



VA Boston Healthcare System (VABHS) exists to serve the veterans through the delivery of timely, quality care by staff who demonstrate outstanding customer service, the advancement of health care through research, and the education of tomorrow's health care providers.

VABHS consists of three campuses: **Jamaica Plain, West Roxbury, and Brockton**, where pharmacists are responsible for providing pharmaceutical care in a variety of ambulatory care and inpatient settings.

Clinical Pharmacy Specialists (CPS) are actively involved in the management of patients with various disease states and work closely with other health care professionals. CPS at VABHS have prescriptive privileges under the supervision of an attending physician.

Residents are exposed to a wide variety of additional experiences and opportunities. Some of these include participation in the VABHS P&T and Quality Management committees. VABHS has strong relationships that provide teaching opportunities with the two pharmacy schools in Boston: Northeastern University and MCPHS University.

All PGY-1 residents are required to have two 12-week blocks focusing on ambulatory care. During that block the residents will spend a minimum of two days in primary care clinic, one day in anticoagulation clinic, and the remaining time devoted to staffing, educational activities, and electives. The residents are also required to have three 4-week blocks, each focusing on a single experience. The required 4-week blocks are inpatient general medicine, critical care and management. For the remaining three months of the program, the resident can elect to complete three 4-week electives or a third 12-week block focusing on ambulatory care.

An emphasis is placed on resident research projects. Each resident is paired with a project preceptor with research experience to mentor them through the process. In addition, an experienced Research & Development Committee and statistician are available for guidance. Residents are also responsible for obtaining IRB approval for their research. These projects are presented at ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting and Eastern States Conference for Residents and Preceptors.

Required Application Materials to be submitted via PhORCAS to director:

- Curriculum vitae
- Three standard recommendation in PhORCAS
- Letter of intent/personal statement stating:
 - A brief statement of the applicant's short and long term goals as well as why he/she is applying to the VA Boston Healthcare System
- Official transcript from college of pharmacy

Interview Process:

- Applicants invited to interview will do so in person before February 28
- Candidates will be interviewed by the:
 - Residency Program Director
 - Selected preceptors
- The applicants will be independently rated using standardized criteria
 - Selection will be made by a committee consisting of the Program Director and selected preceptors

Qualifications for Application:

- Citizen of the United States
- Doctor of Pharmacy degree from an accredited college of pharmacy or eligible for graduation before July 1
- Licensed pharmacist or eligible for licensure in any US state before September 1



Core Required Experiences

Primary Care Clinic
Anticoagulation Clinic (Outpt)
Inpatient General Medicine
Critical Care Medicine
Management

Elective Experiences

Four-Week Experiences

Infectious Disease
Inpatient Anticoagulation
Mental Health
Oncology
Teaching

Once Weekly, Twelve-Week Experiences

Shared Medical Appointments
Smoking Cessation Group
Teaching

Additional Activities

Medication Use and Evaluation
P&T Committee
Staff Development Presentations
Practice Management
Total Quality Management
Teaching Opportunities

Resident Project and Presentation

ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting
Eastern States Conference

Staffing Requirements

One weekend per month in inpatient
pharmacy
Four hours per week in inpatient or
outpatient pharmacy



VA Boston Healthcare System

