



POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP IN FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY 2027 - 2028

ABFP Experience Waiver 2026 – 2030

Forensic Evaluation Center
formerly known as the Court Psychiatric Clinic
Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court
Cleveland, Ohio

OVERVIEW

Introduction to the Fellowship

The Forensic Evaluation Center's Postdoctoral Fellowship in Forensic Psychology is a 12-month, 2,000-hour training program designed to prepare doctoral-level practitioners for independent practice in forensic psychology. Over the course of the training year, the fellow will engage in practical and educational activities to develop the foundational and functional competencies necessary for work in the field of forensic psychology. Such training activities have been thoughtfully structured around the core competencies outlined by the *American Board of Forensic Psychology* (ABFP).

Under the supervision of licensed, qualified psychologists, the fellow will conduct criminal forensic evaluations for a variety of psycholegal questions, including (but not limited to): competence to stand trial, mental condition at the time of the offense charged (sanity), mitigation/pre-sentencing, and risk assessment. While all fellows receive comprehensive training in the ethics, legal standards, research, and skills that provide the foundation for best practices in forensic mental health assessment, each individual fellow may also choose to engage in elective opportunities to gain deeper understanding of—or even simply exposure to—specialized areas of interest within the forensic specialty.

Upon completion of the program, fellows will have gained the competencies necessary to conduct ethical, evidence-based, objective forensic evaluations. The fellowship was granted the ABFP 5-year experience waiver through 2030, which means that fellowship graduates will also have developed the requisite conceptual and practical foundations to pursue board certification in forensic psychology after successful completion of the fellowship, should they aspire to do so. Yet, we are confident that the well-rounded knowledge, skills, and experience acquired will prepare our graduates to flourish in a variety of employment settings.

The Setting

The Forensic Evaluation Center (FEC), formerly known as the Court Psychiatric Clinic, was established in 1925, is a department of the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court. It is also one of 10 sites designated as a Certified Forensic Center by the Ohio Department of Behavioral Health. The FEC's primary function is to complete community-based forensic mental health assessments for criminal defendants charged with or convicted of felony level offenses. It is staffed by a multidisciplinary team of psychologists, psychiatrists, and social workers.

The FEC also has a longstanding history as an educational institution, providing supervised training experiences to forensic psychiatry fellows and social work Master's students from Case Western Reserve University (CWRU), predoctoral psychology practicum students from local universities, and postdoctoral psychology trainees.

The FEC is uniquely situated in the Cuyahoga County Justice Center in downtown Cleveland, Ohio. The Justice Center is a large complex designed to centralize civil and criminal justice functions in one location. It houses the county and municipal courts, the Sheriff's Office and Cleveland Division of Police headquarters, and the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office. It is also connected to the county jail.

The Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court ("Court") is comprised of 34 judges who oversee both civil and felony-level criminal dockets. The Court also has various specialty dockets (e.g., Drug Court, Veterans Court, Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Court).

The Area

Positioned between the Midwest and the Great Lakes region, on the southern shore of Lake Erie, Cleveland, Ohio is a hub of culture, industry, and history.

Cleveland is known for its world-class healthcare and research (e.g., the Cleveland Clinic). It also has a thriving arts scene. For instance, the Cleveland Orchestra is considered one of the best in the world and the Playhouse Square is the largest performing arts center in the U.S. outside of New York City. Cleveland also houses the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, among countless other museums.

Developed in 1917, the Cleveland Metropolitan Park District is the largest park system in the country based on the population it serves. It has over 300 miles of trails, nine golf courses, eight lakefront parks, and the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo. Cleveland is also home to major sports teams in the NFL, MLB, and NBA, and will soon host the WNBA too.

Cleveland has a diverse and exciting dining and recreation scene that rivals those of big cities—from fine dining to local dive bars and ceramics classes to Cedar Point. Still, the greater Cleveland area is consistently ranked as one of the most affordable major cities in the U.S., especially when it comes to housing. Commutes to downtown are relatively short no matter where you live.

Cleveland is centrally located such that several other major cities are only a short drive away (e.g., about two hours to Pittsburgh, 2.5 hours to Columbus, 3 hours to Detroit and Buffalo, and 4.5 hours to Indianapolis). We also have a moderately sized international airport that makes travel to farther destinations convenient.



The People

The following persons are the primary fellowship faculty and supervisors. However, fellows have the opportunity to learn from a number of highly-skilled, experienced evaluators at the FEC.

