

## GENERAL PRACTICE RESIDENCY

### General Information

The George E. Wahlen Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center provides residents with the opportunity to treat a wide variety of patients ranging from young returning combat veterans to World War II veterans. Our program strengths include the treatment of medically complex patients, IV sedation, full mouth rehabilitation, and the placement and restoration of implants. Patients who are eligible for dental treatment have no financial responsibility which allows residents to treatment plan according to patient needs.

### Program Description

The General Practice Residency is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association. It is a comprehensive hospital based General Dentistry Program (GPR) with advanced training in clinical general dentistry. During the one year program, residents will receive training in preventive dentistry, operative dentistry, the placement and restoration of implants, complex fixed and removable prosthodontics, periodontics, endodontics, oral surgery, IV sedation, operating room case protocol and treatment and management of medically complex patients. Due to our patient population, there is no clinical experience in pediatric dentistry or orthodontics.



Off-service assignments include rotations to the operating room assisting the oral surgeons, internal medicine, dermatology, and anesthesiology. These rotations offer the residents the opportunity to enhance their knowledge of the relationship between oral and systemic disease and to broaden their clinical experience in the management of patients with medical and psychiatric conditions.

Dental specialists attend on a weekly basis to assist residents with more complex cases. Specialty coverage includes endodontics, oral surgery, periodontics, and prosthodontics.

Weekly didactic seminars are conducted on Wednesday afternoons in conjunction with the GPR residents at the University of Utah. The seminars include lectures from outside sources and journal reviews. In addition, residents attend monthly Head and Neck Tumor Board at The Huntsman Cancer Institute, and participate in pediatric and orthodontic lectures at Primary Children's Hospital twice a month.

Requirements for completion of the Residency Program include (1) the presentation of a written paper on a topic agreed upon between the director and the resident, (2) a year end case presentation on a particularly interesting case; (3) 90% attendance at the weekly didactic seminars; and (4) presentation of a table clinic at the Utah Dental Association meeting.

### Salary and Other Benefits

Residents' salaries are established annually. Currently, the salary is \$43,400 for the one year residency. Dental jackets, scrubs and laundry services are furnished by the medical center. Residents are eligible to enroll in health and life insurance programs, as well as the Thrift Savings Retirement Plan. They are allowed ten days of annual leave for vacation and to take board examinations. In addition, a total of 10 days of official leave may be approved to attend professional meetings and continuing education courses.

### Dental Service

The main clinic area was built in 2002 and consists of six conventional operatories and one specialty suite. In addition, there is a surgical suite and an older clinic with seven chairs where the dental hygiene students treat patients.

All operatories are equipped with computers, nitrous oxide and digital radiography. Our staff includes three full-time staff dentists, nine dental assistants, one hygienist, one laboratory technician, one receptionist/patient services representative and one administrative assistant.

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### Hours of Duty

All dentists including residents are considered available and responsible for the care and welfare of their patients, 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. Residents are on duty from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on weekdays and for such other periods as may be necessary for the care of patients, academic course work, and staff meetings. Residents are on call every fourth week via a VA issued pager. Staff are available for consultation on after hours calls.



### Application Requirements

All applicants should meet the following requirements:

1. Be a citizen of the United States and a graduate of a dental school accredited by the American Dental Association.
2. Meet the licensure requirements necessary to be licensed to practice in a state or territory of the United States, or in the District of Columbia.

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### How to Apply

This program is a participant in the Postdoctoral Application Support Service (PASS) of the American Association of Dental Schools as well as a member of the National Matching Service. For information concerning application to these services go to the following websites:

PASS:

[www.adea.org](http://www.adea.org)

National Matching Services:

[www.natmatch.com](http://www.natmatch.com)

1. Completed application to this program should be filed with PASS no later than December 19, 2008.
2. Interviews will be granted to applicants after their PASS applications have been received.



## Dental General Practice Residency Program\*

VA Salt Lake City  
Health Care System  
Salt Lake City, Utah

*\*Accredited by the Commission on  
Dental Accreditation*