



**Psychiatry Residency Program Description**  
**University of Missouri**  
**Columbia, Missouri**

The following information has been excerpted from the program Residency Manual and is provided as source of information on the application, interview and selection process of the Psychiatry Residency Program at the University of Missouri. Program information is also available on our web page: [www.umcpsychiatry.com](http://www.umcpsychiatry.com). Additional questions may be directed to the residency coordinator: Barbara Morris via e-mail: [morrisb@health.missouri.edu](mailto:morrisb@health.missouri.edu).

Policy on Selection of Residency Candidates

Interviews will be conducted during the months of November, December, and January on specific days set aside by the Resident Selection Committee who conducts all interviews.

I. Eligibility

a. Candidates for the residency in Psychiatry at the University of Missouri-Columbia must meet the following criteria\*:

i. Graduated from:

1. A medical school in the US or Canada accredited by the LCME; or
2. A college of osteopathic medicine in the US accredited by the American Osteopathic Association (AOA); or
3. A medical school outside of the US and Canada and has a valid ECFMG certification.

ii. Must be eligible for Limited or Full License by the Missouri Board for the Healing Arts

iii. Must be US citizen, permanent resident (possess a Green Card) or meet the eligibility requirements for a J1 or H1-B Visa sponsorship.

*\*Sex, race, age, religion, color, national origin, and sexual orientation are not criteria for eligibility.*

II. Selection of the Candidates

a. The Psychiatry Residency offers six first year positions. The program participates in the National Residency Matching Program (NRMP) Psychiatry Match. The program follows the schedule of dates for the NRMP and will complete interviews prior to the deadline for submission of the rank order list.

b. Initial Screening: A complete application should include the following information submitted through the ERAS system. Applications are screen by the coordinator for completeness prior to submission for review by the Education Committee. Our deadline for applications is December 1; however, we will close applications once we have filled our interview schedule.

i. ERAS Application

ii. USMLE certification, including test score for Step 1, Step 2 CK, and Step 2 CS or COMLEX (*Note: as of July 2009, a new step 3 requirement from states that residents are required to complete the exam prior to leaving residency. The program is considering an earlier deadline.*)

- iii. Three current, dated letters of recommendation from the field of Psychiatry (Letters of recommendation must be written within the last twelve months. Undated letters will not be accepted).
  - iv. MSPE (commonly referred to as the Dean's Letter)
  - v. Personal Statement
  - vi. Curriculum Vitae
  - vii. Photograph
  - viii. ECFMG Certificate (if applicable)
- c. Applicants that meet the criteria listed above will be screened by the Education Committee, and those applicants who possess a solid academic record, a strong interest in the specialty, and ethical personal character will be invited for an interview with the program. The members of the Education Committee include representative faculty from the department as well as the Chief Resident.
- d. Additional Information for International Candidates:
- i. Experience: Experience in the specialty is desirable as is some experience in the United States. We will accept experience in clinical research, externships and observerships in psychiatry. We do not offer externships or observerships at our University. Applications without U.S. experience will be accepted by recent medical school graduates (those graduating within the past two years) and from candidates who have received residency training in psychiatry in international programs. Other applications will be reviewed on a case by case basis, but generally applicants who have been out of medical school more than five years will not be accepted unless the applicant is currently a resident in an international psychiatry program or is a practicing psychiatrist in another country.
  - ii. Scores: We prefer passing scores of 80 or above on Steps 1 and 2 of the USMLE examinations; and we generally do not accept more than 3 attempts on any of the step examinations. However, scores are one component of the application and may be influenced by number of attempts on an examination and the clinical experiences of the applicant.
  - iii. We sponsor both H1-B and J-1 visas. However, it is our policy that anyone who wishes to enter training on an H1-B visa should pass their Step 3 examination before we submit our Match rank list, or be willing to enter the program on a J1 visa. We have the right to limit the number of H1-B visas we will offer each year.
- e. Interviews
- i. On-site interviews occur during the months of November, December, and January.
  - ii. Candidates will be offered several interview dates to choose from, but the preference of the department is to interview several candidates on the same day.
  - iii. Each candidate is formally interviewed, one-on-one, with representative faculty and the Chief Resident.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

### **Philosophy of the Program**

The Psychiatry Resident Program at the University of Missouri – Columbia provides a four-year program of training in General Psychiatry of which one year may be integrated with a two year child and adolescent psychiatry fellowship program. During the program, residents gain experience in a variety of clinical settings with a diverse patient population. Residents are taught psychopharmacology as well as psychotherapy to treat their patients.

The residency program combines a highly structured didactic program with comprehensive clinical and research experience. There is continuous one on one contact among residents and attending physicians. The Program Director meets monthly with the residents in an open session to discuss training and residency needs. The program is designed to foster the development of well rounded competent general psychiatrists.

Residents rotate at Harry S. Truman Memorial Veterans Hospital, University of Missouri Psychiatric Center, University Hospital, University Physicians Outpatient Psychiatry Clinic, as well as in psychiatry outreach placements throughout the Columbia area. Each resident is also provided with the opportunity for elective time.

### **Summary of the Training Program**

The psychiatry residency offers a four year, fully accredited training program. The program includes clinical rotations as follows:

PGY 1: Clinical rotations in the first year include inpatient psychiatry, internal medicine/child health, child psychiatry, geriatric psychiatry, addiction psychiatry, and emergency psychiatry. Residents may also be assigned to neurology in the first year.

PGY 2: Clinical rotations in the second year include inpatient psychiatry, consultation liaison psychiatry, forensic psychiatry, neurology, and emergency psychiatry. Additional rotations in addiction, geriatric, and child psychiatry may be assigned.

PGY 3: Most residents will complete their 12 month outpatient year during their third year. Residents assigned to outpatient will also complete a one-half day per week community placement assignment. Residents in the third year also experience a full week of administering electroconvulsive therapy at St. Louis University.

PGY 4: Residents in their fourth year will complete remaining requirements for program completion and also complete elective experiences. Residents may also choose to transfer into a child and adolescent psychiatry fellowship in their fourth year.

The 2009-2010 training stipend for first year residents in psychiatry (PGY I) is 45,081. In addition, residents are offered a comprehensive benefit package.

### **Selection and Appointment**

Selection and appointment of residents to the residency program is in accordance with the procedures defined by the institutional Policy on Selection and Appointment of House Officers. All applications should be submitted through the Electronic Residency Application System (ERAS) for review. Applications will be screened by the Education Committee and selected applicants will be asked to come for an interview. Candidates are interviewed by the Resident Selection Committee which is composed of representative department faculty along with the Program Director, Chair, and Chief Resident. The program seeks to accept candidates who have a solid academic foundation and genuine interest in pursuing psychiatry training.