



**Department of
Veterans Affairs**

VA Connecticut Healthcare System

Geriatric Specialty Residency Program

The VA Connecticut (VACT) Healthcare System is an integrated institution which provides a full range of outpatient and inpatient services, with two campus sites located in the central (Newington) and southern (West Haven) parts of the state. The Newington Campus is located 20 minutes outside of Hartford and the West Haven Campus is located 15 minutes from New Haven, on Long Island Sound. Each campus is conveniently located with easy highway access and is located midpoint between New York City and Boston, Massachusetts.

Overview of VACT Healthcare System

VA Connecticut Healthcare System serves more than 50,000 veterans who reside in Connecticut and Southern New England. VA Connecticut provides primary, secondary and tertiary care in medicine, geriatrics, neurology, psychiatry and surgery. As part of the VA New England Healthcare System, VA Connecticut is comprised of an inpatient facility and two Ambulatory Care Centers, as well as five primary care Community Based Outpatient Clinics located in outlying areas of the state. Major affiliations include the Yale University School of Medicine, the University of Connecticut School of Medicine and School of Dentistry. VA Connecticut is also affiliated with the University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy and serves as a clinical clerkship site for pharmacy students. VA Connecticut offers 2 ASHP accredited Pharmacy Practice residencies and 2 Geriatric Pharmacy residencies.

The West Haven Campus has a 200-bed hospital, which provides acute medical, surgical and psychiatric care. A full range of primary care and ambulatory care services are also provided. VA Connecticut conducts research in psychiatry, medicine, surgery, neurology and related basic sciences. Special research programs in West Haven include national centers for research in Schizophrenia, Alcoholism and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. In addition, the Eastern Blind Rehabilitation Center and Clinic is one of four national programs providing concentrated rehabilitation services to blind veterans enabling them to gain and maintain their independence.

The Newington Campus is a center for excellence for ambulatory care and diagnostic procedures. All medical and surgical sub-specialty areas are provided in our Ambulatory/Primary Care Areas.

The Community Based Outpatient Clinics located in New London, Winsted, Windham, Stamford, Danbury and Waterbury provide Primary Care to veterans in outlying parts of the state.

Other services provided to our veterans at VA Connecticut include the following: Women's healthcare, Home healthcare, Pharmacy services, Dental services, Psychological and pastoral counseling, Social Services, Rehabilitation services, Foot care, Vision and Hearing services, Treatment programs for Alcohol and Substance Abuse, Healthcare for Homeless Veterans.

Overview of VACT Healthcare System Pharmacy Service

The Pharmacy Service, as well as the entire institution, is completely computerized. Automation is heavily utilized in the distribution of pharmaceuticals. Computers and automation allow our pharmacists and technicians time to provide hands on care to our veteran population. Pharmacists educate patients regarding the proper use of medications and monitor medication adherence.

Primary Care clinical pharmacists provide pharmaceutical care to veterans enrolled with their team. There are four clinical pharmacy specialists practicing in primary care; two in West Haven and two in Newington. Medication

management of hypertension, diabetes, hyperlipidemia, and COPD is emphasized. A pharmacist-nurse managed Anticoagulation Clinic monitors patients receiving warfarin at both campuses. There are four clinical pharmacy specialists providing services to Acute Medicine, Surgery, Geriatrics, and Home Based Primary Care.

The VA Connecticut Healthcare System maintains a strong affiliation with the UCONN School of Pharmacy and acts as a site for pharmacy externships and clerkships. Many of our staff hold faculty appointments at the school and are involved in teaching didactic portions of the curriculum. Additionally, the institution is affiliated with Gateway Community College and serves as a training site for pharmacy technicians. The institution highly encourages participation in clinical research and is actively involved in many research projects.

Overview of the Specialty Residency in Geriatrics

Residency Goals, Requirements and Rotations Offered:

The primary focus of this residency is to develop the resident into a competent clinical practitioner who will contribute to positive patient outcomes specific, but not limited to, geriatrics. The residency program develops competency in the areas of sub-acute geriatric patient rehabilitation, geriatric home healthcare, geriatric ambulatory/primary care, and drug information. The resident will achieve these goals through participation in the following required rotations: sub-acute geriatric rehabilitation, home healthcare, ambulatory/primary care medicine, ASCP Research and Education Foundation Experience, and Geropsychiatry. Other elective specialty rotations are available by request. In addition, a number of geriatric-related projects are required. The resident will attend various institutional meetings (Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee, Pharmacy Administration Supervisory Meetings, etc.) and actively participate in CT-ASCP activities, including the planning of the Senior Symposium program. The resident is expected to participate in the training of UCONN School of Pharmacy students, both on site and at the University.

Benefits:

The Residency program begins July 1st of the current year and ends June 30th of the subsequent year. VACT Healthcare System will hire the resident as a 1-year -term employee entitled to the following benefits:

- 4 hours of accrued annual (vacation) and sick leave per pay period (every two weeks)
- 10 paid holidays
- Health and Life Insurance (80% of premium paid by employer) - a full range of health plans are available
- Annual Salary of \$41,000
- Tuition/Travel to the ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting and the Eastern States Resident Conference

Application requirements:

To apply you must:

- Be a citizen of the U.S.A.
- Be a graduate of an ACPE-accredited Doctor of Pharmacy degree program
- Have successfully completed a PGY1 residency program and/or have equivalent practice experience
- Be licensed or eligible for licensure in a state
- Adhere to the rules of the resident matching program RMP process

Applications must include:

- Letter of Intent
- VA Application for Associated Health Occupations VA Form #10-2850c.
- Curriculum Vitae
- Three letters of recommendation
- Official Transcript
- On-site interview (preferred)

Applications must be received by **JANUARY 15th**. Applications should be forwarded to:

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