2016 “Gap Year” Clinical Research Assistant Position in Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics

**Description:** A 9-12 month paid internship program in clinical research related to child development and neurodevelopmental disorders is offered by Cohen Children’s Medical Center of New York – part of Northwell Health (formerly North Shore-Long Island Jewish Health System).

This Clinical Research Internship offers 1-2 accomplished students the opportunity to work closely with faculty mentors on research projects related to normal or abnormal child development. Research Assistants (RA’s) will assist clinical faculty with ongoing research projects and/or work collaboratively with one or more mentors in designing new projects of mutual interest. The Division has internal funding for clinical research. RA’s are not expected to write grants, and their research endeavors and activities are not dependent on extramural grants. Although the internship is primarily focused on clinical research, there may also be an opportunity to co-author a review article for publication in a peer-reviewed pediatric journal (see details below).

This clinical research internship is open to students who excelled while pursuing their Bachelor’s degree from any U.S. college or university. Although the ideal candidate is a student who aspires to attend medical school in the near future, has a strong academic record and writing skills, research experience, knowledge of statistics, and a demonstrated interest in psychology, child development, and neuroscience, we welcome applications from any students who have excelled in any area of study.

**Research Focus:** The faculty have eclectic interests, as reflected in the diverse list of recent abstract presentations (see pages 3-7 below). The two primary mentors are Dr. Andrew Adesman and Dr. Ruth Milanaik. Dr. Adesman is primarily interested in secondary analyses of data made available by the CDC and other national organizations, though he will also sometimes initiate studies that involve collection of original data. Dr. Milanaik is primarily interested in projects that require collection of original data – either from retrospective chart reviews, prospective data collection coincident with out-patient visits, or in some cases, through mailings or on-line surveys.

**Research Abstracts:** RA’s will be co-investigators on multiple research abstracts submitted to national research meetings. A list of research abstracts accepted for presentation at national meetings in 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015 is attached. (Abstract decisions for the upcoming 2016 meeting will be announced in mid-February.)

**Research Abstracts/Publications:** With guidance from faculty mentors, RA’s will be responsible for drafting and revising research manuscripts for submission to peer reviewed pediatric journals. RA’s will be identified as either the first or second author of any paper submitted for publication.

**Review Article:** There may be an opportunity for RA’s to be first or second author on a review article for a peer-reviewed medical journal. This article would be clinically focused, relating to a specific developmental disorder or behavioral concern.
**Program Dates:** Start and completion dates for the Gap Year internship are somewhat flexible. Priority will be given to applicants prepared to make at least a full-time 9 month commitment or longer, though alternate schedule arrangements will be considered. With advance notice, research interns may take as many days off (without pay) as needed during their internship to visit medical schools for interviews.

**Other Activities/ Expectations/Opportunities:** The primary focus of the internship is clinical research and writing. It is expected that this will comprise 90% of one’s time. RA’s will have the opportunity to attend clinical lectures about child development, developmental disorders and other lectures of interest available through the Children’s Hospital. There will also be opportunities for occasional shadowing of clinicians in our sub-specialty area and potentially other pediatric sub-specialties as well. RA’s may occasionally be asked to assist with other academic or administrative tasks.

**Stipend:** This is a paid internship; interns will be paid $14 per hour for days worked.

**To Apply:** You must submit a completed application (PDF attached), a résumé, and an unofficial transcript. Select applicants may be invited submit a writing sample such as a recent term paper. All materials should be sent electronically using the subject line "Gap Year Research Internship" to Ms. Christine Peck at CPeck@northwell.edu.

**Application Process & Deadline:** The submittal deadline is February 22, 2016; all materials must be received by that date. The most promising candidates will be invited to interview in late February or early March, and notification of decisions will be made by mid-March.

**Past Interns:** The Gap Year Internship experience was created in 2014. Our first Gap Year RA was a co-investigator on numerous research abstracts and is first author on several different research manuscripts. She was accepted to several medical schools and is now an MS-1. Our current RA is also a co-investigator on innumerable research abstracts and is likewise first author on several different manuscripts (by March 1, she should have 3 manuscripts under editorial review by journals -- with 2 more papers in preparation for submission by May 1). Our current RA has already been accepted to several medical schools.

**For Further Information:** The research internship is coordinated by Dr. Andrew Adesman, Chief of the Division of Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics. Questions regarding the Gap Year internship or the application process should be directed to his assistant, Christine Peck, at 516 802-6101 (CPeck@northwell.edu).