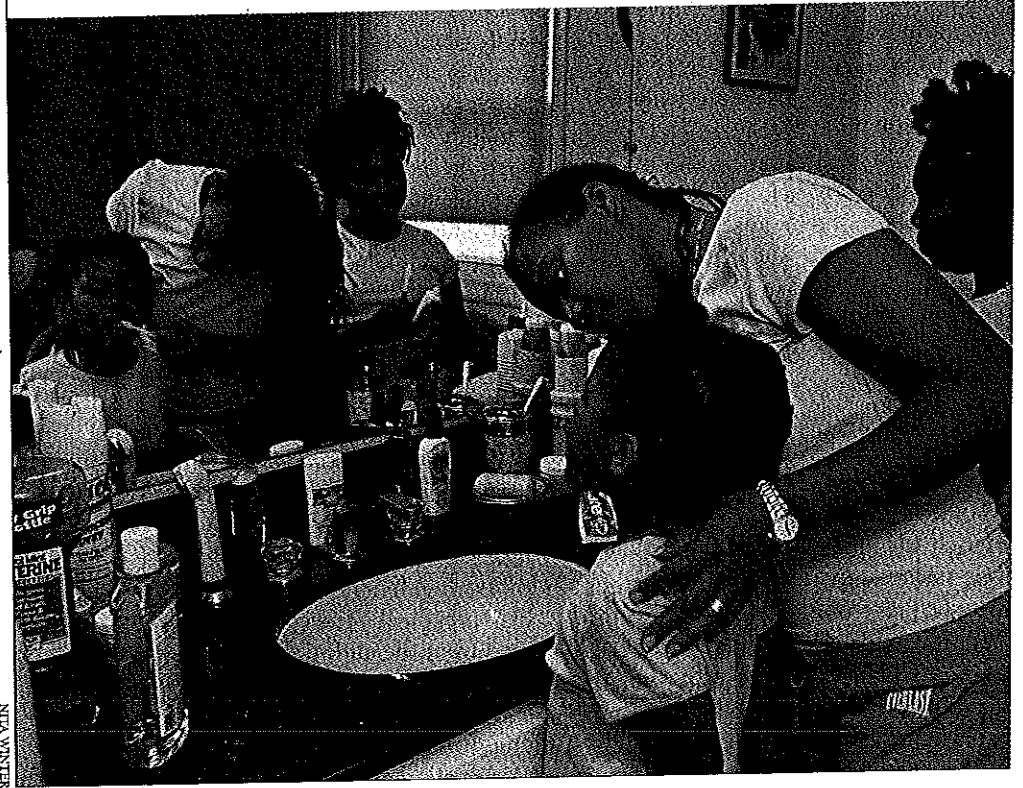


The demands and delights of two small children, a catering business and family ties in the Bay Area make the half-time internship an appealing choice for Yvette James (middle).



The half-time option

A recent conference focused on funding and quality-assurance for half-time internships.
BY BRIDGET MURRAY LAW *gradPSYCH* staff

Yvette James is raising two daughters, 3 and 10, running a catering business with her husband, and entering her third year of a clinical psychology PhD program at the California School of Professional Psychology at Alliant International University, San Francisco.

For this 38-year-old master juggler, leaving the Bay Area for internship is not an option because of her business responsibilities and community and family ties. But the region is short on full-time, one-year internships. So she's looking to land a different type of internship next year: the half-time internship—the same amount of clinical training as a full-

time internship, but spread over two years.

Yvette James says the half-time model will better accommodate the demands of her family and business, and allow her to complete her dissertation during her internship.

"I'm really in the targeted group for half-time internships," she says. "With a mortgage and kids in school, it fits my lifestyle."

Others in the region appear to share her enthusiasm: In California, half-time internships have grown markedly over the past decade. Of the 801 internship positions listed with the California Psychology Internship Council (CAPIC) for 2004–2005, 75 percent were avail-

able half time. What's more, completion of a CAPIC, Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC)-member or APA-accredited internship ensures students licensure eligibility in California.

But half-time internships aren't without their drawbacks. Few of them exist outside of California, not many pay and most are not APA-accredited or APPIC-member sites—credentials required for licensure in many states.

To address those funding and quality issues, CAPIC gathered psychology education and training leaders at the April conference, "The half-time internship: Coming into the

