



**UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA**

College of Pharmacy

Clinical & Administrative Pharmacy

**University of Georgia
Charlie Norwood VA Medical Center/Mercy Health Center
PGY2 AMBULATORY CARE RESIDENCY FAQs**

1. Where is the program based?

Athens, GA

2. Is the program ASHP-accredited?

Yes! This program has been in existence since 2008 but the residency program director (RPD) has over 20 years' experience as an RPD. The program is a past recipient of the ASHP Residency Excellence Award.

3. What is a graduate certificate?

Residents at the University of Georgia are enrolled as graduate students. Upon successful completion of the program, residents earn a Graduate Certificate in Clinical Pharmacy in addition to the Residency certificate.

4. Does the residency participate in the Personnel Placement Service (PPS) at Midyear?

Yes, we participate in PPS! Contact us through the PPS service or email us to make a personal appointment. Residency candidates must be registered themselves in order to gain access to programs in PPS. Attending Midyear but not registered for PPS? Please contact us to schedule time to discuss the program outside of PPS.

5. Does the residency program participate in the match?

Yes, we do participate in the match. Our National Matching Service (NMS) code is **618265**.

7. Does the residency program participate in PhORCAS, the on-line residency application service?

Yes, interested candidates will need to submit their application through the PhORCAS portal (<https://portal.phorcas.org>) by the application deadline of January 10th.

8. Does the resident get to participate in disease state management?

Yes! There are several pharmacist-run clinics at each of the primary sites, and the resident will take an active role in each.

- At the CBOC, the VA Pharmacist Scope of Practice allowing prescriptive authority lends itself nicely to disease state management of chronic diseases. One example is the Pharmacotherapy Clinic, where patients are referred for a variety of different disease states for optimization of drug therapy and meeting guideline-driven disease state goals. Examples of these disease states include hypertension, diabetes mellitus type 2, dyslipidemia, nicotine dependence, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, heart failure and others.

- At Mercy Health Center, clinical pharmacists operate under a collaborative practice agreement for management of chronic medical conditions. The mission of Mercy Health Center is to provide care to the underserved population. Patients seen in this clinic are men and women typically between the ages of 40 – 65 years, and many are Spanish-speaking. Medication access is a focus at this site.

9. Can I “moonlight” during the residency?

Due to the number of patient care and scholarly opportunities within the program, most residents find that moonlighting is not feasible and contributes to increased stress. However, residents are not prohibited from working in a pharmacy outside the residency program as long as it meets the ASHP Pharmacy Specific Duty Hours Requirements and does not interfere with residency responsibilities. Residents must notify the residency program director of their intent to moonlight and all requests must be approved by the Residency Advisory Committee.

(<https://www.ashp.org/-/media/assets/professional-development/residencies/docs/duty-hour-requirements.pdf>)

10. Are there opportunities for teaching during the residency?

Yes! The residency program takes full advantage of the faculty and opportunities at the UGA College of Pharmacy. There are many opportunities for small and large group teaching, facilitating, developing new materials and precepting students. Please review the Teaching/Academic section of the website for a description of some of these exciting opportunities:

<http://rx.uga.edu/academic-programs/residency-program/>.

11. Can I do an elective rotation that is not on the list of potential clinic sites?

Absolutely! If the opportunity exists, the residency program director will work with the resident to develop a good learning experience for the resident. Some electives offered to residents in the past include the Community Care Clinic (internal medicine resident clinic), Hepatitis C, Addiction Pharmacy, and Anticoagulation at Piedmont Athens Regional, Spinal Cord Injury, as well as other clinics at the Charlie Norwood VA Medical Center or Augusta University Medical Center.

12. How is the residency project selected?

Residency preceptors provide the resident with a list of potential topics with explanation just before or at the beginning of the residency program. Residents may also come up with a topic on their own. However, the topic must be approved by the residency preceptors to ensure the project could reasonably be completed in one year.

13. What other projects and opportunities does the resident participate in during the year?

The resident will complete a new or revise an existing collaborative practice agreement and a business plan; identify and complete a scholarly work(s) for publication; and deliver professional presentations (in addition to the teaching opportunities mentioned above).

14. What professional meetings does the resident attend?

The program does support resident attendance at professional meetings. Residents typically attend the ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting, Southeastern Residency Conference (SERC,) and the ACCP Annual Meeting. Other meetings are available as applicable.

15. Will I have an office and a computer as a resident?

Yes! The resident office is located in the College of Pharmacy. There is also an office and work space at the practice sites. Residents are provided with a desktop and laptop computer and printer/copier access.

16. What holidays are included in the program?

UGA sets the university holiday schedule (http://www.uga.edu/holiday_schedule/) on an annual basis. Additionally, clinics at the VA are closed on Federal holidays. Individual clinic hours may vary; the resident will follow the University schedule unless otherwise noted.

17. What are the staffing requirements of the program?

While there are no traditional dispensing or operations requirement within the program, residents are expected to staff the clinics and deliver teaching activities as assigned. Additional volunteer opportunities exist at Mercy Health Center.

18. What are other benefits of the program?

Health/dental insurance, university holidays, vacation and sick time, professional meeting attendance and travel, and UGA lab coats.