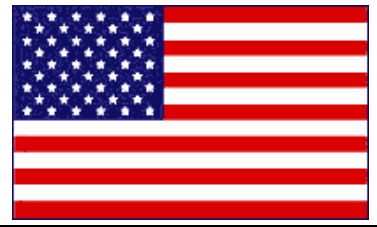




PORTLAND VA MEDICAL CENTER

*Portland, Oregon Division
Vancouver, Washington Division
Community Based Outpatient Clinics
Salem, OR Bend, OR
Camp Rilea (Warrenton, OR)*



NOTICE OF VACANCY

1. <u>Announcement Number</u> T38-10-0053-TC	2. <u>Title, Series, Grade, Salary</u> Clinical Psychologist FS GS-180-12/13 \$71,087 to \$109,895 per annum (Based on full-time employment)	3. <u>Tour of Duty</u> Days M-F 8:00a.m. to 4:30p.m.	4. <u>Duty Station</u> Home & Community Based Services, Camp Rilea & Portland, Oregon
5. <u>Type & Number of Vacancies</u> Permanent 1 Full-time position	6. <u>Contact</u> Human Resources Assistant 503-273-5236	7. <u>Opening Date</u> 12/10/2009	8. <u>Closing Date</u> 12/24/2009

WHO MAY APPLY TO THIS ANNOUNCEMENT:

- Career or career conditional employees and permanent Title 38 employees of the Portland VA Medical Center eligible under the interchange Agreement. Included are permanent employees of the Willamette National Cemetery, Regional Office, Veterans Outreach Center and Veteran's Canteen.
- Any US Citizen

MAJOR DUTIES: The VA Home-Based Primary Care (HBPC) program provides comprehensive, interdisciplinary primary care services in the homes of veterans with complex and chronic, disabling disease. In addition to primary care interventions, HBPC provides palliative care, rehabilitation, disease management, and care coordination services. HBPC targets veterans in advanced stages of chronic disease, particularly those at high risk of recurrent hospitalization or nursing home placement. The HBPC MH Provider functions as a primary mental health provider of the HBPC team, providing mental health prevention, assessment, treatment, management, and professional consultation services to patients in their home environment. Specific duties include:

- Providing screening, assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of depressive and anxiety-related disorders, as well as other Axis I conditions, with an emphasis on the application of time-limited, evidence-based approaches;
- Assessing and providing treatments for subclinical symptoms of dysphoria and anxiety, adjustment difficulties, & excessive use or misuse of alcohol or other drugs (for which the patient may have a lower than normal tolerance due to their medical conditions and the potential for negative interactions with prescribed medication);
- Providing psychological prevention services to patients at significant risk for psychological problems;
- Providing services to the families of veterans with dementia being served by HBPC, when such care is directly related to the overall treatment plan for the veteran and will allow better care for the veteran and allow the family to sustain the veteran in the home environment. For example, family members may be trained to better manage behavioral problems associated with dementia; such training may allow the HBPC team to reduce use of psychoactive medication as a means of controlling behavioral problems;
- Providing clinical services through the use of telemental health/telehome technology;
- Providing screening for cognitive deficits to address specific functional questions or to determine if a referral for a complete neuropsychological evaluation or dementia assessment is needed;
- Performing capacity/competency assessments when there are questions about a patient's ability to make medical decisions, perform other specific functions, or live independently;
- Assessing patients' understanding of advanced directives and other forms of consent and assisting staff in determining how to present treatment options and other such material to patients in a format they can understand;
- Providing individual and group interventions to support patients that are coping with feelings of grief and loss associated with disability and other life transitions;
- Providing psychoeducational and supportive interventions, in conjunction with the veteran, for spouses, family members/caregivers, and others that are crucial to keeping the veteran at home;
- Providing effective interventions with couples or families, when appropriate, to relieve relationship difficulties, provide support to caregivers of veterans with dementia or other significant frailty, and/or promote collaboration with the HBPC team, for the benefit of the veteran. At all times, the necessity for and benefit of the intervention for the veteran should be documented and included as part of the veteran's treatment plan;
- Facilitating transition and adjustment to new living situations (e.g., nursing home, assisted living facility), and

(Continued on next page)

- providing seamless intervention services, as appropriate;
- Providing behavioral medicine interventions to manage pain, disability, address sleep problems, facilitate weight loss, promote smoking cessation, and enhance medical compliance;
- Promoting communication/interactions between medical team members, patients, and their families to facilitate the medical treatment process;
- Providing clinical supervision to students, interns, fellows, and residents.