Tatiana Matlasz, Ph.D., ABPP is a board certified specialist in forensic psychology and the Forensic Evaluation Center's Director of Training and Education. She oversees all fellowship activities, provides direct clinical supervision to trainees, conducts didactics, and oversees the FEC's internal educational activities. She also provides trainings locally and nationally on forensic mental health topics. As the Associate Director of the FEC, she works alongside Dr. Songer providing oversight of assessment services and day-to-day operations, as well as administrative supervision to FEC staff and consultation to the Court, as needed.

She earned her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from Louisiana State University and completed her predoctoral internship at the Bureau of Prison's Federal Correctional Complex in Butner, North Carolina. After finishing her postdoctoral fellowship in forensic psychology through the University of New Mexico's Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Dr. Matlasz continued her tenure with the University as an Assistant Professor, during which time she helped build and formalize the School of Medicine's Division of Forensic Behavioral Sciences.

Dr. Matlasz has been involved in clinical forensic work for over 10 years and has particular expertise in criminal forensic mental health assessment. She approaches her cases from a lifespan developmental perspective, having equal training and experience with youth and adults. She has served on various boards and commissions and provided consultation to help enhance forensic mental health service delivery, including as a Senior Consultant for SAMHSA's GAINS Center. In addition, Dr. Matlasz has published peer-reviewed articles and book chapters on antisocial behavior and psychopathy, aggression, and other topics relevant to forensics.

Dylan Songer, Psy.D., is a licensed psychologist and the Director of the Forensic Evaluation Center. As Director, he provides oversight of all FEC operations, administrative supervision of all FEC personnel, and direct consultation to Court Administration. In addition to these responsibilities, he carries a caseload of criminal forensic evaluations and supervises predoctoral and postdoctoral trainees. He also provides trainings on various forensic mental health topics to audiences throughout the Court system and community.

He earned his Psy.D. in Clinical Psychology from Indiana State University. He completed his predoctoral internship at the Bureau of Prison's Federal Correctional Complex in Butner, North Carolina (in the same cohort as Dr. Matlasz!) and his postdoctoral fellowship in forensic psychology at Forum Ohio, LLC in Columbus, Ohio. He then transitioned to the FEC as a full-time evaluator, and shortly after, was promoted to its Director.

Dr. Songer's expertise is primarily in the criminal forensic evaluation of adult defendants, though he also has been trained in juvenile forensic evaluation. He has a strong background in the assessment and treatment of substance use disorders and sexual offenders. He has conducted evaluations in local county jails and state hospitals throughout the state of Ohio. Having worked in numerous correctional facilities at the state and federal levels, Dr. Songer is a wealth of knowledge about correctional psychology and the contextualization of forensic cases within the relevant systems.

Becca Bergquist, Ph.D., is a licensed psychologist and a full-time evaluator with the Forensic Evaluation Center. She primarily conducts criminal forensic evaluations of competence to stand trial, sanity at the time of the offense, mitigation, and eligibility for mental health court. Additionally, she provides supervision to predoctoral and postdoctoral trainees and offers expert witness testimony as requested by the Court.

She earned her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from Texas Tech University and completed her predoctoral internship at Utah State Hospital in Provo, Utah, with training in both the forensic and neuropsychology tracks. She subsequently completed her postdoctoral fellowship in forensic psychology at the University of Virginia's Institute of Law, Psychiatry, and Public Policy (ILPPP), where she received advanced training in criminal forensic evaluations, including competency, sanity, mitigation, and risk assessment. She thereafter transitioned into her current role with the Forensic Evaluation Center.

Dr. Bergquist uses a biopsychosocial approach to criminal forensic evaluations based upon her training and expertise with both youth and adults. Her research and clinical work have focused on justice-involved youth and the examination of criminogenic risk and protective factors associated with pathways to offending, including the publication of several peer-reviewed articles on these topics. She has provided trainings on trauma-informed practices and forensic evaluations with juvenile populations and strives to incorporate evidence-based research and practice into her criminal forensic work.

Staff Forensic Evaluators

Trever Dangel, Ph.D.
Joy Stankowski, M.D.
Susan Hatters-Friedman, M.D.
James Rodio, M.D.

