



## 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 pursue their professional goals.

Our training program is open and friendly, providing an atmosphere where housestaff and faculty interact at a level that promotes rapid professional growth. 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.

Loran T. Clement, M.D.  
Chairman, Department of Pediatrics

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

### • 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 10 pediatric intensive care beds and 72 general and subspecialty pediatric beds.

The Intensive Care Nursery, a Level III facility serving as the major referral center for southern Alabama and southwest Mississippi, has 42 intensive care nursery beds and 26 intermediate care beds. The Newborn Nursery has 50 bassinets and accommodates 4500 admissions per year with many infants rooming-in with their mothers.

The "Treehouse" (children's playroom) 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.

Pediatric emergency services are provided through the Evaluation Center, an 11 bed 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 Disease Management 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 and the Pediatric Disease Management 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 schedules 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 150 or more families through the continuity clinic during training.

### • Residency Training in Pediatrics

Pediatric residency training at USA is designed to prepare residents for either private practice or subspecialty training. The flexible nature of the subspecialty and elective schedule in the 2nd and 3rd years permits ample opportunity for subspecialty exposure and supervised research activity for residents interested in pursuing an academic career. There are up to nine 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)

**PL-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 PL-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 instructing medical students on pediatric clerkships.

**PL-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 PL-2

should advance towards independence in the management of routine ambulatory and inpatient pediatric problems and begin to develop expertise in subspecialty areas, including pediatric critical care.

**PL-3** The third year resident is the leader of the pediatric inpatient and nursery teams. The PL-3 supervises PL-1's, PL-2's, family practice, obstetric and psychiatric residents on the pediatric service, and junior and senior medical students and physician assistant students on pediatric clerkships. It is anticipated the PL-3 will demonstrate progressive independence in the assessment and management of complex problems in pediatrics.

**Chief Resident** A chief resident is selected on the basis of outstanding ability in patient care, teaching and leadership. The chief resident supervises the pediatric housestaff inpatient care and organizes pediatric conferences 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 Training Conference. The first two are attended by faculty, residents, medical students and interested community physicians. 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. Maintaining a reasonable attendance rate to conferences is expected of all residents.

**Core Curriculum** Monthly modules focused on a specific area of pediatrics consist of weekly reading assignments with online study guides and quizzes, followed by a case conference to practice applying the studied material. Journal Club and a board review session related to the same content occur during the month as well. Resident participation is monitored with highest levels of activity rewarded with pediatric textbooks.

**Research** A research project is required of all residents. This guided 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.

### • Yearly Schedule for Pediatric Residents

	PL 1	PL 2	PL 3
Clinic	2		2
Newborn Nursery	2	1	
Subspecialty		3	4
Ward	4	2	3
PICU		2	
NICU	1	2	1
ER	2		1
Community Pediatrics		1	
Development / Behavior		1	
Adolescent Medicine	1		
Elective			1
Vacation (weeks)	4	4	4
Call (average interval in days)	4	5	7

### • Yearly Salaries for 2010-2011 Academic Year

1<sup>st</sup> year residents \$45,656  
2<sup>nd</sup> year residents \$47,258  
3<sup>rd</sup> year residents \$49,011

### • Contact Us

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### • More information

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