

**GENERAL PRACTICE RESIDENCY (GPR) PROGRAM  
(2024-2025)**

**SPONSORED BY THE  
UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY  
Louisville, Kentucky**

**INTRODUCTION**

The University of Louisville General Practice Residency program affords an opportunity for the recent graduate to obtain advanced education and training in general dental practice in a hospital environment with full-supporting medical and laboratory facilities. The general practice dental residency offers outstanding opportunities for residents to familiarize themselves with other aspects of the hospital health service and to work in close relationship with other members of the healthcare team. A broad-spectrum patient population is available for treatment. This setting will enhance residents' abilities and confidence in fully treating the total patient. Development of high professional standards in ethics, patient centered care, critical thinking and community service is stressed.

Up to six positions are offered for this 12-month postdoctoral general dentistry training program. An optional 2<sup>nd</sup> year curriculum is available for up to two qualified candidates on a competitive basis. The general practice residency program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation and has been granted the accreditation status of approval without reporting requirements. The Commission is a specialized accrediting body recognized by the US Department of Education and can be contacted at (312) 440-4653 or at 211 E. Chicago Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611. The Commission on Dental Accreditation has accredited the postdoctoral program in general practice residency; however, this education is not one of the American Dental Association's recognized dental specialty areas. Therefore, dentists graduating from this program cannot announce that they are specialists, as recognized by the American Dental Association.

**OVERALL GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

The overall goals of this program are to:

1. Act as the primary dental care provider for individuals and groups of patients. This includes providing emergency and multidisciplinary comprehensive oral health care; providing patient focused care that is coordinated by the general practitioner; and directing health promotion and disease prevention activities.
2. Plan and provide multidisciplinary oral health care for a wide variety of patients including patients with special needs.
3. Manage the delivery of oral health care by applying concepts of patient and practice management and quality improvement that are responsive to a dynamic health care environment.
4. Function effectively within the hospital and other health care environments.
5. Function effectively within interdisciplinary health care teams.
6. Apply scientific principles to learning and oral health care. This includes using critical thinking, evidence or outcomes-based clinical decision-making, and technology-based information retrieval systems.
7. Utilize the values of professional ethics, lifelong learning, patient centered care, and adaptability.
8. Understand the oral health needs of communities and engage in community service.

## **SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES:**

### **General:**

Act as a primary oral health care provider:

1. Providing emergency and multidisciplinary comprehensive oral health care
2. Obtaining informed consent
3. Functioning effectively with interdisciplinary health care teams, including consultation and referral
4. Providing patient-focused care that is coordinated by the general practitioner
5. Directing health promotion and disease prevention activities

Assess, diagnose, and plan for the provision of multidisciplinary oral health care for a wide variety of patients including patients with special needs.

Manage the delivery of patient-focused oral health.

### **Operative dentistry:**

Restore intra and extra coronal defects in primary and permanent teeth, including endodontically treated teeth, with a range of materials and methods.

### **Restoration of the edentulous space:**

Treat the partially edentulous patient with fixed, removable and/or implant supported prostheses; treat the completely edentulous patient with removable and/or implant supported prostheses.

### **Periodontal therapy:**

Diagnose and treat mild to moderate periodontal disease using non-surgical and surgical methods, and evaluating the results of those treatments. Manage advanced periodontal disease and perform periodontal maintenance.

### **Endodontic therapy:**

Diagnose and treat pain of pulpal origin by performing non-surgical and surgical endodontic therapy in the permanent dentition.

### **Oral surgery:**

Perform non-surgical and surgical extractions, as well as 3<sup>rd</sup> molar extractions. Perform pre-prosthetic surgery, biopsies, and excision of oral mucosal lesions. Function efficiently in an operating room environment.

### **Dental emergencies:**

Evaluate and treat patients with dental emergencies, including post-operative complications from dental treatment, pain, infection and/or trauma.

### **Pain and anxiety control:**

Provide control of pain and anxiety in the conscious adult dental patient using behavior management techniques and pharmacological techniques (local anesthesia, oral/nitrous oxide anxiolysis, as well as moderate IV conscious sedation).

