



Specialty Residency/Fellowship in Geriatrics

Washington State University/Providence Visiting Nurses Association

General Information

This geriatrics residency is a post Doctor of Pharmacy [PharmD] training opportunity at the Washington State University College of Pharmacy (WSUCOP) and Providence Visiting Nurses Association (PVNA, a home healthcare agency) in Spokane, WA. The program is designed for the resident to develop expertise in medication management of the ambulatory geriatric population and to gain substantial academic-related experiences. Pharmacy services at the PVNA are unique and involve the pharmacy team providing consulting services for a wide variety of medication-related issues for PVNA clinicians (RNs; physical, occupational, and speech therapists; MSWs; and dieticians). Pharmacy staff regularly provide home visits to complete consulting services. During the year the resident will progressively take greater responsibility for the pharmacy clinical services at the site with the goal of being an independent clinical practitioner. The resident will function in a team environment and will provide comprehensive medication review, collaborate with and provide education to PVNA clinicians, and communicate with healthcare professionals outside PVNA. The resident will be involved in clinical teaching for both rotation and early practice experience students and will have the opportunity to provide didactic teaching in both small group discussion and larger classes in the WSUCOP's unique competency-based, active learning system.

Statement of Purpose

The pharmacy practice residency at WSUCOP/PVNA will develop practitioners who are skilled at providing pharmaceutical care to community-dwelling older adults. The resident will become a lifelong learner through a process of self-monitoring, self-directed learning, and self-evaluation. Pharmacists completing this residency will display a commitment to the profession of pharmacy and will be leaders both professionally and within the community. Finally, graduates of this residency will possess professional skills that ensure they are highly sought after in the clinical pharmacy job market.

Residency Duration

This is a one to two-year program, and residents completing a second year will have the opportunity to either complete advanced projects and serve as the senior resident or to complete a fellowship.

Residency Project

The resident completes an investigation of an aspect of ambulatory geriatric practice. This will be in the form of original research, development of a review article related to geriatric practice, or a similar type of project. Residents will work with preceptors to determine a project that is appropriate to further the resident's career and in line with the resident's interest.

General Responsibilities

The resident will be based primarily at the PVNA. The PVNA is a rotation site for 4th year rotation students every rotation block, and the rotation was established as a hands on experience for the rotation students. The resident will participate along with the preceptors in providing clinical services while teaching the 4th year students.

Teaching opportunities at the college will be offered during fall and spring semesters. The amount of teaching can vary depending on the resident's interest, though at a minimum will involve a lecture and 1-2 small group facilitation sessions. Residents will also assist in precepting brown bag and other outreaches in the community.

The resident will not rotate regularly through different clinical services as in a traditional PGY1 residency. However, various opportunities for additional experiences will be offered based on the resident's interest. This is an intensive geriatric residency experience offered without a prior PGY1 and does not meet PGY1 requirements for PGY1 accreditation. This residency therefore would not be beneficial for candidates intending to pursue an ASHP accredited PGY2 residency or a hospital position that requires an ASHP accredited residency. However, this residency is an excellent opportunity for those wishing to pursue a career in geriatrics, academia, pharmacy consulting, ambulatory care, or transitional care.

Stipend

Residents are paid a competitive stipend, and benefits included health, dental, and life insurance; vacation and university holidays, and sick leave

Applicant Requirements:

The resident shall be a graduate of a college of pharmacy accredited by the American Council of Pharmaceutical Education (ACPE) and shall be licensed or eligible for licensure in the State of Washington. A Doctor of Pharmacy degree is required. The applicant shall meet all the requirements for employment at Washington State University and meet the professional requirements of the Department of Pharmacotherapy. In addition, the resident must possess excellent verbal and written communication skills, professionalism and leadership, and demonstrate a commitment to the provision of pharmaceutical care to older patients.

Please send a transcript, letter of intent, CV, and 3 letters of recommendations to Brian Gates, Pharm.D., BCGP, Residency Director, at brian.gates@wsu.edu. The application deadline is January 31, 2017 or until filled. Residency candidates will complete a telephone interview initially and may be invited for an on-site interview.

Additional Information

For additional information, please visit the WSUCOP geriatrics team website, at <http://www.pharmacy.wsu.edu/research/geriatrics.html>; and the PVNA website at <http://washington.providence.org/in-home-services/vna-home-health/>

Please e-mail Brian Gates (brian.gates@wsu.edu) or call 509-358-7734 with any questions.