



## 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 pediatrician-in-training to practice effective primary care pediatrics in the community. However, our program also provides flexibility, allowing those interested in subspecialty training, academic pediatrics and research the necessary background to successfully pursue their professional goals.

Our program is open and friendly, 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.

Franklin Trimm, M.D.  
Director, Pediatric Residency Program

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Chair, Department of Pediatrics

### • 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 18 pediatric intensive care beds and 68 inpatient general and subspecialty pediatric beds, all located in a newly 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 southwest Mississippi, with an average daily census of >90 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" into 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. Critically ill patients are transported to USA by a specially equipped Neonatal/Infant transport van or a pediatric critical care transport van.

### • USA Children's Medical Center, USA Children's Specialty Center, and the Pediatric Developmental Medicine Center

Residency training in ambulatory pediatric care is accomplished at the Children's Medical Center, located at the USA Springhill Avenue campus. This location provides close access to the emergency and inpatient pediatric services. The 23 patient examination rooms are available for residents' continuity clinics and acute care clinics. The Children's Medical Center is staffed and administered entirely by the Department of Pediatrics.

The Children's Specialty Center, consisting of 3 unique areas, and the Pediatric Developmental Medicine Center are ambulatory facilities for Pediatric subspecialty and team clinics. Each has a large physician work area which facilitates resident-faculty discussion and teaching.

### • 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 simulates the usual practice of private 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 private 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 a 4<sup>th</sup> year chief resident position. 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 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 on the inpatient, clinic, emergency room and nursery services as well as a more intensive involvement in the instruction of medical students. The PGY-2 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 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 demonstrates progressive independence in the assessment and management of complex problems in pediatrics.

**Chief Resident** The chief resident is selected on the basis of 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. These include Grand Rounds, Case Conference and Residency Education Conference. The latter is dedicated to rounding out residency training by providing a resident-only forum for Journal Club, organ system review and practical topics pertinent to the practice of pediatrics.

**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. Resident participation is monitored with highest levels of activity rewarded with credit toward the purchase of pediatric textbooks.

**Research** A research project is required of all residents. 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 a regional pediatric research meeting.

### • Schedule

	PL 1	PL 2	PL 3
Clinic / Community	2		2
Newborn Nursery	1	1	
Subspecialty	1	2	1
Ward	4	2	3
PICU		2	1
NICU	1	1	1
ER	2		1
Individualized Curriculum - Subspecialty		2	1
Individualized Curriculum - Elective		1	2
Development / Behavior		1	
Adolescent Medicine	1		
Vacation (weeks)	4	4	4

### • Salaries for 2014-2015 Academic Year

1<sup>st</sup> year residents \$48,190  
2<sup>nd</sup> year residents \$49,795  
3<sup>rd</sup> year residents \$51,686

### • Contact Us

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### • More information

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