**Medical emergencies:**

Recognize, diagnose, and provide initial treatment for medical emergencies that may occur in the dental office.

**Oral mucosal diseases:**

Diagnose and manage common oral pathologic conditions.

**Temporomandibular disorders, orofacial pain and occlusal disorders:**

Diagnose and manage temporomandibular disorders, orofacial pain and occlusal disorders.

**Ethics:**

Apply the principles of ethical reasoning, ethical decision making and professional responsibility as they pertain to patient care, and practice management.

**Practice management:**

Apply the principles of practice management to everyday dental practice.

**Cranio-Maxillofacial Radiology:**

Gain expertise in the acquisition and interpretation of digital radiographs and computed tomography

**RESIDENCY PROGRAM****Program Length:**

The GPR Program is sponsored by the University of Louisville School of Dentistry and consists of **12 months** of advanced dental education in clinical dentistry, which is conducted primarily within an ambulatory dental clinic environment. **An optional second year** GPR is available on a competitive basis for up to two candidates and is dependent upon qualifications. Information about this second year is available upon request.

**PROGRAM DATES:**

The 2024-2025 the program begins July 1 and concludes June 30. **In general, entering residents are required to report in the last week of June for UHL Hospital orientation and help in patient transition.**

**DIDACTICS**

Training and instruction are given in the following areas through lectures, seminars, patient care conferences, continuing education programs and formal courses taught by members of the University and hospital faculty.

General Dentistry

Hospital Dentistry

Pharmacology

Oral Pathology

Oral Medicine

Occlusal and Joint Dysfunction

Ethics and Professionalism

Physical Diagnosis and Assessment

Implant Dentistry

Oral Surgery

Endodontics

Periodontics

Fixed and Removable Prosthodontics

Emergency Dental Care

IV Sedation

## **ASSIGNMENTS:**

### **CLINICAL DENTISTRY (42 weeks; includes time spent at the Ambulatory Care Center Dental Clinic, on Oral Surgery, on Pediatric Dentistry, & at the Miller Clinic)**

During this rotation, residents provide comprehensive and emergency dental care to both hospital and ambulatory patients at the University of Louisville Ambulatory Care Building, University Hospital, as well as the Richard L Miller Oral Healthcare Clinic. This clinical experience is spread out over the full program length and effectively covers the spectrum of general dental care including fixed and removable prosthodontics, periodontics, endodontics, oral surgery, emergency oral care and advanced restorative dentistry. This training and experience in both hospital and ambulatory patient populations is expected to increase the recent graduate's ability to interact with other health care professionals when coordinating patient care and function effectively in a hospital setting.

### **ANESTHESIOLOGY (2 weeks):**

For a period of two weeks, General Practice residents are assigned to the Anesthesia Service at the University of Louisville Hospital and are under the supervision of faculty of the School of Medicine. During this rotation, residents become familiar with techniques and philosophy of general anesthesia. Patient evaluation is an integral part of this training experience, and residents gain experience in determining the patient's risk classification based upon medical history and physical evaluation. Residents also receive experience in placement of intravenous lines, intubation, monitoring the anesthetized patient and patient recovery.

### **FAMILY MEDICINE (2 weeks):**

General Practice residents are required to complete a two-week rotation under the direct supervision of faculty and upper-level residents in the Department of Family Medicine and Geriatrics. The residents receive training and experience in the management of the hospital inpatients, including performing an appropriate history and physical, interpretation of laboratory studies, prescribing treatment and medications and preparation of a hospital record.

### **CARDIOLOGY (2 weeks)**

General Practice residents will spend one week on the inpatient cardiology service and one week on the heart failure service. The residents will gain an enhanced knowledge of cardiac anatomy, physiology, and pharmacology. There will be emphasis on interpretation of lab studies, as well as other diagnostic modalities such as echocardiography, ECG, cardiac catheterization, etc. There will also be emphasis on understanding the surgical modalities used to treat cardiac disease, such as bypass, valve repair and replacement, TAVR, and LVAD, among others. Attention will also be given to understanding the consequences of failing and infected heart valves, dental clearance for cardiac patients, and arriving at medical risk assessments.

