



THE UNIVERSITY OF
CHICAGO
MEDICINE



University of Chicago Acute Care Occupational Therapy Residency Program

Mission of Occupational Therapy Residency Program: The mission of University of Chicago Medical Center Occupational Therapy Residency program is to provide a professional development opportunity to prepare occupational therapists to become a board certified clinical specialist in the area of physical rehabilitation through didactic education, participation in research, professionally mentored patient care experiences and independent patient care. The programs will emphasize the development of advanced psychomotor skills, theoretical rationales, evidence based techniques, and complex clinical reasoning to enhance the resident's ability to evaluate and treat patients with complex medical conditions in an acute care setting. The program graduate will be an occupational therapist clinical specialist who will be an ongoing resource for the University of Chicago Medical Center and the occupational therapy and medical community by promoting rehabilitation, health, and wellness, for the persons they serve.

The Goals of the Occupational Therapy Residency Programs at UCMC are:

To provide a post professional, specialty defined (physical disabilities) educational experience to occupational therapists who will be better able to:

1. Utilize current evidence- based Occupational Therapy information to make accurate Occupational Therapy plan of care
2. Apply advanced occupational therapy interventions for an occupational therapy episode of care for a variety of conditions treated in the acute care setting
3. Demonstrate the communication/collaboration skills with the members of the multidisciplinary team and the patient, needed to care for a person with disorders of body structure or function, activity limitations or participation restrictions
4. Provide health and wellness or injury prevention programs and/or educational presentations for persons in the community as it relates to movement, development, activities of daily living and other related Occupational Therapy topics
5. Participate in the development of new or innovative Occupational Therapy techniques and the collection of evidence to support the effectiveness of those techniques to enhance the practice of Occupational Therapy in the acute care environment

6. Contribute to the Occupational Therapy profession through, teaching, research, publication and presentations

Curriculum:

Schedule for education curriculum

- 52 weeks/ residency year:
 - 4 weeks orientation
 - 2 weeks non education time at holidays
 - 46 weeks for education.

Note the 6 weeks of non-education time are still included in residency hours, these weeks are 100% patient care and this time is calculated in total residency hours.

Breakdown of teaching hours during the 46 education weeks:

Approximately: 14 hours education, 26 hours treating per week

- Clinical Practice: 40 hours per week during orientation and holidays, 26 hours per week during educational weeks = approx 1410 hours
- Course work Didactic learning and Lab = 3 hours a week x 46 weeks (lectures and labs) = approx 138 hours
- Mentoring = 4.5 hours a week x 46 weeks (one on one with faculty) = minimum 150 (target 207 hours)
- Clinical Investigations = 2 hours a week x 46 weeks (functional measures, tracking of patient scores, research, journal clubs, peer reviews, grand rounds, case reviews) = approx 115 hours
- Specialty Practice Observation = 4 hours/week (MD clinics/surgery) = approx 184 hours

Total hours for program: 1992 scheduled

Outline of Acute Care Residency educational modules:

Principles of Rehabilitation and Clinical Reasoning – 2 weeks

Evidenced Based Practice and Critical Appraisal of Clinical Research – 2 weeks

Orthopedic conditions – 4 weeks

Cardiothoracic Surgery – 7 weeks

General Medicine/Cardiology – 5 weeks

Burns, Plastic Surgery and ENT – 5 weeks

Critical Care – 6 weeks

Neuro/Neurosurgical conditions – 7 weeks

Hematology/Oncology – 6 weeks

Trauma -3 weeks

General Surgery – 3 weeks

Hours:

The majority of on site residency activities occur Monday through Friday between the hours of 7AM and 6 PM. Residents are considered to be exempt employees who are salaried. Their work schedule will be flexible and allow for patient care, training, mentoring, and study time and preparation. Schedules are coordinated by the residency program coordinator and shall not exceed expectation of more than 50 hours /week of direct program participation. There will be additional personal study time required.

Weekend Coverage: Occupational Therapy Residents will be scheduled to work weekends on a rotating basis, approximately one weekend/4 weeks. This time will tracked as patient care hours.

Professional Liability Insurance:

As an employee of the UCMC, a resident is covered by the organization's professional liability policy. This coverage extends only to those activities that are required by their participation in the program. All residents are encouraged to carry their own personal professional liability coverage.

Continuing Education

Other than the \$300 continuing education benefit from the institution (available after probation) there are no additional monies allocated for outside continuing education, tuition reimbursement, travel or parking fess to any observations/ outside facilities, living expenses, licensure fees, or professional dues.

Supplemental work opportunities, covering inpatient weekends are available with additional pay for any resident whose residency expectations are being met. This opportunity is voluntary.

