

PGY1 PHARMACY RESIDENCY PROGRAM

The Healthcare System

The Southern Arizona VA Healthcare System (SAVAHCS) has provided comprehensive, world class health care to Veterans for over ninety years. SAVAHCS is an integrated Veteran's Affairs health care system consisting of an over 250-bed hospital, multiple primary care and specialty clinics, two urban community outpatient clinics, and five community outpatient clinics in Tucson's outlying areas, serving over 50,000 Veterans annually.

A wide range of inpatient and primary care services are provided in the medical center including acute care medicine, primary care, surgery, neurology, infectious diseases, nephrology, endocrinology, gastroenterology, rheumatology, pulmonary, cardiology, oncology, mental health, and emergency medicine. SAVAHCS is a cardiac referral center for the Southwest Region. The Pharmacy Service is a technology and patient safety leader assisted by the extensive use of robotics and automation.

SAVAHCS has a strong affiliation with the University of Arizona allied healthcare profession programs. Students and residents from many disciplines, including pharmacy students from several schools of pharmacy, are trained at SAVAHCS each year.

The SAVAHCS Pharmacy Service provides progressive clinical services to the medical center with approximately 130 pharmacy staff members, including more than 30 Clinical Pharmacy Practitioners in a variety of practice settings.

Residency Goals and Objectives

The purpose of the SAVAHCS PGY1 pharmacy residency program builds on Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm D.) education and outcomes to contribute to the development of clinical pharmacists responsible for medication-related care of patients with a wide range of conditions, eligible for board certification, and eligible for postgraduate year two (PGY2) pharmacy residency training. In addition, the goals of the residency program are to train pharmacists to investigate therapeutic problems in a scientific manner and enhance verbal and written communication skills. The residents are expected to provide care to a wide range of patients, become leaders in the medication use process, manage clinical practice, function competently and in partnership with other providers, and teach at an appropriate level when the residency is completed.

Program Description

The 12-month accredited residency program accepts up to eight PGY1 residents and is designed to provide ongoing clinical pharmacy activities while promoting the individual resident's needs. The program provides clinical experience with a broad range of patients and disease states in various rotation settings, while working collegially with physicians and nurse practitioners. During the year, each resident gives presentations, such as patient management conferences, in-services to nurses and physicians, journal clubs, and an Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) accredited one-hour continuing education presentation. A research project is required; each resident chooses a research project based upon his or her interest and presents a poster outlining research hypothesis & methods, and the completed project at a regional meeting.

Monthly Experiential Sample Schedule

July-November	Orientation, Primary care, Acute care medicine (2), Pharmacy Operations, Elective
December	CE/Research project and ASHP Midyear Conference
January-June	Critical Care, Acute care medicine (2), Primary care, Electives (2)

Longitudinal Experiential Activities

Longitudinal experiences throughout the residency include primary longitudinal clinic (1/2 day weekly) and several administrative activities. Residents staff an average of one weekend each month plus one holiday. Staffing consists of two residents working together to perform the clinical and distributive functions.

Elective Opportunities

Residents choose three electives. Elective time is tailored to the specific interests of the resident within the training program. Common electives are oncology, specialty primary care, mental health, infectious disease, emergency medicine, informatics, academia (e.g. with the University of Arizona College of Pharmacy), and geriatrics.

Benefits

The residency stipend is \$42,188 and includes full federal healthcare benefits. Residents will accumulate 13 days of paid vacation time, 13 days of paid sick time, and have 10 Federal holidays per year.

Applicant Qualifications

- United States citizenship
- Doctor of pharmacy degree from an American Council on Pharmaceutical Education accredited school of pharmacy
- Pharmacist licensure in any state in the United States of America prior to or within 90 days of residency start date
- National Matching Service and Pharmacy Online Residency Centralized Application Service (PhORCAS) registration

*Application Requirements:

All application materials are due by January 2nd, at 11:59 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

The SAVAHCS PGY1 Residency program participates in the Pharmacy Online Residency Centralized Application Service (PhORCAS). Please refer to both the ASHP and SAVAHCS PGY1 websites for details. Incomplete applications are not considered for review.

In addition to the PhORCAS application standard requirements, there are additional requirements for SAVAHCS that reference writers must complete:

Each reference must provide comments for a minimum of 10 of the "Characteristics Evaluated" on the PhORCAS Standardized Reference form **PLUS** either complete the first 3 narrative comments on the PhORCAS form or provide a traditional letter of reference that addresses the areas listed in the narrative questions. **These additional requirements must be communicated by the applicant to their references.**

Materials submitted by the candidate are subject to textual similarity review for detection of plagiarism.

Candidates who are not invited to interview are notified no later than January 30th.

This residency site agrees that no person at this site solicits, accepts, or uses any ranking-related information from any residency applicant.

Please refer to the Office of Academic Affiliations (OAA) requirements of Health Professions Trainees (HPTs): [Resources for Health Professions Trainees Coming to VA | Eligibility and Forms - Office of Academic Affiliations](#)

For further information or questions, please contact:

Stephanie Davis, PharmD, BCACP
PGY1 Pharmacy Residency Director
Stephanie.Davis4@va.gov

Alicia Newkirk, PharmD, BCACP
PGY1 Pharmacy Residency Administrator
Alicia.Newkirk@va.gov

Pharmacy Service Line (1-119)
3601 S. 6th Ave
Tucson, AZ 85723

Website:

https://www.va.gov/files/2021-11/PGY1_Pharmacy_Residency.pdf

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VA



U.S. Department
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Post Graduate Year 1

PGY1

Pharmacy Residency PROGRAM

Accredited by the American Society of
Health-System Pharmacists since 1984



Southern Arizona VA Health Care System
(SAVAHCS) Tucson, AZ 85723

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