

## VA Maryland Health Care System Postgraduate Year Two (PGY2) Ambulatory Care Pharmacy Residency



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**Program Purpose:** The VAMHCS PGY2 Ambulatory Care Pharmacy Residency Program is accredited by American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) is committed to the following general purpose:

Postgraduate Year 2 (PGY2) pharmacy residency programs build on Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) education and Postgraduate Year 1 (PGY1) pharmacy residency programs to contribute to the development of clinical pharmacists in specialized areas of practice. PGY2 residencies provide residents with opportunities to function independently as practitioners by conceptualizing and integrating accumulated experience and knowledge and incorporating both into the provision of patient care that improves medication therapy. Residents who successfully complete an accredited PGY2 pharmacy residency should possess competencies that qualify them for clinical pharmacist and/or faculty positions and position them to be eligible for attainment of board certification in the specialized practice area (when board certification for the practice area exists).

**Program Description:** The VAMHCS 52-week ASHP-accredited PGY2 Ambulatory Care Residency is designed to develop proficient ambulatory care practitioners with excellent practice skills and leadership abilities to establish new ambulatory care pharmacy programs.

The resident will be accountable for achieving optimal drug therapy outcomes as members of the health care team. They will exercise proficiency in communication and in educating other healthcare professionals, trainees and patients on drug related topics. The resident will develop teaching skills by participating in teaching opportunities with affiliated Schools of Pharmacy. Leadership skills will be enhanced through pharmacy administration and research experiences. Residents will demonstrate professional maturity by following the VAMHCS pharmacy mission, monitoring their own performance, and exhibiting commitment to the profession.

The resident will work closely with clinical pharmacist practitioners (CPPs) with an advanced scope of practice as well as other practitioners in ambulatory care clinics. A major emphasis of the residency is providing direct patient care with the supervision from respective preceptors. Resident responsibilities on rotation include but are not limited to the following: obtaining a pertinent patient history, performing an accurate focused physical exam, assessing pharmacotherapeutic issues and implementing an appropriate pharmacotherapy plan, ordering labs, electronic documentation of progress notes, and providing accurate drug information to patients and other health care providers.

### Required Learning Experiences:

- Orientation
- Patient Care Aligned Team (PACT) Primary Care Clinic

This program participates in the ASHP Residency Matching Program through the National Matching Service. The residency site agrees that no person at this site will solicit, accept, or use any ranking-related information from the residency applicant. Candidates will be notified of an interview no later than the second Friday of February. For additional information, please contact the Residency Program Director.

- Lipid Cardiovascular Risk Reduction Clinic
- Endocrine Diabetes Clinic
- Anticoagulation Clinic
- Home Based Primary Care (HBPC)
- Hepatitis C Clinic
- Heart Failure Clinic
- Women’s Health Clinic
- Population Management
- Clinical Pharmacy Administration
- PACT Practice Management/Health Analytics
- Other: Residency Project/Research, Teaching/Precepting, Pharmacy Education Series, Pharmacotherapy Rounds

**\*Elective Learning Experiences:**

- Interdisciplinary Cognitive Assessment Clinic
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- Outpatient Antimicrobial Stewardship
  - Rheumatology Clinic
  - VISN 5 Clinical Resource Hub Clinics (Pain, Mental Health, PACT)
  - Cardiology Non-Formulary Reviews
  - \*Other learning experiences may be developed based on resident interest and preceptor availability

**Program Structure:** The PGY2 Ambulatory Care program is composed of an orientation period (2-4 weeks) and four separate blocks (12 weeks each). Residents are typically scheduled to 5 to 6 ½ day clinics per week, although some clinic activities may expand a full day. The remaining time available to fulfill other administrative residency responsibilities including research. The schedule will be developed on an annual basis based on the residents prior experiences and interests, progress at quarterly meetings and preceptor availability.

Examples of a Block 1 and Block 3 schedules:

**Block 1 example:**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
AM	PACT Clinic	PACT Clinic	Population Management	CBOC PACT	Anticoagulation Clinic
PM	PACT/Resident Admin	PACT/Resident Admin	Research Project Admin	Journal Club/Topic Discussion	Resident Admin

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**Block 3 example:**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
AM	Resident Admin/Project	Women's Health Clinic	PACT Clinic	Lipid CV Risk Reduction	Home Based Primary Care
PM	Heart Failure Clinic	Women's Health Clinic	PACT Clinic	Journal Club, Teaching/Precepting	Resident Admin/Project

**Evaluation:** A Residency Development Plan (RDP) for each resident will be formulated upon entry into the program. Updates and changes will be addressed quarterly by the Residency Program Director and/or Program Coordinator. Following the ASHP Accreditation Standard for PGY2 Pharmacy Residencies, this program includes the required ASHP Competency Areas, Goals, and Objectives for PGY2 Ambulatory Care Pharmacy. Resident performance on each learning experience will be documented electronically in PharmAcademic™.

**Requirements:** A Doctor of Pharmacy degree, completion of an ASHP accredited PGY 1 Pharmacy Residency, U.S. citizenship and a full, current, and unrestricted license to practice pharmacy in a State, Territory, or Commonwealth of the U.S. or District of Columbia. Phorcas application, virtual interview, and participation in the ASHP Residency Match Program are also required. Appointment is contingent upon satisfactory completion of pre-employment fingerprinting and a pre-employment physical exam, including negative drug test.

**Benefits:** The annual stipend is \$57,365. Benefits include 11 paid Federal holidays, 13 accrued vacation and 13 accrued sick days, and paid leave to attend approved professional meetings. Vacation and sick leave are accrued at a rate of 4 hours per two-week pay period. Health benefits are available at standard government employee contribution rates. A dual appointment is available for additional reimbursement.

**Application Process:** Applications will be accepted through PhORCAS™ (Pharmacy Online Residency Centralized Application Service) ONLY. PhORCAS™ application must include: Letter of intent stating career goals, curriculum vitae, three letters of reference (one required by the PGY 1 residency director) and official pharmacy school transcripts. Reference writers should use the standard reference template in PhORCAS. Application deadline is January 4<sup>th</sup>.

The Department of Veterans Affairs is committed to ensuring Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO), promoting workplace diversity and inclusion in service to our nation's Veterans. The VA enforces all applicable Federal EEO laws, regulations, executive orders and management directives to ensure equal opportunity in the workplace to all VA employees.

Supplemental Information:

<https://accreditation.ashp.org/directory/#/program/residency/programInfo/35102>  
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