WEST TEXAS VA HEALTH CARE SYSTEM
PGY-1 RESIDENCY PROGRAM
AMBULATORY CARE EMPHASIS

**REQUIREMENTS**
MUST have U.S. citizenship and PharmD degree from an accredited School of Pharmacy

**HOW TO APPLY**
The following application materials should be uploaded to PhORCAS:

- Three letters of recommendation
- Curriculum Vitae
- Pharmacy School Transcripts
- Two samples of written work: DI question or journal club
- Residency Application form (found on residency website)

**Deadline:** 01/01/21
Code: 74062
NMS Code: 233913

**CONTACT INFO**
Tyson Kubena, PharmD
Residency Director, Clinical Coordinator
West Texas VA Health Care System

300 Veterans Blvd
Big Spring, TX 79720
(432) 263-7361, EXT 4836
Tyson.Kubena@va.gov

**RESIDENCY WEBSITE**
https://www.bigspring.va.gov/Pharmacy/Pharmacy.asp

**PAY & BENEFITS:**
- Competitive stipend
- 13 days vacation and sick leave
- 10 Federal holidays
- Health, life, vision, dental insurance
- 2 lab coats with laundry service
- Free parking
- Conferences:
  - ASHP Midyear (optional)
  - TSHP ALCALDE Residency Conference

**PGY-1 Residents:**

**Caroline Britt (2020 - 2021)**
Dr. Britt is from Charleston, South Carolina. She received her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the Medical University of South Carolina. Her clinical interests include chronic disease state management, nutrition, and infectious disease. In her free time, she enjoys making tacos, traveling, and spending time outside. email: patricia.britt@va.gov

**Jessica Schultz (2020 - 2021)**
Dr. Schultz is from Sioux City, IA. She received her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Pharmacy in 2020. Her clinical interests include chronic disease state management, infectious disease and women’s health. She enjoys spending time with her daughter and dog, outdoor activities, and watching Netflix. email: jessica.Schultz1@va.gov

**Past residents** have gone on to complete PGY-2s in Academia and Mental Health. Others have become clinical pharmacy specialists in Ambulatory Care, Mental Health, Pain Management, Hepatitis C, and Academia.

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INTRODUCTION:
The George H. O’Brien, Jr. Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Big Spring, TX is the core of the West Texas Veterans Affairs Health Care System (WTVAHCS), collectively serving more than 17,000 veterans throughout West Texas and Eastern New Mexico. Clinical pharmacists can connect with veterans across 53,000 square miles through state-of-the-art telehealth technology. Likewise, comprehensive residential care pharmacy services are provided for veterans admitted to the 40-bed Community Living Center (CLC).

PURPOSE:
The ambulatory care-focused PGY1 pharmacy residency program at the WTVAHCS will prepare pharmacy residents to function as clinicians providing advanced patient care, become eligible to pursue second year postgraduate training in a focused area of practice, and obtain the necessary qualifications to gain board certification.

STAFFING RESPONSIBILITIES
- Outpatient staffing (1 hour daily)
- Late shift coverage (every other week) 4:30-5:00 PM or until duties are completed
- Inpatient staffing (one Friday every month)

RESIDENCY FAQs

- What does a day look like as a resident?
  This is dependent on resident experience in the area and progression through the program. Typically, at first mornings are spent conducting patient visits or reviewing charts depending on the rotation. As the year progresses, residents can expect to assume the role of their preceptor.

- How flexible is the rotation schedule?
  There is some flexibility for onsite elective learning experiences as the resident’s preference develops throughout the year. Offsite rotations cannot be changed after they have been set up.

- What sets your program apart?
  Being a VA residency affords experience as autonomous advanced practice providers with more opportunities in mental health and pain management compared to a traditional PGY-1. With an ambulatory care focus, our residents’ training is concentrated in chronic disease state management. Our program does not entail inpatient or acute care.

- What are the interprofessional dynamics at the WTVAHCS?
  The pharmacy staff are respected team members at the facility and are utilized frequently by the providers and nurses at the site.

- How will you prepare residents for a career as a clinical pharmacist?
  In addition to evolving and applying the knowledge gained in pharmacy school, this residency puts emphasis on fostering independence as a clinician and developing literature review skills so that residents are prepared for clinical practice.

PRESENTATIONS AND PROJECTS
- Interprofessional in-services presentations every other month
- Drug information questions, journal clubs, and topic discussions vary with each rotation
- Longitudinal Research Project tailored to resident’s interest and presented at TSHP ALCALDE Residency Conference
- Teaching certificate optional through ASHP

CORE ROTATIONS:
- Orientation
- Multiple Disease State Management (PACT) I/II
- Anticoagulation Clinic
- Mental Health/Pain Management
- Home-Based Primary Care
- Geriatrics
- Management

ELECTIVES (but not limited to):
- Mental Health
- Pain Management
- Resident-Driven PACT Extension
- Antimicrobial Stewardship/HepC
- Management
- Off-site rotation: Adult Medicine