Cathleen Suelzer-Cerny, M.D.
David Menke, MSSA, LISW-S
Shannon Theus, LISW-S
Mary Ramsden, LPCC



PROGRAM GOALS, STRUCTURE, AND REQUIREMENTS

The primary objective of the fellowship is to provide specialty training in the field of forensic psychology. The training program is structured to guide fellows in developing the core competencies necessary for independent practice as a forensic psychologist. It is our goal for fellows to demonstrate the following by the end of the training year:

1. Foundational knowledge of best practices in forensic psychology
2. Proficiency in forensic evaluation and report writing
3. Refined clinical and forensic interviewing skills
4. Enhanced abilities in selection, administration, and interpretation of psychological testing and forensic instruments
5. Fundamental understanding of relevant statutes, case law, and regulatory guidance
6. Comprehensive knowledge of forensic ethical principles
7. Advanced skills in cross-discipline communication and consultation

Core Experiences

To accomplish the above goals, the training year is comprised of the following activities:

Forensic Evaluation

The majority of the fellows' time will be spent in the direct provision of forensic evaluation activities. Fellows will learn how to independently prepare for and complete high-quality forensic evaluations. This includes gaining proficiency in clinical and forensic interviewing, integration of multiple data sources, test selection and interpretation, and report writing. Written products—namely, forensic reports—will be well-written, organized, unbiased, readable, and relevant.

Over the course of the year, fellows will be exposed to each type of referral that the FEC fields. The specific types and overall number of evaluations each fellow conducts will depend on the fellow's experience, development, and specific training goals, and will be mutually agreed upon by the fellow and their supervisor. Per statute, unlicensed practitioners cannot submit forensic evaluations to the Court. Therefore, all the fellow's clinical forensic activities will be supervised by a licensed psychologist and all reports will be co-signed by their supervisor.

Referral Questions. The FEC conducts forensic evaluations for defendants facing a broad range of legal charges, from low-level felonies and probation violations to first-degree murder. We see defendants who are currently in-custody, as well as those out on bond. Primary psycholegal questions we are asked to answer by the Court include:

- **Adjudicative Competency**
 - Competence to Stand Trial
 - Competence to Proceed Pro Se
 - Competence to Waive Miranda Rights
- **Criminal Responsibility**
 - Mental State at the Time of the Offense Charged (Sanity)
 - Battered Woman Syndrome

- Risk Assessment
 - Post-NGRI and Incompetent to Stand Trial – Unrestorable Criminal Commitment (Least Restrictive Environment)
 - Conditional Release
 - Sex Offender Risk Assessment
- Pre-Sentencing Evaluations
 - Mitigation
 - Treatment Recommendations
- Clinical Eligibility for the Mental Health/Developmental Disabilities Court
- Intervention in Lieu of Conviction

Population Served. The FEC receives approximately 1,900 referrals each year. Due to this volume, fellows can expect to gain experience with a breadth of clinical presentations, including psychotic, mood, trauma, personality, substance use, neurodevelopmental, and neurocognitive disorders. Considerations of feigning and malingering are also routine. In forensics, comorbidity is the rule not the exception.

Persons referred to the FEC come from diverse racial, ethnic, cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds. Cuyahoga County's cultural landscape is also enriched by its immigrant populations. For instance, Northeast Ohio is home to growing communities of individuals from Somalia, Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Syria, Ukraine, and Asian countries. It is not uncommon for defendants to have limited English proficiency, warranting the need for the evaluation to be interpreter mediated.

Such diversity and complexity of clinical presentations advance the fellow's multicultural competence and case conceptualization skills.

Psychological Testing

Fellows will strengthen their foundational assessment skills through psychological testing activities. This includes training in the selection, administration, and interpretation of psychological and forensic test instruments. Fellows will learn how to determine if/what testing is needed for their own forensic evaluations, and how to incorporate test results into their forensic formulations. Under the supervision of a licensed psychologist, fellows will conduct testing for cases assigned to them. Fellows will also field requests for testing from non-psychologist evaluators (e.g., social workers, psychiatrists). This entails providing cross-discipline consultation and conducting any necessary testing for evaluators to integrate into their reports.

The FEC has an extensive testing library to which fellows have access. Most instruments are paper-and-pencil format, though the FEC also has several measures in digital format, as well as iPads for administration of testing via Pearson's Q-Interactive software. Available instruments include (but are not limited to):

- Adjudicative competence instruments (e.g., Mac-CAT-CA, ECST-R, CAST*ID)
- Risk assessment measures (e.g., Static-99R, PCL-R, HCR-20^{v3})
- Symptom and performance validity tests (e.g., ILK, TOMM, DCT, SIRS-2, M-FAST)
- Personality and symptom inventories (e.g., MMPI-3, PAI)
- Intelligence, cognitive, and achievement tests (e.g., WAIS-5, WRAT-5, RBANS-Update)