UCMC Occupational Therapy Residency

Paid Time Off (PTO) Guidelines

Occupational Therapy Residents are full time employees of the University of Chicago Medical Center. They will be eligible to take 5 days of paid time off, with the approval of the residency program coordinator and the assistant director. 6 organizational holidays will also be paid; New Year's Day, Memorial Day, 4th of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day. Because of the extensive education and curriculum pieces of the residency positions it is very challenging to provide the residents with extended time (more than 1-2 consecutive work days) off throughout their program.

Paid Time off:

- Paid days off will be scheduled with the approval of the resident's manager and the Occupational Therapy Residency Program Coordinator. Unscheduled days off (such as sick, emergency, etc.) must also be approved by the residency program coordinator and will be deducted from the PTO bank.
- Any unpaid time (beyond the 5 days) will be granted only for an approved emergency leave, by the Therapy Services Director.
- New employees of the Therapy Services Department are encouraged not to take paid days off during their first 6 months of employment. This is considered probationary time.
- All paid time off must be taken within the time frame of the residency program commitment.
- Time off from the residency may be allowed if:
 - Staffing allows adequate patient care coverage
 - Time is requested a minimum of 4 weeks ahead of scheduled day off
 - The resident may need to work additional hours before and after a scheduled day off to assure that all educational pieces and patient care obligations are achieved.

Sick Days:

- All employees are asked to not put patients and co-workers at risk by attending work if they are ill.
- If a resident is sick, they need to call the department 773-702-6891 and leave a voicemail message on the main number prior to 7AM of their scheduled day of work. If possible therapists are also asked to provide information to assist re-scheduling their patients.
- If sick time taken exceeds amount of PTO days (5) or if a pattern is noticed, time off will be discussed with the resident. A doctors' note may be required any time abuse of sick time is suspected

How to Apply:

Eligibility: Occupational Therapists licensed or eligible for licensure, in the state of Illinois, are encouraged to apply. **Only occupational therapists licensed in the state of Illinois will be hired.**

The application must include a letter of intent, curriculum vitae, 3 letters of recommendation, and an online UCMC application.

- The letter of intent must include the following: 1) goals/objectives for the residency program, 2) a summary of prior clinical and educational experience and 3) short and long term goals for an acute care specialty
- Please include current curriculum vitae or resume.
- The 3 letters of recommendation must include two of the following:
 - 1) Current or former supervisor, (if a recent graduate; from a current or former clinical instructor)
 - 2) Instructor/faculty member from an accredited occupational therapy program
 - 3) A healthcare provider with whom the occupational therapist has worked in the past year.

Complete an OT resident application online at:

<http://www.uchospitals.edu/jobs/index.html>

You will be emailed a specific OT resident job description.

Interviews:

Top candidates will be interviewed initially via phone, second interviews will be completed on the University of Chicago Medical Campus in May of the application year. All interviews will include behavioral and clinical questions. Please be prepared to discuss research ideas and to demonstrate patient interactions and treatment plans.

The completed application should be forwarded no later April 1 of the application year to:

Cheryl Esbrook, OTR/L, BCPR
Program Coordinator for Occupational Therapy Professional Development
University of Chicago Medical Center
5841 South Maryland Avenue, MC 1081
Chicago, IL 60637
Voice Mail 773-795-7134
Fax 773-702-5340
e-mail: cheryl.esbrook@uchospitals.edu

Frequently Asked Questions:

1. As a full time employee at the hospital, how is the resident compensated? Is there a separate resident rate during residency hours? Or is the resident on a "normal" salary with additional years of commitment after the residency ends? Is there tuition involved or is it waived by being a full time employee? The residency position is a full time salaried position. The level of compensation is less than a full time treating therapist and the difference in pay is what it costs UCMC to educate the resident. There are not additional years of commitment from the resident or the organization upon completion of the program.
3. How many people are usually accepted into the program each year?
2 occupational therapy resident per year
4. Are the 3 hours of didactic coursework each week in a classroom format? If so, is that during the working week or on the weekend? This is generally presented during the work week, occasionally on a weekend if faculty schedule requires.
5. Who are the faculty of this program and who are the mentors? Faculty and mentors are the same – most are employees of UCMC and for some sections we have additional faculty from outside clinics. During each section the faculty who is teaching is also mentoring the resident for at least 2 hours/week (the resident still gets 4 hours of mentoring)
6. As far as the letters of recommendation, are they to be sent to you directly by the writers or should it come with the rest of my application in the same packet? Either way is acceptable as long as they are sealed and signed on the back by the writer.
7. Do residents work weekends? Yes residents work weekends which is usually one weekend every 4 weeks. Comp days are given for the weekend time and residents are encouraged to take their comp time within the month.
8. Does the University of Chicago affiliate with an Occupational Therapy School and require teaching in the University setting? The University of Chicago does not have an OT program which it is affiliated with for teaching. We do have a medical school at the University of Chicago and the occupational therapy resident are involved in teaching Medical residents from various services as well as nurses and other health professionals. We also take a number of OT students throughout the year for clinical rotations.