

Job Description for Clinical Psychology Faculty for Forensic Psychiatry Services

Clinical Assistant/Associate/Full Professor of Psychiatry and the Behavioral Sciences (Clinician Educator)

The USC Department of Psychiatry and the Behavioral Sciences is seeking a California-licensed clinical psychologist to join the faculty one of the premier Forensic Psychiatry training programs in the United States. The psychologist's core responsibilities will include conducting forensic evaluations of diverse adults with a variety of psychiatric conditions as well as teaching and supervising forensic psychiatry fellows. Based at LAC+USC Medical Center, a public hospital and the principal safety-net hospital for downtown and eastern Los Angeles, the psychologist will work closely with the faculty and trainees of the Forensic Psychiatry Services to provide written reports and (as applicable) oral testimony to legal system with respect to a breadth of psychological-legal issues, including but not limited to: mental health diversion from the criminal justice system, competency to stand trial, dependency, criminal responsibility, and dangerousness and recidivism risk. The psychologist will also work closely with the faculty in the Forensic Psychiatry Services to develop and refine the instructional curricula of forensic psychiatry fellows, psychiatry residents, and medical students. As a faculty member in the Department of Psychiatry and the Behavioral Sciences, the psychologist will also serve as a liaison between the Department of Psychiatry and hospital colleagues as well as the greater community. This psychologist serves a critical role in training fellows and evaluating justice- and dependency-involved individuals; therefore, we are seeking candidates who are culturally and structurally competent, and attuned to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

This is a full-time clinical faculty position in the Department of Psychiatry and the Behavioral Sciences at the Keck School of Medicine of USC. Salary is competitive, and contingent on experience. A generous benefits package includes health insurance, retirement, paid time off, parental leave, tuition assistance, professional days, a stipend for professional development, the ability to earn continuing education credits through our Grand Rounds series, and more (information about benefits can be found [here](#)). LAC+USC is an in-person healthcare setting; THIS IS NOT A REMOTE POSITION.

Essential Functions

- Conduct forensic psychological assessments based on interviews, medical and legal records, psychological assessment tools and instruments (as indicated), and other observational data
- Write clear, concise and well-reasoned reports for the legal system
- Supervise diverse trainees in conducting comprehensive forensic interviews
- Testify, as applicable, in court about the results of evaluations conducted
- Review trainee reports and providing feedback and guidance

- Aware of biases and minimizes their impact on evaluations, reports, teaching, and other essential functions and roles.
- Teach trainees in select subject areas of expertise, including instructing medical students and residents in forensic mental health subjects and professional practices according to ethical principles and legal requirements
- Report to the Director of Forensic Psychiatry Services and the Director of Psychological and Behavioral Health Services at LAC+USC Medical Center and be accountable/responsive to clinic, division, and department leadership
- Contribute to refinement of curriculum by attending regular core Forensic faculty meetings, monthly Forensic Psychiatry Fellowship program evaluation committee meetings, and semi-annual clinical competency committee meetings
- Provide mentorship to trainees conducting research and quality improvement (QI) activities
- Co-lead multidisciplinary case conferences
- Participate in monthly forensic journal clubs
- Participate in USC Psychiatry Department Grand Rounds (affords continuing education credits)
- Maintain confidentiality of practice and record-keeping in accordance with the legal and medical standards and laws
- Complete timely documentation and billing in accordance with clinic, department, and medical center policies
- Maintain appropriate clinical records and complies with all relevant regulatory policies and procedures
- Collaborate and consults with other mental health and medical providers
- Participate in yearly peer review and quality improvement activities
- Participate in annual merit review

Minimum Qualifications

- Doctorate in Clinical Psychology from an American Psychological Association (APA)-accredited program
- Successful completion of an APA-accredited pre-doctoral Clinical Psychology internship
- Licensed or license-eligible to practice as a Psychologist in the State of California
- Strong oral and written communication skills
- Commitment to the highest ethical standards of professional practice and to lifelong learning
- Structural competence, including an appreciation of how the structure of society impacts outcomes in medicine and the legal system and influences individual clinical interactions

- Cultural competence and humility, including an appreciation of how experiences, beliefs, values of diverse individuals and groups affects clinical interactions and practice
- Ability to work cooperatively on an interdisciplinary team and with public, private, and other community organizations
- Willingness to promote and function in a collaborative and collegial environment to serve the department, health system and medical school missions
- Familiarity and comfort working with diverse individuals involved in the legal system
- Willingness to practice according to the principles and standards of forensic psychology, where the evaluator's primary role is not treatment

Preferred Qualifications and Competencies

- Experience working with individuals involved in the legal system, including the criminal-legal system
- Experience preparing written reports to be used in a forensic (i.e., legal) setting
- Pre-doctoral training in the application of psychology to the legal system
- Completion of a post-doctoral fellowship in forensic psychology
- Board Certified in Forensic Psychology by the American Board of Professional Psychology (ABPP)
- Experience providing courtroom testimony pertaining to clinical and/or forensic issues
- Experience teaching and/or supervising post-baccalaureate level students in psychology and/or psychology and the law
- Fluency in a non-English language

The University of Southern California (USC), founded in 1880, is the largest private employer in the City of Los Angeles. As an employee of USC, you will be a part of a world-class research university and a member of the "Trojan Family," which is comprised of the faculty, students and staff that make the university what it is.

The Department of Psychiatry and the Behavioral Sciences is committed to attracting and nurturing a diverse community dedicated to providing culturally informed, high-quality behavioral healthcare to a multicultural population. Both in our work environment and clinical practice, we embrace diversity across multiple dimensions. We aim to provide a safe, inclusive environment for our faculty, staff, residents, fellows, trainees, volunteers, patients, colleagues, and the multitude of stakeholders with whom we work. Through our clinical services, educational programs, research studies, and policy initiatives, we are committed to addressing health care disparities for historically underserved groups; to combating racism and anti-Blackness at all levels; and to promoting and ensuring social justice.

USC strongly values diversity, equity, and inclusion and is committed to equal opportunity in employment. We prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, veteran status, marital

status, or any other legally protected status. All genders, BIPOC, LGBTQIA+, people with disabilities, veterans, bicultural/multicultural and bilingual/multilingual individuals are encouraged to apply.

To apply, please submit your CV, cover letter expressing interest and fit for the position, and 3 reference letters to Geoff Finucane at geoffrey.finucane@med.usc.edu.