Didactics and Case Law Seminars

To support the practical experiences offered by the fellowship, fellows are offered weekly seminars covering a breadth of forensic mental health topics. The didactic curriculum is structured to (a) survey the most pertinent, foundational topics necessary for independent practice post-fellowship, (b) link foundational knowledge to functional competencies, and (c) provide progressive exposure to relevant topics over the training year. At minimum, didactics provide coverage of the core competencies in forensic psychology identified by ABFP and primary content areas assessed during the board certification process. For instance, didactics topics may include forensic report writing, adjudicative competency, criminal responsibility, risk assessment, individual and cultural diversity, interdisciplinary systems, assessment of response style, expert testimony, evidentiary standards, and ethics. Curriculum is also flexible to allow for substitution or addition of specialty forensic topics, as well as other topics relevant to professional development (e.g., EPPP and licensure preparation). A portion of the seminars are also dedicated to landmark cases identified by ABFP as fundamental to the professional practice of forensic psychology. Fellows are also regularly notified of additional educational opportunities through the Ohio Department of Behavioral Health, the Ohio Forensic Center Consortium, the University of New Mexico, and other institutions as such opportunities arise.

Expert Testimony

During the training year, fellows are offered a variety of experiences to develop their expert testimony skills. Firstly, each fellow will participate in at least one mock trial with FEC personnel and, as available, Court personnel (e.g., attorneys, judges). Using a forensic evaluation report prepared during the training year, the fellow will gain first-hand experience with voir dire, direct examination, and cross examination. Fellows are also invited to participate in other trainees' mock testimonies to gain more familiarity with the process from all parties' perspectives. Additionally, given the nature of forensic work, fellows may be called upon by the Court to testify on one of their cases. In these instances, fellows will work closely with supervisors to prepare for expert testimony. Lastly, fellows are always invited to observe live expert testimony whenever any fellowship faculty or other FEC evaluator is called to testify.

Dissemination of Knowledge

We believe that, at their core, forensic psychologists are educators—through their forensic evaluations, expert testimony, research, consultation, teaching, and other activities. Indeed, each member of the FEC has expertise in distinct areas of research and practice. This includes our fellows. With this in mind, fellows have several opportunities to share their expertise with others and further develop their proficiency in educating diverse audiences, both verbally and via written communications. Beyond training activities listed above, fellows will engage in at least one formal presentation during the training year. This experience may look different for each fellow, but some examples include presenting to FEC evaluators on a specialized topic (e.g., the assessment and diagnosis of neurodevelopmental disorders, forensic treatment modalities), joining supervisors on invited presentations to attorneys or judges, presenting at a local or national conference, or guest lecturing for a university class.

While research is not a primary focus of the training year, fellows may participate in various research activities, as interested and as available. For instance, they may request to join faculty on ongoing projects or to spearhead a project of their own. Fellows may also initiate or contribute to scholarly writing (e.g., manuscripts for submission to scholarly journals). Additionally, because

the FEC is home to practicum students, fellows have the opportunity to provide peer mentorship or tiered supervision to predoctoral psychology students.

Supervision

Consistent with statutory and regulatory guidance, all of the fellow's clinical activities will be supervised by a licensed psychologist. Additionally, most forensic evaluations referred to the FEC have statutory provisions specifying they must be completed by a licensed provider, and in some cases, only a licensed psychologist or physician. That is, cases in which fellows are involved are the ultimate responsibility of their supervisor. As such, examinees are informed of this arrangement prior to the provision of any clinical forensic services, and written products (e.g., forensic reports) describe the postdoctoral fellow's and supervisor's contributions and are co-signed by the supervisor.

Individual and Group Supervision. Fellows are assigned a primary supervisor at the start of the training year; though in support of the fellow's professional development, may receive supervision and/or mentorship by other faculty throughout the year. Supervision is provided in accordance with best practices in forensic supervision outlined by the American Psychological Association, ABFP, and the relevant literature. Following the developmental model of training and supervision, activities will progressively build upon knowledge and skills gained earlier in the year and emphasize increased autonomy. Activities will also be tailored to each fellow's specific training goals and needs. Supervision will initially focus on case conceptualization and high-quality report writing. As these proficiencies are developed, supervision will shift toward enhanced efficiency, so the fellow is prepared to complete evaluations at the typical rate expected for independently-licensed practitioners. It will also increasingly focus on developing more nuanced and specialized forensic evaluation skills. A minimum of two hours per week is dedicated to supervision activities, though fellows typically receive more than this given the exciting and complex nature of forensic work that often prompts ad-hoc supervision throughout the week. Group supervision may also be provided in addition to, but never in place of, individual supervision.

