



Recruiting for Two Postdoctoral Fellowships in Perinatal Mental Health

NOTE: One of the two listed positions will focus specifically on Latina Perinatal Mental Health

The Zickler Family Prenatal Pediatrics Institute (ZFPPI) at Children's National Hospital is currently accepting applications for a postdoctoral fellowship for the 2026-2027 training year in Perinatal Mental Health, with one of the two available positions to be focused specifically on Latina Perinatal Mental Health.

This clinical fellowship experience will include patient care, program development, clinical applied research, and advocacy efforts related to the needs of patients seen via the Prenatal Pediatrics Institute (PPI), the DC Mother-Baby Wellness (DCMBW) program, and within the intensive care units (e.g. Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) and Cardiac Intensive Care Unit (CICU)). As part of clinical care, fellows will attend and participate in regular multidisciplinary team meetings, collaborate with colleagues across multiple medical subspecialties, and support patients longitudinally across inpatient and outpatient contexts. The fellow(s) will be located on-site at the main hospital campus in Washington, DC. Primary responsibilities include the following:

1. Clinical Assessment and Intervention: Fellows will conduct comprehensive assessments and provide psychotherapeutic interventions to support individuals experiencing perinatal mental health challenges. This can include individual therapy and support groups.
2. Research and Program Development: Fellows may have the opportunity to engage in a range of active research projects related to perinatal mental health. They may also contribute to the development and enhancement of perinatal mental health programs and services within the Prenatal Pediatrics Institute and across Children's National Hospital.
3. Supervision and Training: Fellows will be supervised by psychologists with expertise in perinatal mental health. Fellows will also take part in didactic training for pediatric psychology fellows across Children's National, along with didactics and collaborations focused on perinatal mental health within Children's National and across the DC area. Fellows will be supported in receiving advanced training in perinatal mental health, which will allow for eventual PMH-C certification, if desired.

More information about the departments the fellows will be working across is provided below:

- The *Prenatal Pediatrics Institute* (PPI) provides advanced diagnostic imaging and multidisciplinary care for pregnant individuals and families who have received a prenatal diagnosis of a complex fetal medical condition, including genetic conditions, neurologic conditions, and/or cardiac conditions. On the PPI rotation, fellows will participate in screening and intervention to support patients and families navigating significant stress and uncertainty during pregnancy, including patients whose infants are treated in the Children's National Hospital Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) and/or Cardiac Intensive Care Unit (CICU), patients who terminate their pregnancies, and perinatal palliative care patients.



- The *DC Mother-Baby Wellness Program* (DCMBW) is an innovative, collaborative community perinatal mental health program involving sites across the DC Metro area. On the DCMBW rotation, the fellow will work with the multi-disciplinary clinical team to provide longitudinal screening, assessment, and treatment of perinatal women.

The fellow in the Latina Perinatal Mental Health track will also receive specific training and focus on:

1. *Cultural Relevance and Humility*: Fellows will develop a deep understanding of the factors, traditions, and beliefs that influence the mental health of Spanish-speaking Latina mothers in the U.S. and will utilize cultural formulation tools and culturally adapted treatments to provide client-centered, culturally humble care.
2. *Applied, Culturally Relevant Research and Program Development*: Fellows will have the opportunity to engage in research specifically focused on increasing mental health access for perinatal Latina populations, and on improving the cultural relevance of evidence-based psychosocial interventions.
3. *Supervision and Training*: The fellow will receive supervision in Spanish from a bilingual psychologist with expertise in the field of perinatal mental health. Fellows can also choose to complete required and optional trainings in Spanish, such as the Perinatal Mental Health Certification Training.

The fellowship is a one-year position starting in summer 2026, with potential for a second year based on fellow and program agreement.

All applicants should have attended an APA-accredited doctoral and internship program. Preferred qualifications include previous experience with perinatal, pediatric, and/or health psychology, and previous experience with relevant treatments (with an emphasis on CBT, IPT, and/or ACT).

Applicants from diverse and underrepresented backgrounds are strongly encouraged to apply. To apply, please send the following materials to Brie Kohrt (bkohrt@childrensnational.org), Ellen Bartolini (ebartolini@childrensnational.org), and Kaitlyn Jones (krjones@childrensnational.org).

- 1) Cover letter describing relevant experience and career goals,
- 2) CV
- 3) Two letters of recommendation.
- 4) For applicants to the Latina Perinatal Mental Health position, advanced proficiency in Spanish is required. If you have previously taken a Spanish language competency exam, please include a copy of this. If not, this can be conducted during the interview process.

Questions about the fellowship can be directed to Drs. Kohrt and Bartolini. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.