Residency Program Overview

The VACCHCS ASHP-accredited PGY1 Pharmacy Residency Program is a 12-month comprehensive year of education and experience with an emphasis on direct pharmaceutical care. Residents serve the Veteran population in both ambulatory and acute care settings. Emphasis is also placed on experiences in leadership, practice management, and teaching. Residents participate in formulary and medication-use management, medication safety, performance improvement, and providing education to patients and health professionals. VACCHCS offers a progressive training environment, where pharmacists with a scope of practice may prescribe medications, order laboratory and diagnostic tests, and place consults to other services.

About VACCHCS

VACCHCS is a 57-bed acute care, general medical, and surgical center with state of the art primary, secondary, and tertiary care in major diagnostic and treatment specializations. In addition, a 60-bed Community Living Center (CLC) is located on campus and provides skilled nursing and rehabilitation care. VACCHCS has three Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOCs) located in Merced, Oakhurst, and Tulare. In total, over 32,000 Veterans are served throughout Central California. The health care system is a teaching facility and is affiliated with the University of California, San Francisco School of Medicine. It is located in the heart of California, and is known as California’s Year-Round Playground due to having over 300 sunny days per year. Home to more than 522,000 people, Fresno is the fifth largest city in California and is also the world’s most productive agricultural region. It is situated near three National Parks, Yosemite, Kings Canyon, and Sequoia National Park, offering the perks of a big city as well as beautiful natural scenery.

Residency Program Benefits

- Competitive annual stipend
- 13 days of paid vacation and 13 days of sick leave
- 11 paid federal holidays
- Federal health benefits and life insurance available
- Education and travel allowances
- Ability to practice with pharmacy license from any state
- Access to the VA health care system with opportunities for continuing education and networking nationwide

Residency Program Learning Experiences

Required Core Rotations:
5 weeks each
- Inpatient/IV and Outpatient Pharmacy Orientation
- Acute Care Internal Medicine I (ICU)
- Acute Care Internal Medicine II (General Medicine)
- Ambulatory Care I (Primary Care Clinic)
- Ambulatory Care II (Anticoagulation, Primary Care, Women’s Health)
- Practice Management

Required Longitudinal Rotations:
- Ambulatory Care*
- Major Project
- Project Management and Leadership Development
- Staffing (Inpatient; 1 weekend and 1 evening shift every 3 weeks plus 1 major and 1 minor holiday)

Elective Opportunities:
3 electives, 5 weeks each
- Academic Detailing, Emergency Medicine, Geriatrics, Hematology/Oncology, Infectious Diseases, Managed Care, Pain Management, Pharmacy Informatics, Psychiatric Acute Care, Psychiatric Ambulatory Care, Substance Use Disorders, Transitions of Care

*Longitudinal Clinic Opportunities: Anticoagulation, Benzodiazepine Taper, Clozapine, Hematology/Oncology, Pain Management, Psychiatry, Pulmonary
Application Process

Qualification Requirements:
- United States Citizen
- Graduate of an ACPE-accredited school of pharmacy
- Ability to obtain pharmacist licensure by Oct 1st of the residency year
- Registered in the ASHP Resident Matching Program

Application through PhORCAS:
- Letter of intent
- Curriculum vitae
- Academic transcripts
- Three letters of recommendation using the PhORCAS Standardized Reference Form
  - At least one letter should come from a preceptor with whom the applicant had a clinical rotation

Application Deadline: January 1st

Interview:
- An interview is required and takes place in early February

Program Contact Information

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