

Frequently Asked Questions

General Information

Q. How many residents will be admitted into the AGH residency program?

- A. We offer 5 positions for the post-graduate year one (PGY1) pharmacy practice residency, 1 position for the PGY2 critical care residency, and 1 position for the PGY2 hematology-oncology residency for a total of 7 residents.

Q. When was the program established?

- A. The PGY1 residency was first accredited by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists in 1980 and most recently reaccredited in 2008. The PGY2 critical care program was established in 1996 and reaccredited in 2008. The PGY2 hematology-oncology program was established in 2007 and is pending accreditation.

Q. Where are former residents practicing now?

- A. Graduates of our residency programs have frequently sought further post-graduate training (PGY2 specialty residencies or fellowships) and gone on to take clinical specialist and/or academic positions. Others have taken general clinical pharmacist positions after completion of the PGY1 year. Other tracks pursued by our graduates include: research, management, and industry.

Q. What clinical and specialized services does your Department offer?

- A. Experienced pharmacists provide advanced clinical services in a variety of areas, including: critical care, infectious diseases, drug information, internal medicine, hematology/oncology, cardiology, ambulatory care, pharmacokinetics, transplantation, and emergency medicine.

About our Programs

Q. What rotations are required to complete your program?

- A. Core rotations for the PGY1 residency include: cardiology, critical care (2 months including medical ICU plus choose from trauma or surgical ICU), drug information, hematology/oncology, infectious diseases, internal medicine, practice management, and electives (3 rotations). The longitudinal rotations include: ambulatory care, pharmacokinetics, and staffing.

The PGY2 critical care residency includes the following required rotations: medical ICU (2 months), trauma ICU (2 months), coronary ICU (2 months), cardiothoracic surgical ICU (1 month), neurosurgery/neurology ICU (1 month), infectious diseases, and pharmacokinetics (longitudinal).

The PGY2 hematology-oncology residency includes the following required rotations: medical oncology-inpatient (2 months), medical oncology-outpatient (2 months), hematology,

blood and marrow transplant, infectious diseases, nutrition support, research, and pharmacokinetics (longitudinal).

Q. What elective rotations are available?

A. Elective rotations offered to residents include: ambulatory care, cardiothoracic surgical ICU, emergency medicine/toxicology, HIV clinic, nephrology, neurosurgery/neurology ICU, nutrition support, pain management, trauma ICU, heart failure, and transplantation. Residents may also choose to complete an elective in one or more of the core rotation areas as well.

Q. What teaching opportunities are available for residents?

A. Residents will gain experience in presenting formal lectures through the residency seminar and ACPE-accredited lecture. Additionally, residents will also take an active role in coordinating the Resident-Student Teaching Conference which involves practice-based teaching for Doctor of Pharmacy students on rotation at AGH. Affiliations with multiple schools of pharmacy exist, including: Duquesne University, the University of Pittsburgh, Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine, and Ohio Northern University. Through the variety of clinical rotations offered, residents will have opportunities to present multiple inservices to physicians, nurses, pharmacists, and other health care professionals. Finally, the Residency Program affords opportunities for platform and poster presentations at local and national meetings.

Q. What research opportunities are available for residents?

A. Residents are required to complete a formal research project. Fundamental of practice-based research are taught followed by selection of an appropriate topic. Depending on the project selected, each resident will work with the content expert (Research Project Mentor) for that area to help facilitate project development. Residents will present a proposal of their project in the Fall prior to submission to the IRB and will have the opportunity to work with a statistician to help enhance the quality of their work. Ultimately, residents will present their results at the Eastern States Conference and will submit a manuscript to a biomedical journal for consideration of publication.

Q. What types of presentations are required?

A. The following presentations are required for the Residency Program: Seminar, Journal Club, Research Project Proposal, Resident-Student Teaching Conference sessions, platform presentation for Eastern States Conference, and a Pharmacist CE Program. The PGY2 hematology-oncology resident will also present monthly Oncology Forums

Q. Is staffing required?

A. PGY1 residents are required to staff three shifts per three-week period. Basically, every 3rd

weekend in addition to one evening shift (Thursday or Friday) prior to the scheduled staffing weekend. PGY2 residents are required to staff two (12-hour) shifts every three weeks (Saturday and Sunday only). Residents will staff on a rotating basis (days and evenings) as well as in different locations throughout the hospital. The pharmacy is decentralized with various satellite locations and uses a computerized physician order entry (CPOE) system.

Q. What meetings are the residents expected to attend?

- A. Residents are expected to attend the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Midyear Clinical Meeting and the Eastern States Conference for Pharmacy Residents and Preceptors (Baltimore, MD).

Compensation and Benefits

Q. What is the resident's salary?

- A. The PGY1 resident is provided an annual stipend of \$33,000. The PGY2 residents have a stipend of \$34,100.

Q. How many days off are residents provided?

- A. The resident is provided 13 paid days off, which includes vacation, personal, sick time, and interview days. This is in addition to days off for professional meetings.

Q. How many holidays do residents work?

- A. The resident is required to work two holidays per year. When the residents works a holiday, another day off will be granted. The compensation day must be used 60 days prior to or after the holiday worked.

Q. Do residents receive support to attend professional meetings?

- A. The Residency Programs provides time off with pay as well as appropriate reimbursement for travel, hotel accommodations, and meals.

Q. Is insurance available?

- A. Residents are entitled to full employee benefits, including medical, dental, vision, prescription drug, disability, and life insurance from the first day of employment.

Q. What resources are available to the residents?

- A. Each resident is provided with a notebook computer which serves as a desktop replacement and can be used during the course of patient care/rounding activities. Residents have full access to all electronic resources of the health sciences library, photocopying, and other pharmacy department and AGH resources available to full-time employees.

Q. Is office space available?

- A. Residents have dedicated office space with a personal desk, computer, and phone. Additional office resources are also provided, including: printer, file cabinets, and references.

Q. Do residents have parking privileges?

- A. Residents are entitled to free on-site parking in the Hemlock Street Garage.

Whom should I contact if I have further questions?

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