### **RADIATION ONCOLOGY (2 weeks)**

Residents will spend two weeks gaining a better understanding of how radiation fields and doses are determined, learning how decisions are made regarding the need for adjuvant chemotherapy or radiation after oncologic surgery, as well as gaining an understanding of the pharmacology of chemotherapy. They will also witness how these treatment modalities are administered and learn how the potential complications of these treatments are managed. Lastly, they will observe and act

upon potential areas where effective communication can be established or enhanced between oral healthcare providers and oncology providers to improve overall patient care.

#### ENT/HEAD & NECK SURGERY (2 weeks)

General Practice residents will spend two weeks on this service, with the primary goals being to enhance their understanding of surgical intervention for head and neck cancer, learn more about the various treatment modalities including chemoradiation, as well as to learn how these patients are managed from a multidisciplinary standpoint. There will be time spent in the operating room, as well as in the clinic. They will also observe and act upon potential areas where effective communication can be established or enhanced between oral healthcare providers and oncology providers to improve overall patient care.

#### ORAL SURGERY (8 weeks):

This eight-week service rotation in oral surgery provides training in oral surgical procedures which a dentist in general practice should be capable of performing competently. These include extraction of impacted and erupted teeth, removal of fractured teeth, soft tissue and bony biopsies and pre-prosthetic surgeries. Clinical training occurs in the dental clinic of the Ambulatory Care Building and University of Louisville Hospital under the supervision of faculty and senior residents in the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. Residents participating in the oral surgery service are required to attend trauma rounds, grand rounds, and to participate in daily service rounds for in-patients.

#### RYAN WHITE COMMUNITY SERVICE ROTATION (2 weeks)

The University of Louisville School of Dentistry established the Richard L Miller Oral Health Clinic in Elizabethtown, KY in 2002 and is supported by the Ryan White Part F Community Based Dental Partnership Program, a federal program created to reduce dental care access disparities for persons living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) through education and training of students and residents in underserved communities. The Richard Miller Clinic is newly renovated with seven operatories and updated technology including digital intraoral and panoramic radiography, rotary endodontics, and the CEREC CAD/CAM system. GPR residents each provide general dental care at the Miller Clinic approximately 15 days per year in this community service experience.

#### PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY (2 weeks)

Two weeks will be spent on the University of Louisville Pediatric Dentistry service. Clinical and didactic experience will be gained in the following areas: growth and development, restorative care, interceptive orthodontics, preventive care, and pediatric dental care under sedation and general anesthesia. Residents will participate both in clinics, as well as lectures while on their service.

### **FACILITIES**

#### The University of Louisville Health Sciences Center

The University of Louisville Health Sciences Center is composed of Schools of Medicine, Dentistry, Nursing, and Public Health and Information Sciences, instructional and research facilities for each, a Health Sciences Library, University Hospital, the Ambulatory Care Center and the James Brown

Cancer Center. In the immediate area, the following facilities contribute to and/or utilize University resources: Norton's Children's Hospital, Jewish Hospital, the Red Cross Center, and the Lions Eye Institute.

1. AMBULATORY CARE BUILDING: The Ambulatory Care Building is physically connected to the University of Louisville Hospital and is adjacent to the School of Dentistry. The facility contains out-patient medical services as well as the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and General Dentistry Clinics. These clinics serve as primary care providers.

The teaching staff is comprised of faculty members of the Schools of Medicine and Dentistry. The General Dentistry clinic is staffed by a clinic supervisor, three full-time dental assistants, and three clerical support staff.

The general practice residency program utilizes seven operatories in the Dental Clinic in the Ambulatory Care Building. All general dental operatories are fully equipped and designed for four-handed sit-down dentistry and expanded types of general practice.

2. UNIVERSITY of LOUISVILLE HOSPITAL: Through an affiliation agreement, the primary in-patient teaching facility of the University of Louisville is leased and managed by UL Health and is known as University of Louisville Hospital. The medical and teaching staff of UofL Hospital is composed solely of faculty of the Schools of Medicine and Dentistry. As a regional tertiary care facility this 404-bed academic hospital is in the heart of the Louisville Metro providing the community with a renowned trauma center and nationally recognized stroke and cancer centers.