Evaluation and Feedback. Fellows are formally evaluated on a quarterly basis to assess their progress toward program requirements and their professional goals. Each evaluation will include individualized feedback on the fellow's strengths and areas for improvement. Quarterly reviews are completed by the fellow's primary supervisor, with contributions by faculty from whom the fellow may have received supplemental supervision throughout the relevant quarter. This written feedback is reviewed by the Director prior to an in-person feedback session with the fellow and their primary supervisor.

Elective Opportunities

While each fellow will engage in the above core activities during the training year, each fellow's individual training experience may look different depending on the fellow's needs and interests, as well as availability of supplemental training experiences. With this in mind, elective opportunities may include:

- Dissemination of forensic mental health knowledge through a variety of avenues, such as:
 - Presentations (e.g., to judges, attorneys, FEC staff)
 - Consultation (e.g., to Court Administration, Specialty Court personnel)
 - Research and Academic Writing
- Tiered supervision of predoctoral psychology trainees
- Attendance at outside trainings, workshops, and conferences relevant to the practice of forensic psychology (e.g., AP-LS)
- Auditing of CWRU's Psychiatry and the Law course
- Exposure to civil and juvenile forensic evaluation

Division of Time

Fellowship activities are designed to meet the requirements necessary for licensure in Ohio. Thus, fellows can expect to spend the following amounts of time (approximately) in each primary training activity:

- 75% in forensic evaluation activities, and a minimum of 25% (i.e., 500 hours) in direct provision of services (e.g., forensic clinical interviewing, psychological testing, consultation)
- 15% in educational activities (e.g., didactics, relevant readings)
- 10% in supervision and consultation activities

COMPENSATION, TERMS, AND BENEFITS

This position is held at the pleasure of the Court and offers a competitive annual stipend of **up to \$80,017.60**, depending on experience. Fellows are paid every two weeks. Fellows employed by the FEC follow the schedule of the Court: 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday. Although fellows are not expected to conduct clinical forensic work or supervision outside of these hours, there may be times when reading, self-study, or other activities may be required beyond the regular work week. While FEC (and thusly, fellowship) activities are currently on-site at our office at the Justice Center, there may be some opportunities for hybrid work.

As full-time employees of the Court, fellows receive 12 paid holidays (e.g., Thanksgiving, Christmas Day) and accrue personal leave (vacation and sick time) each pay period. Paid administrative leave for professional activities (e.g., taking the EPPP, presenting at a conference) may also be granted on a case-by-case basis. Fellows are also offered medical, dental, and vision insurance, as well as retirement benefits (i.e., through OPERS, Ohio Public Employees Retirement System). The FEC also has established eligibility for Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF).

The fellowship requires a **12-month commitment**, typically starting and ending in September. However, commencement and termination dates may be flexible to accommodate individual circumstances. Due to the demands of the fellowship program, outside employment is strongly discouraged, and in some instances, prohibited as a Court employee.

Why the Forensic Evaluation Center?

- As an employee of the Forensic Evaluation Center, you have the opportunity to work alongside an **interdisciplinary team** of psychologists, psychiatrists, social workers, and trainees (e.g., forensic psychiatry fellows, practicum students). Members from each discipline have unique approaches to forensic work and diverse expertise to offer trainees and early career practitioners. Fellows can plan to gain exposure to a **breadth of interviewing and writing styles**.
- Being situated in the Justice Center alongside judges, attorneys, law enforcement, and other legal personnel provides unparalleled opportunities for networking and interfacing with, learning from, and providing education to those **whom our work directly impacts**.
- The fellowship offers a **competitive stipend** and benefits.
- The Forensic Evaluation Center is constantly growing, advancing, and expanding! There may be opportunities for graduates of our fellowship to be **hired by the FEC** as a full, independent forensic evaluator upon successful completion of the program.
- The FEC was granted the **ABFP 5-year experience waiver** (2026 – 2030), the Director of Training is a board-certified specialist in forensic psychology, and all fellowship supervisors were trained at ABFP-waiver fellowships. Our fellows receive the **high-quality supervision and training** to prepare them to pursue **board certification** following completion of the program, should they endeavor to do so.
- As a government entity, the FEC is a **Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) eligible** site.
- Ohio is home to a **robust forensic community**, between the 10 Certified Forensic Centers, numerous other forensic practices, several educational institutions with nationally-recognized training in the forensic specialty (e.g., CWRU), and a system of services supported by the Ohio Department of Behavioral Health. The State's investment in forensic mental health invites fellows and early career professionals to contribute to the ever-changing forensic landscape in meaningful ways.



APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Applicant Qualifications

All applicants to the Forensic Evaluation Center's Postdoctoral Fellowship in Forensic Psychology must at minimum, have (1) a Ph.D. or Psy.D. in Clinical or Counseling Psychology from an APA/CPA accredited program, (2) completed an APA/CPA accredited predoctoral internship, and (3) eligibility to work in the United States.

If an applicant's degree has not yet been conferred, they should submit a letter from their doctoral program specifying which degree requirements have been met and the date by which they anticipate the applicant will complete all degree requirements. Applicants should also have strong psychological assessment skills, including comfort administering, scoring, and interpreting common psychological tests. Likewise, applicants should have robust general clinical training and a strong background in composing comprehensive reports that integrate data from multiple sources.

While not required, preferred qualifications include experience with forensic/correctional populations and/or forensic evaluation, as well as experience with substance use disorders, personality disorders, severe mental illness, and neurodevelopmental disorders.

The Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court and the Forensic Evaluation Center are **committed to fostering a diverse and inclusive workforce**, which includes building an environment that respects the individual, promotes innovation, and offers opportunities for all employees to develop to their full potential. As an equal opportunity employer, the County does not discriminate on the basis of race, gender, color, gender identity, sexual orientation, ethnicity, national origin, disability, or age. It is the belief of the Court and the FEC that our employees and the recipients of our services benefit from a diverse workforce. We, therefore, strongly encourage individuals with different experiences, perspectives, and backgrounds to apply to our fellowship.

Please note, applicants selected for employment via the fellowship will be subject to a drug test and criminal background check as a pre-condition of employment.

Application Procedure

Application to the fellowship is a two-step process that requires submission of application materials to the Training Director, Dr. Matlasz and completion of the relevant Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas' job posting. Details for both processes are outlined below.

Please email the following materials, in PDF format, to Dr. Tatiana Matlasz, Training Director, at tmatlasz@cuyahogacounty.gov by **January 6, 2027**:

- Curriculum vitae;
- Letter of interest addressing your interest in the program, relevant background and training, professional interests and fit with the program, and anything else you want us to consider when reviewing your application;

- Three letters of recommendation (one of which must be from your doctoral program and indicate when your degree was or is expected to be conferred, and if the latter, which degree requirements have yet to be completed);
- A deidentified writing sample of a psychological assessment or a forensic evaluation (forensic reports are preferred);
- A transcript from your doctoral program (an unofficial transcript is acceptable at the time of one's application, though we may request an official transcript upon an employment offer);
- Confirmation of your application to the job posting (described below) either in your cover letter or in the body your email.

Applicants must also apply to the [Forensic Psychology Postdoctoral Trainee job posting](#) on the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas website by **January 6, 2027**. This application requires copies of a subset of the above materials be submitted to Court Administrator, Mr. Gregory Popovich, at infosys@cuyahogacounty.gov:

- Curriculum vitae;
- Letter of interest;
- Deidentified writing sample.

The link to this job posting (hyperlinked above) is: <https://cp.cuyahogacounty.gov/court-information/employment-opportunities/forensic-psychology-postdoctoral-trainee/>

Should you have any questions prior to submitting your application, please feel free to contact Dr. Matlasz at tmatlasz@cuyahogacounty.gov. Additionally, if you are interested in applying to the fellowship but do not anticipate being able to submit a completed application by the deadline, please reach out to Dr. Matlasz via email.

Selection Process

All submitted applications will be reviewed by the Training Director for completeness. Applicants should expect to receive email correspondence from Dr. Matlasz either confirming receipt of a completed application or informing the applicant of any missing materials. All applications will be reviewed in their entirety by fellowship faculty and Court Administration. Interview offers will be extended to selected applicants considered to be a good fit for the fellowship. All interviews will be conducted via videoconference (i.e., Zoom), even for local applicants or those willing to travel, in order to maintain an equitable and fair interview process. Once all interviews are completed, selected applicants will be offered a position via email or phone call. Should an applicant be offered a position, they are welcome to visit our site prior to making a decision.

Application Deadline: Wednesday, January 6, 2027

Please direct any inquiries about the program or application process to Dr. Matlasz at tmatlasz@cuyahogacounty.gov.

We look forward to receiving your application!