Pharmacy Residency Program

PGY1 Pharmacy Practice
PGY2 Ambulatory Care
PGY2 Geriatrics
PGY2 Pain/Palliative Care

The Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System (CAVHS), a flagship Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) healthcare provider, is one of the largest and busiest VA medical centers in the country. Its two hospitals, located in Little Rock and North Little Rock, anchor a broad spectrum of inpatient and outpatient healthcare services, ranging from disease prevention, primary care, acute and specialty care, to complex surgical procedures and extended rehabilitative care.

CAVHS serves as a teaching facility for more than 1,600 students and residents enrolled in more than 90 educational programs; its principal affiliate is the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS).

CAVHS reaches out to Veterans through its 8 Community-Based Outpatient Clinics, Home Based Primary Care Service, and a VA Drop-In Day Treatment Center for the homeless Veterans in downtown Little Rock.

Throughout its rich history, CAVHS has been widely recognized for excellence in education, research, emergency preparedness, and –first and foremost– for a tradition of quality and caring for Arkansas Veterans.

Qualifications

All residents must be United States citizens and have graduated from an American Council on Pharmaceutical Education accredited college or school of pharmacy. Applicants must meet requirements for federal employment, to include satisfactory completion of a physical exam. PGY1 residents are required to be licensed or be eligible for licensure as a pharmacist. **Pharmacist license must be obtained no later than 90 days from the first day of the residency for PGY1 candidates.**

Candidates for the Post Graduate Year 2 (PGY2) Specialty Residencies should have completed a Post Graduate Year One (PGY1) Residency and be licensed as a pharmacist in the US.

Application Checklist

♦ Completed CAVHS Residency Application (located on residency website)
♦ Curriculum Vitae
♦ Pharmacy School Transcript(s)
♦ Letter of intent
♦ Three electronic references submitted through PhORCAS (Separate letter of recommendation not required)
♦ Proof of U.S. Citizenship
♦ Copy of Intern/Pharmacist License

Applications will be accepted through PhORCAS only.
Application Deadline is January 3

Salary and Benefits

The residency program provides a competitive stipend. Residents can accumulate 13 days of paid vacation time and 10 paid holidays per year. Sick leave is accrued at the rate of 4 hours every two weeks. Health insurance is available. Educational leave and an allowance are provided to attend some local and national pharmacy meetings. The program also provides office space, a computer, a pager and a state-of-the-art computerized patient record system.
Program Goal

The goal of the CAVHS residency program is to provide high-quality, compassionate pharmaceutical care in a variety of practice environments. Residents will be able to effectively educate other health professionals, patients, students, and the community regarding health care issues. Residents are expected to develop and apply problem-solving skills to actual clinical situations through the use of sound judgment, the ability to set priorities and by applying investigative and research techniques. Residents will function as integral members of the health care team, demonstrating maturity and effective interpersonal skills. They will demonstrate personal drive and enthusiasm to be a leader in pharmacy and to serve as a role model to others. They will demonstrate high ethical standards of professional practice.

Program Description

This residency is a 12 month program designed to meet the standards set forth by ASHP for pharmacy residencies. The program is organized under the overall leadership of the Chief of Pharmacy Service who is ultimately responsible for the education and training of the residents. The Pharmacy Service Education Coordinator is designated as the Residency Program Director and acts as the primary role model for the residents. The Residency Director will designate other pharmacists with outstanding strengths in one or more areas to serve as preceptors for individual specialized practice settings. The training program involves a fulltime educational commitment at both divisions of CAVHS for 52 weeks. While residents supply services as part of their requirements, these are designed to complement rather than compete with the educational and experiential objectives of the program.

This residency site agrees that no person at this site will solicit, accept, or use any ranking-related information from any residency applicant.

Clinical Experience

Required rotations will provide a variety of patient care experiences in acute, ambulatory, intermediate and long-term care settings. Longitudinal rotations provide many opportunities for staffing, administrative, and antibiotic stewardship projects. Elective experiences are available in other areas within the medical center and may also be done at teaching hospitals affiliated with CAHVS to fit residents’ professional development goals.

Teaching Responsibilities

Residents will act as mentors to PharmD students from the UAMS College of Pharmacy as they complete fourth year rotations at CAVHS and will facilitate the Therapeutics Recitation course for the 2nd and 3rd year students. CAVHS residents participate in the Teaching Certificate Program through UAMS.

Project Requirement

The resident will conceive, develop, and implement an independent practice-related project in conjunction with a preceptor. The project results will be presented at the Central Arkansas Pharmacy Residency Conference and should result in a publishable paper.

Leadership Opportunities

Each PGY1 resident will be designated as Chief Resident for approximately a two month period. The Chief Resident acts as a point of contact for the program to delegate projects and to ensure coverage for longitudinal activities. Residents will also have monthly topic discussions with pharmacy leadership in addition to ample opportunities to develop administrative skills through projects.

For further information or with questions, please contact:

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Or visit our website at:
http://www.littlerock.va.gov/services/pharmacy/residency.asp