

Dissertation Policy

The Sanford Health-Psychology Internship Consortium (SH-PIC) is an intensive program which seeks to provide comprehensive training to pre-doctoral interns in preparation for independent practice as a psychologist. To this end, it is *strongly encouraged* that interns have successfully completed their dissertation proposal and receive IRB approval prior to the SH-PIC internship start date. However, it is not a requirement for admission to the training program.

All interns are expected to complete the entirety of the 2000 required training hours, without exception. Interns are welcome to utilize paid time off (PTO) days for work on their dissertations; however, SH-PIC does not permit additional time off beyond what is allowable in their employment contract for this purpose. Depending on the dissertation status of all interns in the cohort, the Training Director(s) *may or may not* allocate 1-2 hours of weekly training time for interns to dedicate to their dissertation progress. Reasonable accommodations will be made for interns who must utilize paid time off (PTO) who may need to travel to complete their dissertation defense, provided that this leave does not prevent the intern from completing the 2000-hour training requirement.