

## Program Information

The Dental Service of the Jesse Brown Veterans Affairs Medical Center sponsors four positions for a one-year ADA accredited General Practice Residency Program. The program begins July 1 and is designed to provide the dental graduate with an instructional curriculum in general dentistry in the Department of Veterans Affairs Hospital.

Our staff resources include five general dentists, one endodontist, two oral surgeons, one periodontist, and three prosthodontists; all individuals being experienced in hospital dentistry. