

Association of Directors of Forensic Psychiatry Fellowships
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FORENSIC PSYCHIATRY FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION GUIDELINES*
Approved: 5/22/05

In an effort to assist applicants to forensic psychiatry fellowships, the Association of Directors of Forensic Psychiatry Fellowships (ADFPF), a council of the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law, offers the following guidelines regarding application, interview and acceptance procedures for fellowship positions.

1) **Application Process:** It is recommended that any psychiatry residents interested in pursuing forensic psychiatry specialty training should begin to explore fellowships around the middle of their PGY-3 year. For non-resident applicants, this would mean researching fellowships beginning sometime around January to February of the year prior to the anticipated July 1 start date. Applications typically are screened by programs from the late spring to early fall, and interviews are generally scheduled between the summer and fall of the year prior to the fellowship start date. Later applications are considered by programs that have openings, although many programs fill their positions toward the end of October.

2) **Acceptance Process:** Programs have been asked not to demand that forensic psychiatry candidates accept an offer of a position before October 31. Candidates may visit other programs and consider other offers until October 31, after which programs may request that candidates make a decision about offers that have been extended to them. This does not preclude a program from offering a position at any time, nor does it preclude candidates from accepting an offer at any time.

If an applicant knows he or she is interested in one particular program, he or she is entitled and encouraged to notify the program director of their interest and willingness to accept an offer from that program. By doing so, the program director may then be better informed so that an offer may be extended, and the applicant may secure a position.

Applicants are encouraged to notify each fellowship program to which they have applied, within three days of accepting a position, that they have accepted an offer elsewhere.

*Please note that the information given above represents general guidelines promulgated by ADFPF regarding the forensic psychiatry fellowship application process. We encourage applicants to contact individual programs directly to review detailed information regarding the program's application, interview, and acceptance process. Should any questions arise regarding the forensic psychiatry fellowship application process or forensic psychiatry fellowship information in general, please contact the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law at (800)331-1389.