - Try again.
- Neuropsychology track on internship is great, but more critical is at least 50% time in NP with ABPP neuropsychologist.
- 3 really strong LOR, all written by ABPP (combination of your graduate school, practicum, and internship supervisors). You **MUST** have your ABPP internship supervisor write you a letter for post-doc.

COMPETITIVENESS FOR POST-DOC

- Have dissertation completed no later than the time you start applying for post-docs.
- Continue to be involved in research (publications and presentations).
- Apply to geographically diverse post-docs (same is very true for internships).
- Apply to APPCN post-doc programs.

POST-DOCS

- What's APPCN? Association of Post-doctoral Programs in Clinical Neuropsychology
- APA accreditation at post-doc level is not common
- So all APPCN member programs complete a self-study
- Because of this, graduates from APPCN post-docs are on the fast track to ABPP
 - Specifically, APPCN alumni circumvent the full credential review that other applicants must complete.

POST-DOCS

- Match versus Non-match programs
 - Some programs do not participate in the match.
 - Often the trainees must accept or decline an offer from non-match program before even getting a chance to interview with match programs.
 - Some non-match programs have excellent training, but candidates need to evaluate programs carefully.

APPCN MATCH

- In the Midwest, almost all high quality programs are in the match (UIC, Medical College of Milwaukee, University of Iowa, etc)
- In the Northeast and West Coast, fewer are in the match.
- Match statistics-there's more applicants than positions
- This is driving the intense competition.

APPCN MATCH-RECENT STATISTICS FOR THE POST-DOC

MATCH:	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Applicant participation									
Applicants registered in Match	150	159	147	187	175	167	160	184	170
Applicants who withdrew or with no rankings	40 (27%)	47 (30%)	53 (36%)	62 (33%)	48 (27%)	50 (29%)	54 (33%)	64 (35%)	58 (34%)
Applicants participating in the match	110	112	94	125	127	117	106	120	112
Applicant match results									
Applicants matched	61 (55%)	77 (69%)	63 (67%)	84 (67%)	73 (57%)	77 (66%)	73 (69%)	86 (72%)	74 (66%)
Applicants not matched	49 (45%)	35 (31%)	31 (33%)	41 (33%)	54 (43%) (34%)	40 (34%)	33 (31%)	34 (28%)	38 (34%)
Program participation									
Training sites participating in the match	47	55	55	59	58	60	57	64	57
Positions offered in the match	73	82	75	89	79	84	80	94	79
Program match results									
Positions filled in the match	61 (84%)	77 (94%)	63 (84%)	84 (94%)	73 (92%)	77 (92%)	73 (91%)	86 (91%)	74 (94%)
Unfilled positions after match	12 (16%)	5 (6%)	12 (16%)	5 (6%)	6 (8%)	7 (8%)	7 (9%)	9 (9%)	5 (6%)
Programs with unfilled positions	9 (16%)	5 (8%)	10 (15%)	5 (7%)	6 (9%)	7 (10%)	7 (11%)	7 (9%)	5 (8%)
Avg # of applicants ranked per position									
Programs filling all positions	6	6.6	7.2	8.1	8.3	8.5	7.1	7.9	7.1
Programs with unfilled positions	1.9	5	3.4	6	1.8	5.7	3.9	3	3.8
All programs	5.3	6.5	6.6	8	7.7	8.3	6.8	7.4	6.8
Avg # of rankings submitted per applicant									
Matched applicants	4.8	5.5	6.4	6.2	6.5	6.9	6.4	5.7	6
Unmatched applicants	2.3	3.3	2.5	3.8	2.7	2.4	2.1	3.6	3.1
Overall	3.7	4.8	5.1	5.4	4.9	5.3	5.1	5.1	5