Our Neurosurgery Attendings, who include far more supratentorial specialists than most programs, respect and frequently utilize Neuropsychologists within the Neurological Surgery Department for both clinical assistance and research. This setting allows us to offer diverse experience for neuropsychology externs, under the supervision of three full-time Neuropsychologists.

We are recruiting ten doctoral-level externs for a two-day-a-week placement focused on neuropsychological evaluations, cognitive remediation, and research. Specifically, externs will work with diverse patient populations across the lifespan (ages 4 through geriatrics) presenting with varying neurological, medical, and neurodevelopmental disorders, including, but not limited to: Parkinson’s disease and movement-related disorders, epilepsy, brain tumors, cerebrovascular disorders, dementia, paraneoplastic syndromes, craniofacial disorders, neuromuscular and genetic disorders, severe traumatic brain injury as well as post-COVID-19 neuropsychiatric sequelae.

Externs may have the opportunity to take part in evaluating patients who require elective neurosurgery (i.e., tumor resection, epilepsy surgery, deep brain stimulator implantation, VP shunt) and Wada testing, as well as intra-and extra-operative functional language mappings should COVID-19 departmental restrictions permit by the start of the externship year. Bilingual students that would like experience learning to administer Spanish-language measures across the lifespan can receive supervision by a Spanish-speaking neuropsychologist, if interested.

Externs will also have the opportunity to participate in both individual and group cognitive remediation therapy with patients experiencing cognitive and emotional difficulties following treatment and intervention for neurological and neurosurgical disorders.

Currently, the externship follows a hybrid model of both virtual and in-person experiences for neuropsychological assessment and treatment.

Externs may participate in a number of didactic programs that include: Neurosurgery Grand Rounds, Neurology Grand Rounds, Epilepsy Conference, Interventional Neuroradiology/Cerebrovascular Rounds, Pediatric Fellow Case Conference, and Tumor Board, among others are available. Neuropsychology and Cognitive Remediation Seminars will be provided.

Additionally, there is also an opportunity to be involved in the multiple research studies that are currently being conducted (ideal for potential thesis or dissertation projects).

Interested applicants should send a letter of interest, a sample report, CV, and two letters of recommendation when permitted by published guidelines to: Amanda Sacks-Zimmerman, Ph.D., ABPP-CN at: ams9095@med.cornell.edu.