What is VALOR?

Veterans Affairs Learning Opportunities Residency (VALOR) for pharmacy students is an honors program that provides opportunities for outstanding students to develop competencies in pharmacy practice while working at an approved VA healthcare facility. The VALOR program focuses on development of skills and knowledge required for pharmacy practice by providing competency based practice experiences under the supervision of a clinical pharmacist preceptor.

Beckley VA Medical Center Information

Established in 1951, the Beckley VA Medical Center is a 30-bed general medical and surgical care facility with a 50-bed Community Living Center. The Medical Center is a Joint Commission accredited, rural access facility affiliated with the West Virginia University School of Pharmacy and Medicine, University of Charleston School of Pharmacy, and West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine. Two PGY1 Pharmacy Residents are trained at this Medical Center each year. Beckley provides general and specialty medical, surgical, psychological, and ambulatory services to over 38,000 Veterans in an 11-county area of southern West Virginia. This facility has new outpatient clinics in Greenbrier and Mercer County.

Program Description

- Number of Positions: 1
- Appointment Period: Approximately 40 hours per week for 10 weeks during the summer months; potential to continue for additional hours; anticipated start date May
- Areas may include: Outpatient/Inpatient Pharmacy, Formulary Management, Pharmacy Administration, Ambulatory Care (Anticoagulation, Primary Care, Home Based Primary Care, Mental Health, Pain Management), Acute Care, Antimicrobial Stewardship, Geriatrics, and Hospice Care
- Educational Opportunities: Medical Center and pharmacy orientation, projects, multidisciplinary team meetings, case/drug monograph presentations, topic discussions, book/journal clubs, patient education and medication counseling, shadow experiences, prior authorization drug request evaluations, adverse drug reaction reporting, chart reviews, progress note documentation, medication use evaluations
Benefits

• Highly competitive salary
• Flexible; tailored to interest of student
• Exposure to federal pharmacy practice
• Potential to be hired above minimum entry salary after graduation
• Professional networking opportunities
• Veteran population with unique medical and psychological needs
• Experience both distributive and clinical VA pharmacy services

Eligibility Criteria

• Completion of 2nd year of an accredited School or College of Pharmacy by the start of the program
• Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale on coursework taken in pharmacy school
• United States citizen
• Meet physical examination standards if selected
• Able to complete 400 hours May through September
• Able to provide own housing

NOTE: Students with a service obligation to any Federal, State, or private institution, or recipients of any Federal scholarships are ineligible

Application Process

• Completed applications must be post-marked by February 28th to be considered
• A telephone interview will be extended to select applicants
• Application Packet should include:
  1. Cover Letter
  2. Curriculum Vitae
  3. Non-Official Transcript (if selected, an official transcript will be required)
  4. Letter of nomination from the School of Pharmacy verifying anticipated completion of second year of pharmacy school by May, full-time status, and anticipated graduation within two years of VALOR entry
  5. Beckley VA Pharmacy VALOR application

Contact

Please send completed application or forward inquiries to:
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