THIS POSITION IS IN THE BARGAINING UNIT

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

Eligibility: Department of Veterans Affairs Qualifications Standards (VA Handbook 5005, Part II, Appendix G18) applies and may be reviewed in the Human Resources Management Service Office.

- Must be a citizen of the United States.
- Doctoral degree in psychology from APA Accredited Graduate Program in an area of training consistent with the assignment for which the applicant is to be employed.
- Internship in professional psychology accredited by the American Psychological Association.
- Professional Psychology Licensure: States, License Numbers, dates of original licensure.

For the GS-12

- (a) Experience. In addition to the basic requirements at the GS-11 level, at least 1 year of experience as a professional psychologist equivalent to the next lower grade level. Individuals assigned as GS-12 psychologists may be in the process of obtaining licensure at the independent practice level. If unlicensed, the individual must be supervised by a licensed psychologist and the experience and supervision must meet the standards for psychology licensure.

- (b) Demonstrated Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities (see basis of rating).

- (c) Assignment. At the GS-12 level, unlicensed psychologists practice under the supervision of a licensed psychologist, but with less need for consultation than at the GS-11 grade level. They may be assigned to any program area.

For the GS-13

- (a) Licensure. Hold a full, current, and unrestricted license to practice psychology at the doctoral level in a State, Territory, Commonwealth of the United States (e.g., Puerto Rico), or the District of Columbia.

- (b) Experience. In addition to the experience requirements at the GS-12 level, at least 1 additional year of experience as a psychologist equivalent to the next lower grade level.

- (c) Demonstrated Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities (see basis of rating).

- (d) Assignments. This is the full performance level for staff psychologists. At this level psychologists are licensed at the doctoral level to practice independently in the provision of psychological services consulting with peers and supervisors as appropriate. They are assigned to any VHA program and setting, including inpatient or outpatient medicine, surgery, mental health, neurology, rehabilitation medicine, geriatrics, Vet Centers, and the VHA National Center for Organizational Development.

BASIS OF RATING: (Knowledge, Skills, Abilities (KSAs))

Applicants must demonstrate through their experience or education that they possess the following published KSAs (from VA Handbook 5005 and functional statement for Clinical Psychologist) for the grade at which they wish to apply (and grades below that grade if applicable):

1. Knowledge and skill in specialized psychological assessment diagnostic, and treatment methods specific to men and women patients with complex and chronic, disabling disease.
2. Knowledge and skill in providing palliative care, rehabilitation, disease management, and care coordination services.
3. Ability to carry out education and training in psychological principles, theories, methods, and techniques both to psychology trainees and to co-workers.
4. Skill in working with multidisciplinary teams.
5. Ability to handle complex work assignments and manage time appropriately when faced with demands from multiple sources.

6. Ability to communicate with people from a wide variety of backgrounds and with varying levels of understanding. Should demonstrate excellent customer service skills toward both patients and co-workers.

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT:

- This is an Excepted Appointment. Excepted service positions have been excepted from the requirements of the competitive service by law, Executive Order, or by OPM regulation (5 USC 2103 and 5 CFR part 213). Public law No. 108-170 converts this occupational series from the competitive civil service to the Hybrid Title 38 employment system.
- Applicants without prior federal service will be appointed at step one of the grade
- Although the duty station is shown in this announcement, it may be necessary to utilize the selected person's services at a different location within the Portland VA Medical Center commuting area if conditions require it in the future
- Under Executive Order 11935, only United States citizens and nationals (residents of American Samoa and Swains Island) may compete for civil service jobs. Agencies are permitted to hire noncitizens only in very limited circumstances where there are no qualified citizens available for the position.
- All information submitted to this VA Medical Center is subject to verification by VetPro.
- If you are a male born after December 31, 1959, and are at least 18 years of age, civil service employment law (5 U.S.C. 3328) requires that you must register with the Selective Service System, unless you meet certain exemptions.
- A security clearance and a favorable suitability determination are required. Misconduct in prior employment, criminal, dishonest or disgraceful conduct, habitual use of intoxicating beverages, abuse of narcotics, drugs or other controlled substances, or reasonable doubt of loyalty to the United States are examples of reasons an offer of employment may be denied.
- Public transit subsidy benefits are available. Carpooling assistance is provided. However, single occupancy parking is limited on main Portland campus.
- Eligible employees may be non-competitively reassigned to fill this position as an exception to merit promotion.
- Applicants selected for this position may be appointed to a temporary appointment, NTE 13 months, pending completion of boarding process.
- A drug test may be required for an applicant who is tentatively selected.
- Applicants appointed to direct patient care positions must be proficient in spoken and written English as required by 38 USC 7402(d) and 7407(d).
- [VACareers](#) has descriptions of all Title 38 Jobs and their benefits.
- This agency provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process, please notify the agency. The decision on granting reasonable accommodation will be on a case-by-case basis
- The United States Government does not discriminate in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, age, membership in an employee organization, or other non-merit factor.
- It is the policy of the Department of Veterans Affairs that all Federal wage and salary payments are paid to employees by Direct Deposit/Electronic Funds Transfer (DD/EFT).

HOW TO APPLY:

Portland VAMC Permanent Employees must submit:

1. [VAF 4078, Application for Promotion or Reassignment](#)
2. MPQ – Merit Promotion Questionnaire is optional but recommended if you have qualifications pertaining to the position applied for but are not in your OPF

Other VA Permanent Employees must submit:

1. [VA Form 10-2850c, Application for Associated Health Occupations](#)
2. Resume or CV
3. [OF-306, Declaration for Federal Employment](#)
4. Latest SF-50, Notification of Personnel Action
5. Copies of all current licenses
6. Latest performance appraisal

Non VA Applicants must submit:

1. [VA Form 10-2850c, Application for Associated Health Occupations](#)
2. Resume or CV
3. [OF-306, Declaration for Federal Employment](#) (January 2001 version or later).
4. Veterans Preference:
 - a. DD-214, Military Discharge Paper (member copy #4 for July 1979 or later editions) (For 5 Point Veteran's Preference).
 - b. [SF-15, Application for 10-point Veteran Preference](#) (December 2004 version or later)
 - c. VA letter of service-connected disability rating dated 1991 or later.

5. SF-50, Notification of Personnel Action (if applying as a current or former federal employee).
6. Copies of all current licenses, registrations, or certifications (applicable to job).
7. **A copy of your college transcripts**

All application packets must be received in Human Resources by Close of Business (COB) on 12/24/2009.

Application forms may be obtained in Human Resources Office or on our external website,

<http://www.visn20.med.va.gov/Portland/mc/hr>

Applications may be mailed to:

Portland VA Medical Center, P4HRMS

Attn: T38-10-0053-TC

PO Box 1034

Portland, OR 97207

Or brought in person to:

Portland VA Medical Center

3710 SW US Veterans Hospital Rd

Building 16, Room 300

Portland OR 97239

APPLICANT'S PLEASE NOTE:

- Education must be accredited by an accrediting institution recognized by the U.S. Department of Education in order for it to be credited towards qualifications (particularly positions with a positive education requirement.). Therefore, applicants must report only attendance and/or degrees from schools accredited by accrediting institutions recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.
- Applicants can verify accreditation at the following website: <http://www.ed.gov/admins/finaid/accred/index.html>. All education claimed by applicants will be verified by the appointing agency accordingly.
- Foreign Education: To receive credit for education completed outside the United States, you must show proof that the education has been submitted to a private organization that specializes in the interpretation of foreign educational credentials and such education has been deemed at least equivalent to that gained in conventional U.S. education programs.

IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT APPLICANT'S RESPONSIBILITY:

- It is the applicant's responsibility to submit documentation to support his/her application for this position. Applicant is responsible for ensuring that all experience, formal training, award recognition, etc. are documented in the application package. Experience may include voluntary or other non-paid experience in the appropriate field. If you feel that your training record contains information pertinent to your qualifications, then you must submit a printed copy of your training record with your application package. Your training record will become part of the specific vacancy file and will not be filed in Official Personnel Folder. Human Resources Management Division will not photocopy any application material; applicants are responsible for making photocopies prior to submitting applications.
- **It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure timely receipt of the application, regardless of the method used for submission. The VA assumes no responsibility for the late delivery of applications (i.e. postal service delays). The Portland VA Medical Center will not accept FAX, or emailed applications or applications in a US government envelope.**