

PAH PGY1 Pharmacy Residency Frequently Asked Questions:

Q. How is pharmaceutical care supported at your institution?

A. Pharmacy is well respected within the health system. We are often leaders and play major roles in committees and other initiatives within the system. Pharmacists with expertise in clinical practice play an integral role in the day-to-day care of the patient.

Q. What clinical and specialized service does your department offer?

A. Clinical pharmacy services offered include: pharmacokinetics, nutrition support, anticoagulation management, critical care, transplant medicine, cardiology, internal medicine, antimicrobial stewardship, and emergency medicine.

Q. Can you tell me about your program, including the number of applicants every year?

A. The Piedmont Atlanta Hospital PGY-1 Pharmacy residency program is a minimum of 52-week program that provides residents with extensive training opportunities in acute care, clinical services and practice management. On the average, we have 50-70 applicants every year for 3 PGY1 positions.

Q. What are the staffing responsibilities?

A. Residents have a staffing commitment in both the central and unit-based areas. Typically, residents staff a minimum of 4 days in a 5-week period. Responsibilities include direct patient care, order verification, distribution, drug information, pharmacokinetics, anticoagulation management, and medication reconciliation. Resident also spend time in the central pharmacy.

Q. What are the weekend responsibilities?

A. Each resident is required to staff every 3rd weekend. During the weekend, resident may cover both the central and clinical services.

Q. Do residents work on any holidays?

A. Residents are required to work 3 holidays. This includes: Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Years and Memorial Day. The residents typically cover the clinical service and/or a central position.

Q. Are residents required to take call?

A. Residents take at-home call. Residents are assigned no more than 3 consecutive nights of call. Residents are NOT required to be in the hospital for call and are granted remote access into the EHR while on call. Residents are assigned a backup preceptor throughout the residency year while on call.

Q. What projects do residents complete during their residency year?

A. Each resident completes a research project during the year in accordance with ASHP requirements. There will be additional projects during the year including completion of a medication use evaluation (MUE) that is presented to P&T, formulary monographs, drug class reviews, etc.

Q. Do residents publish their projects?

A. Although not required, residents are strongly encouraged to either publish their projects or present it as a poster at a national meeting. Residents are required to submit a final manuscript in a publishable format prior to completion of the residency year.

Q. What positions have your residents taken after completion of your program?

A. Some residents continue their training with a PGY2 or fellowship. Many of our residents have gone on to pursue positions in acute care, management, consulting, and managed care.

Q. What teaching opportunities are available?

A. Mercer University College of Pharmacy offers a Teaching Certificate program. Although this is not required, residents with an interest in teaching may choose to participate in this program as a longitudinal elective learning experience. Residents are required to co-precept pharmacy interns, IPPE or APPE students throughout the year.