### **APPLYING TO THE PROGRAM:**

Criteria for selection of residents include:

1. Graduate of a U.S. or Canadian dental school accredited by CODA
  - i Application submitted via ADEA PASS portal
  - ii Evidence of satisfactory completion of Parts I and II NBDE or INBDE
  - iii Three letters of recommendation, two of which must come from individuals well acquainted with your clinical experience
  - iv Personal essay
  - v Personal interview
2. Foreign dental graduates are considered based upon the following criteria:
  - i Application submitted via ADEA PASS portal; transcripts **must** include World Educational Services (WES) or Education Credential Evaluators (ECE) equivalency report
  - ii Evidence of satisfactory completion of Parts I and II NBDE or INBDE
  - iii Three letters of recommendation, two of which must come from individuals well acquainted with your clinical experience
  - iv Personal essay
  - v Personal interview
  - vi TOEFL scores: **minimum** total score of 94, with "good" or "high" in **each** category
  - vii If you have not practiced **clinical dentistry** within the previous **24 months**, you must pass a dental bench exam to be given at the University of Louisville School of Dentistry. A current dental license from another U.S. state or Canadian province may negate the need for a bench exam pending the GPR program's

review of that state's or province's requirements for licensing foreign trained dentists

viii Bench exam components:

- Class II cavity preparation (30 min)
- Class III cavity preparation (30 min)
- Crown preparation on a molar (45 min)
- Endodontic access on an extracted molar (45 min)
- Removable partial denture design (30 min)
- Fabrication of custom impression tray for a complete denture (both arches; 80 min)

### **SPECIAL ADMISSION CIRCUMSTANCES:**

On rare occasion, and aside from **must** having graduated from dental school, candidates may be considered for admission into the program if there are extenuating circumstances that interfere with satisfying the above outlined requirements. These will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis, and the final decision will be at the discretion of the Program Director and the Associate Dean of Graduate Education.

### **INTERVIEW:**

Applicants who meet the above criteria are invited for a personal interview. An overall description of the program and facilities is given to the candidates. Personal interviews are then conducted by the faculty and the applicants are ranked and positions offered. The program does not participate in the Match and candidates are required to withdraw from the Match if they accept a position. A copy of their letter of withdrawal is maintained in their file. All positions are offered well in advance of the Match.

The GPR program accepts applications processed through PASS provided by ADEA. Information on the process can be found at <http://www.adea.org/PASSapp/>

**In order to meet the application deadline, completed PASS documents must be submitted to the PASS office no later than October 1, 2023.**

Application materials can be obtained from your dental school or by contacting:

PASS  
1625 Massachusetts Avenue N.W., Suite 600  
Washington, D.C. 20036-2212  
Telephone: (202) 332-8795

A full Kentucky state licensure or a Kentucky limited student/resident license is required prior to the July 1 program start date to meet admission requirements.

### **CALL**

Residents participate in after-hours call for University Hospital approximately 60 days throughout the year. The most common emergencies seen in the Emergency Room are stabilization of avulsed and partially avulsed teeth, dento-alveolar fractures, and dental infections.

## **FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

### **Stipend**

The 2024-2025 PGY 1 stipend is \$61,867.43 a year plus benefits. The PGY 2 stipend is 64,179.69. UL provides malpractice and disability insurance and offers medical insurance for single and family coverage at group rates.

### **Moonlighting**

Moonlighting is permitted on a limited basis with the written permission of the program director. The resident must be licensed in the State of Kentucky and carry their own malpractice insurance.

## **HEALTH POLICIES**

Hepatitis B immunization and an annual TB test are required and furnished free of charge to all residents. The Campus Health Services Office provides minor urgent medical care and immunizations. Personal counseling is also available.

## **DISCLAIMER**

The contents of this prospectus represent the most current information available at the time of publication. It is possible that changes may be made with respect to this information without prior notice. Thus, the provisions of this prospectus are not to be regarded as an irrevocable contract between the school and the resident.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

For information concerning application status or additional information please contact:

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