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Postdoctoral Fellowship in Evidence-Based Practices for Immigrant Youth
Division of Infant, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital
Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
University of California, San Francisco

This postdoctoral fellowship is a placement within hospital-based outpatient community mental health programs. The position focuses on development, implementation, and evaluation of outpatient specialty mental health and a school-based prevention programs targeting immigrant youth and families. Drawing from evidence-based, family-centered, culturally responsive, and trauma-informed approaches, the fellow will engage in clinical service delivery and scholarship in an outpatient clinic-based program, as well as school-based settings.

[Child and Adolescent Services](#) (CAS) is a clinic within the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) [Department of Psychiatry](#), [Division of Infant, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry](#) (ICAP) at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital (ZSFG), a public service hospital and Level I trauma center, committed to serving low-income and diverse ethnic and cultural minority populations. Integral to the program's training philosophy is the understanding that individuals, and their access to behavioral healthcare, are shaped by social determinants of health. Our program provides individual, family, and group outpatient therapy services, as well as houses a robust psychological testing program which includes comprehensive psychological evaluations and pre-adoption developmental evaluations. There are many opportunities for advanced training in various evidence-based practices including but not limited to: Trauma-focused CBT, Dialectical Behavior Therapy, Modular Approach to Therapy for Children, Parent-Child Interaction Therapy, and Exposure and Response Prevention. In addition, all postdoctoral fellows receive training and supervision in the use of in-person interpreter services.

Regarding research, there are two main projects where the fellow will have the opportunity to engage in scholarship, implementation, and policy-related activities:

1. The [Fuerte program](#) is a school-based prevention program targeting newcomer immigrant youth in the San Francisco Unified School District and currently funded through the California Behavioral Health Services Act. The program has primarily focused on Latin American newcomer immigrant youth in middle and high schools, but over the last year has also included an expansion into elementary schools, and adaptations of the program for youth of Arabic and Filipino background. A randomized control study of the Latin American middle and high school version of the program was recently completed, and there is much data available, including individual, as well as implementation science-related organizational, fidelity, and other outcomes.
2. Policy opportunities through a healthcare-legal partnership aimed at improving conditions for immigrant youth and families involved in the U.S. immigration legal system.

Other opportunities may also be available as funding permits.

Postdoctoral fellows will also have the opportunity to complete psychological evaluations for immigration courts through the [UCSF Health and Human Rights Initiative](#). Training and supervision are provided for these evaluations.

Our population is culturally and linguistically diverse, primarily publicly insured, and served within a large, academic medical center housed within San Francisco County's only Level I trauma center. Fellows are engaged in training and educational activities, program evaluation, and research and will have opportunities to participate in systems-level work focused on advocacy and policy initiatives. **Fellows will spend approximately 50% of their time engaged in clinical service activities and 50% of their time in research/policy activities.** Individual clinical and research supervision will be provided by licensed clinical psychologists in accordance with requirements for licensure by the California Board of Psychology. This training experience will emphasize professional development to train fellows to assume leadership positions within academic medical centers. Opportunities to participate in clinical group supervision, individual/group supervision, and a variety of didactic seminars through the [UCSF CAS Multicultural Clinical Training Program](#) are available. Upon completion of the one-year fellowship, fellows will have met the postdoctoral training hours requirement for licensure as a clinical psychologist in the state of California.

The UCSF CAS postdoctoral fellowship is housed within the [UCSF CAS Multicultural Clinical Training Program](#), which recruits and trains promising individuals for careers in clinical psychology with an emphasis on underserved children and families. The postdoctoral fellowship embraces the scientist-practitioner model of psychology training, integrating state-of-the-art research and evidence-based practices with clinical services delivery grounded in serving the needs of the local community.

We expect our fellow to meet the following training goals:

1. Develop specialized training and supervision in the assessment and treatment of immigrant youth and families, including the use of interpreter services.
2. Exposure and specialized training in evidence-based practices.
3. Integrate research activities into their professional identity.
4. Develop organizational management and community-engagement skills in working with various sectors (e.g., legal, education) involved in system-of-care of immigrant youth and families.
5. Develop and practice supervisory skills.
6. Develop the professional and leadership skills necessary to not only practice independently but succeed within academic medical settings and take leadership positions in those settings.

Stipends for fiscal year 2026-2027 are being finalized but will range between \$74,800 and \$90,000 for a full year for postdoctoral fellows. Bilingual fellows will receive an additional stipend amount pending certification through UCSF of language abilities. UCSF provides a competitive benefits package, and further information can be accessed at <https://hr.ucsf.edu/benefits>. Funding for conference and other professional travel may be available as funding permits.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Applicants must have completed a doctoral degree in Clinical, Counseling, or School Psychology from an APA-accredited program. Candidates must have completed all requirements for their doctoral degree prior to beginning fellowship. Only graduates of APA accredited doctoral programs will be considered, and applicants must have also completed an APA-accredited pre-doctoral internship. Candidates should have well-established clinical and research interests, and prior experience working

with immigrant youth and families. Bilingual applicants, and particularly those who are Spanish, Arabic, and/or Tagalog speaking are strongly encouraged to apply. Experience in implementation science and/or policy-related research are also strongly valued.

The 2026-2027 training year is scheduled to begin September 1, 2026 and end August 31, 2027. The start date for the postdoc position is flexible but no earlier than July 1, 2026.

All applications submitted before **January 26, 2026** will be considered. Candidates must submit the following to be considered for the position:

1. Letter of interest which includes your long-term career goals and how this postdoctoral fellowship will help you reach these goals (no more than 2 pages, single spaced)
2. CV
3. Official transcripts reflecting attendance at an APA-accredited program
4. Three letters of recommendation under separate cover (one must come from a clinical supervisor at your predoctoral internship, one from a research mentor, and the last one can be either from a clinical supervisor or research mentor).

All application materials and recommendation letters should be submitted directly to Lea Wager-Smith (contact information below). **In the email subject line, please write “UCSF Fuerte Postdoctoral Application” to help us better process your application.**

The University of California is an Equal Opportunity Employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, age, protected veteran status, or other protected status under state or federal law.

HOW TO REACH US

Please submit inquiries, application materials and recommendation letters to the attention of both the following:

Silvana Larrea Schiavon, PhD
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