Pediatric Optometric Residency

Children’s Mercy Hospital
Section of Ophthalmology
2401 Gillham
Kansas City, MO
64108

816-234-3046

Fax: 815-855-1793
PROGRAM MISSION

The Residency Program in Pediatric Optometry at Children’s Mercy Hospitals and Clinics provides qualified optometrists with advanced clinical education in the diagnosis and management of eye and vision problems encountered in pediatric eye care. These include, but are not limited to: amblyopia, strabismus, ocular pathology, refractive errors, developmental delays and premature birth.
Dear Applicant:

The residency in pediatric optometry is based in the ophthalmology section of the hospital, where there are 3 clinic locations, 4 pediatric ophthalmologists, 1 pediatric ophthalmology fellow, 2 ophthalmology residents, 3 optometrists, 1 optometric resident, and 1 - 2 optometric student externs.

The primary objectives of the residency are to increase the resident’s examination techniques and skills in seeing pediatric patients, including infants, toddlers and older children (up to age 18 years). The patient’s diagnosis include: retinopathy of prematurity, aphakia, trauma, accommodative esotropia, amblyopia, and routine refractive errors. Emphasis on developing a treatment plan for these conditions and following their progress is promoted. Recognizing conditions that are amblyogenic, such as ptosis, anisometropia, and strabismus is also emphasized.

The residency is affiliated with the University of Missouri – St Louis College of Optometry, and is more oriented toward advanced pediatric primary care. There is no vision therapy or orthoptics. UMSL does have a pediatric residency that is vision therapy based and is located at the school.

In addition to the clinic duties, the resident is required to attend bi monthly lectures, present journal articles at quarterly journal club, participate in “residency days” at UMSL, with a case report presentation.

The application procedure and resident responsibilities are reviewed in the following pages.

Please let me know any other questions you may have, via email (thug@cmh.edu) or regular mail:

Timothy Hug, OD
Children’s Mercy Hospitals and Clinics
Section of Ophthalmology
2401 Gillham
Kansas City, MO 64108

Good luck with your future plans in optometry.

Sincerely,

Timothy Hug, OD, FAAO
APPLICATION PROCEDURES

A. All applicants must complete and return application forms by January 15. Supporting Documents should be submitted to Dr Timothy Hug. This program uses the Optometric Residency Matching Service. Applicants must complete the ORMS application and Forward it to the ORMS as directed in the application. Applicants are responsible for Ensuring that all supporting documentation is submitted to each entity involved e.g. the College, ORMS, and the residency site if required.

B. Applicant must have earned an O.D. degree, or will have earned such a degree by the time of matriculation from a school/college of optometry accredited by the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education.

C. Applicant will furnish an official transcript from his/her school/college of optometry. An applicant should have a cumulative grade point average greater than 3.0 on a 4.0 scale in the professional optometric curriculum.

D. Applicant must pass all parts of the National Board of Examiners in Optometry examinations required for Missouri license and furnish official transcripts when available. If accepted, the resident is expected to obtain a Missouri optometry license.

E. Three letters of recommendation are required. One letter must be from the chief academic officer or clinical director of the institution where the applicant earned the Doctor of Optometry. Two letters must be from full-time faculty members who have been most responsible for the clinical education of the applicant.

F. A brief letter of interest stating reasons for applying to this program.

G. A personal interview will be required, however all applicants may not be granted an interview.

H. Children’s Mercy Hospitals and Clinics affirm that all residency candidates will be evaluated without regard to sex, race, color, creed, national origin or disabilities.
CURRICULUM

The curriculum of the program utilizes the mission, goals, and objectives of the residency as its basic elements. The residency program is designed to provide the resident experience in the delivery of pediatric primary eye care to patients from ages 6 mos to 18 years. The resident will perform a minimum of 1000 examinations on patients of this age group, including history, motility, refractive state, and ocular health exams, by age appropriate methods. These examinations may be by direct care, observed care, or precepted care.

**Clinical Curriculum:** The resident will participate in clinic, examining patients 4 ½ days per week. Clinic begins at 9:00 am and ends at 5:00 pm. The resident will be responsible for examining the patient, performing necessary clinical testing, formulating a treatment plan and discussing the treatment plan with the patient and parent. The resident will present their clinical findings to either the resident supervisor or to an additional optometric staff member. The optometric staff will discuss the decision and treatment plan prior to the resident discussing with the patient or parent.

Twice a month, the resident will rotate to the South Campus and see patients with the optometric staff there.

**Academic Curriculum:** The resident will have ½ day per week to perform academic activities. These include but are not limited to: completion of patient care logs; development of case reports, papers, posters or lectures.

The resident will attend the lecture series twice a month presented by the pediatric ophthalmology department (usually Thursday mornings at 7:30).

The resident will attend the monthly hospital based pediatric resident lecture series (usually Tuesday at 12:30)

The resident will participate in the quarterly journal club, and bring a relevant article to discuss.

The resident will participate in the weekly journal discussion with the optometric student. At the resident supervisor’s request, the resident will lead the student discussion (monthly).

The resident will be required to purchase or have available for reference the Clinical practice guidelines for the AOA in pediatric patient care, and the American Academy Of Ophthalmology pediatric series.
STIPEND AND BENEFITS

The residency program is fifty two weeks in length from July 1 to June 30. The stipend is $30,000.00 which will be paid on a biweekly basis by Children’s Mercy Hospital and Clinics. The resident will have the opportunity to purchase health insurance through the Children’s Mercy’s group plan. Professional liability insurance is provided by Children’s Mercy Hospital and Clinics. A continuing education allowance is also provided by Children’s Mercy Hospital and Clinics,

LEAVE POLICY

One week of educational leave, one week of sick leave, two weeks of vacation leave are available with prior approval of the Supervisor. Additional educational leave may be allowed at the discretion of the above individual.

SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY

The resident is required to write a paper based upon original research, literature review, or a clinical case suitable for publication in a refereed optometric journal. A poster presentation at the Academy of Optometry or other national meeting is another option to fulfill this requirement.
CRITERIA FOR COMPLETION OF RESIDENCY

A. The resident is required to deliver clinical services at a level which is satisfactory to the Optometric Residency Supervisor of the Children’s Mercy Hospitals. The office is open from 8:30 A.M. until patient care is completed, usually around 5:30 P.M., Monday through Friday.

B. The resident will be required to keep a record of patient contacts. Cases will be reviewed periodically by the Optometric Residency Supervisor at Children’s Mercy Hospitals and Clinics, or the Director of Residency Programs of the University of Missouri St Louis – College of Optometry.

C. The resident will be required to write a paper based on original research, literature review or a clinical case, or poster for publication in an acceptable professional journal, or national optometric meeting.

D. The resident will be expected to perform in a professional manner in the delivery of patient care services and to observe those proprieties of conduct and courtesies that are consistent with the rules and regulations governing Children’s Mercy Hospitals and Clinics.

E. The resident will be expected to assist in the continuing education programs provided at the department of ophthalmology, Children’s Mercy Hospitals and Clinics.

F. The resident will be required to participate in and complete the requirements set forth in the curriculum.

G. Upon successful completion of the Residency Program, the Residency Supervisor and the Director of Residency Programs will recommend the granting of certification to the Vice President of Academic Affairs.

H. Any resident accepted for training can be dismissed, without receiving a certificate of completion, for infractions of the rules and regulations of the University of Missouri St Louis College of Optometry or, or for any action that jeopardizes the safety of patients, personnel, or physical facilities.

I. Upon evidence of satisfactory performance in meeting all requirements of the program, the resident will be awarded a Certificate of Completion.