



PEDIATRIC RESIDENCY

The Department of Pediatrics at the University of South Alabama offers a three-year residency program in an environment that is both stimulating and friendly. Our residency program is designed to prepare the graduate to be a competent pediatrician who can pursue any form of professional development desired after residency. This includes practicing primary care pediatrics in the community as well as pursuing subspecialty training, academic pediatrics and research.

Our program is open and welcoming, providing an atmosphere where housestaff and faculty interact at a level that promotes rapid professional development. The faculty make themselves readily available for consultation and informal discussion of patient-related problems. Regularly scheduled conferences are presented in an open and non-threatening atmosphere optimal for learning and promoting communication between housestaff, faculty and community pediatricians.

We are delighted that you are interested in our residency program. We look forward to meeting you to discuss your future at the University of South Alabama.

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University of South Alabama (USA) Hospitals

The inpatient training program for pediatric residents is housed within **USA Children's & Women's Hospital**. This training facility includes 20 pediatric intensive care beds and 66 inpatient general and subspecialty pediatric beds, all located in a freshly designed and built space, along with 12 outpatient specialty treatment beds.

The Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, a Level III facility serving as the major referral center for southern Alabama and southeast Mississippi, has an average daily census of >75 infants. The NICU has both traditional and private room options. The Newborn Nursery has 50 bassinets and accommodates 4500 admissions per year with many infants rooming-in with their mothers.

The "Treehouse" (children's playrooms) exemplifies our commitment to the comprehensive care of hospitalized children and the community's support for the children's health care. The "Treehouse" is the location of a child-life program which addresses the psychosocial needs of children through games and pleasant activities as well as medical play activities related to the child's hospital experience. There is also a hospital school to address the educational needs of hospitalized children and adolescents, the "Class Act". Families have the option of "taking a break" in specially designed spaces to meet their needs when staying in the hospital with a sick child. There is a nearby Ronald McDonald House for longer term family housing needs.

Pediatric emergency services are provided through the Evaluation Center, the emergency room at USA Children's & Women's Hospital. Patient care and procedural experiences for residents are broad with 35,000 visits per year. Critically ill patients are transported to USA by a specially equipped Neonatal/Infant transport van or a pediatric critical care transport van.

USA Medical Center, located a short distance from USA Children's & Women's Hospital, serves as the regional Trauma Center and Burn Center and provides critical and basic care inpatient services for adults.

USA Strada Patient Care Center

In 2017, all pediatric outpatient services moved into a new facility, the USA Strada Patient Care Center (PCC). This facility was designed from the ground up to provide ready access to families and children. With bright interior spaces, accommodating examination rooms, and one-stop service, the PCC provides outstanding space for serving the community and education of residents and medical students.

Residency training in ambulatory pediatric care is accomplished in the pediatric primary care portion of the PCC. This location provides close access to the emergency and inpatient pediatric services. Interaction with supervising faculty is facilitated by a well-equipped work area.

The PCC, also houses all the Pediatric subspecialty clinics adjacent to the primary care space. In addition to convenience for families to receive all their pediatric care in one location, this provides easy access for residents to all faculty for consultation during all rotations.

Continuity Clinic

Each resident has continuity clinic ½ day per week. The children in continuity clinic are followed for the entire duration of the resident's training. Well children are followed for normal health maintenance, and children with chronic illnesses are followed concurrently with pediatric subspecialists. The patients are seen by their regular resident physician for a high proportion of their visits. This experience is designed to simulate the team practice of primary care pediatricians. Residents follow 100 or more families through the continuity clinic during training.

Residency Education in Pediatrics

Pediatric residency education at USA is designed to prepare residents for either general practice or subspecialty training. The flexible nature of the subspecialty and elective schedule in all 3 years permits ample opportunity for subspecialty exposure and supervised research activity for residents interested in pursuing an academic career. There are twelve positions at each level of training as well as two 4th year chief resident positions. First year positions are filled through the National Residency Matching Program (NRMP). Applications are accepted through the Electronic Residency Application System (ERAS)

PGY-1 The first-year resident functions as the primary physician for children on the pediatric inpatient service, the nursery, the clinic and the emergency room. The PGY-1 resident is responsible for the initial history and physical examination, developing an assessment and management plan, performing general pediatric diagnostic and therapeutic procedures, communicating with parents and consulting services, and teaching medical students on pediatric clerkships.

PGY-2 The second-year resident assumes a more supervisory role and a more intensive involvement in the instruction of medical students. The PGY-2 resident advances towards independence in the management of routine ambulatory and inpatient pediatric problems and begins to develop expertise in subspecialty areas, including pediatric critical care.

PGY-3 The third-year resident is the leader of the pediatric inpatient teams. The PGY-3 resident supervises other residents on the pediatric service, and junior and senior medical students and

physician assistant students on pediatric clerkships. It is anticipated the PGY-3 resident demonstrates progressive independence in the assessment and management of complex problems in pediatrics.

Chief Residents The chief residents are selected based on outstanding ability in patient care, teaching and leadership. The Chief Resident supervises the pediatric housestaff patient care and organizes duty schedules as well as participating in residency administration.

Conferences In addition to morning report each morning for the inpatient teams, there are three educational conferences per week for residents. Pediatric Grand Rounds occur monthly for the entire department. Most rotations have additional didactic sessions built into the experience.

Core Curriculum Monthly modules focused on a specific area of pediatrics consist of weekly reading assignments with online study guides, followed by a case conference to practice applying the studied material. Each module is followed by a practice examination. The study processes built into the Core Curriculum are designed to optimize retention and ability to retrieve and apply newly learned material. Monthly resident-run Journal Clubs and board review conferences focus on each month's Core Curriculum topic. A question bank is available for individual study.

Scholarship A scholarly project is required of all residents. This project can be a traditional research project, a quality improvement project or an advocacy project. This mentored experience begins in the first year and culminates with a research presentation to the department in the third year. Many projects are accepted for presentation at regional and national pediatric research meetings.

Individualized Curriculum Six months out of the three years of residency focus on each individual resident's career goals. Three months are focused on adding a variety of selected pediatric subspecialty experiences. These are planned for by each resident with next career steps in mind. These experiences are in addition to the required subspecialty experiences. Residents can engage in more than one subspecialty in a month. The other three months are elective experiences, also designed to help each resident be best prepared for fulfilling their career goals. The elective experiences can be additional traditional rotations or unique educational experiences, including pediatric global health.

Graduates

On average, 55% of our graduates go into primary care practice settings including serving in traditional group and private practices, underserved areas, rural areas and international settings. 45% successfully pursue subspecialty fellowship training in a wide variety of areas. Over the past 5 years residents have matched into fellowships in Cardiology, Child Abuse and Neglect, Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics, Endocrinology, Gastroenterology, Genetics, Hematology-Oncology, Medical Informatics, Neonatology, Nephrology, and Pediatric Critical Care.

Schedule of Rotations

	PGY-1	PGY-2	PGY-3
Inpatient Pediatrics	4	2	3
PICU		2	1
NICU	1	1	1
Adolescent Medicine	1		
Developmental-Behavioral		1	
Newborn Nursery	1	1	
Clinic	1		2
Community Peds / Advocacy	1		
ER	2		1
Subspecialty	1	3	
Individualized Curriculum Elective		1	2
Individualized Curriculum Subspecialty		1	2
Vacation (weeks)	4	4	4

Salaries for 2017-2018 Academic Year

1st year residents \$50,844
2nd year residents \$52,261
3rd year residents \$54,344

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