CONTACT INFORMATION

Pharmacy VALOR Program Coordinator:
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Please email or mail all application materials.

Questions?
Please contact VALOR program coordinator via phone or email.
**Background**
The program provides opportunities for outstanding students to develop competencies in pharmacy practice while working at an approved VA healthcare facility. Students may be appointed on a full or part-time basis during the summer months and may continue during their final academic year on a part-time basis. The aggregate hours that a student may be funded while in the program is 800 hours.

**Program Overview**
VALOR students will have opportunities to gain practice experience in the following areas of Pharmacy Practice at both the Canandaigua VAMC and the Rochester Outpatient Clinic.

**Patient Aligned Care Teams (PACT)**
Clinical Pharmacy Specialists (CPS) provide pharmacotherapy and drug information services essential to excellent patient care for our outpatients in primary care. CPS are involved in diabetes, hypertension, hyperlipidemia, anemia, and pain management, formulary compliance, medication reconciliation and review, and initiatives to improve patient compliance with pharmacotherapy.

**Anticoagulation Management**
CPS manage and monitor anticoagulation, including warfarin and novel anticoagulants. CPS also serve as a resource for anticoagulation guidance, including peri-procedure anticoagulation.

**Other Pharmacy Services**
- CPS provide consulting services for veterans living in the Community Living Center (CLC) and veterans enrolled in the Home Based Primary Care program (HBPC). CPS also offer disease state management, anticoagulation management, and medication reconciliation/review for these veterans
- CPS are part of the behavioral health team and are involved in management of psychotropic medications, as well as providing pharmacotherapy and drug-information services.
- Pharmacists are involved in the bioethics committee, facilitating ethical care and treatment of our veterans.
- Pharmacists are involved in various other committees, including wound management, falls prevention, pharmacy and therapeutics, antimicrobial stewardship, and others.
- Dispensing roles within the Outpatient and Inpatient Pharmacies serve our veterans and ensure our patients have appropriate medication therapy and medication counseling available.

**Eligibility Criteria**
Students must:
1. Have a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. **Note:** The GPA must be computed on their professional training in the School or College of Pharmacy, or for work accepted for credit towards the pharmacy degree. Only data on official transcripts will be used to determine grade qualifications
2. Be able to complete a minimum of 400 hours as a Pharmacy VALOR student in a VA facility. Appointment as a VALOR student will be from 3 to 12 months, with a usual minimum requirement of 400 hours. If affiliating school’s curriculum does not allow a summer appointment of 10 weeks at 40 hours per week the facility may elect to request less than 400 hours.
3. Be a United States citizen and meet physical examination standards at the time of entry in the Pharmacy VALOR program. **Note:** Students with a service obligation to any Federal, State, or private institution, or recipients of any Federal scholarships are ineligible for the Pharmacy VALOR Program.

**How to Apply: Application Deadline is 3/23/18**
1. Submit an updated CV/Resume via e-mail or mail (see contact information on last page)
2. Submit a letter from the registrar/dean/director of school or college of pharmacy. **Note:** The letter should include the following: verification of enrollment as a full-time student (as defined by the school); successful completion of the second or third year of pharmacy education (minimally fourth year of college education) by May/June 2018; and anticipated graduation date (must be within 2 years of entry into VALOR program).
3. Submit one letter of recommendation from a pharmacy school professor, pharmacist preceptor, or other individual able to assess the candidate’s professional status. This must be submitted directly from the author of the letter to the VALOR program coordinator.
4. Submit an official transcript from the school or college of pharmacy.
5. Upon notification of selection as a VALOR student by the local VA Healthcare Facility, the candidate must confirm acceptance with the VA so that the employment process may be initiated, which will include completion an Application for Federal Employment.

**Appointment and Pay**
VALOR program students will be appointed under 38 U.S.C. 7405(a)(1)(D) at a per annum training rate equal to 80 percent of the actual salary rate for GS-9, Step 1, at the facility. Currently = approximately $20.00/hr. Students appointed in fiscal year 2017 and who continue in the VALOR program in calendar year 2018 will be paid at the rate established for calendar year 2018.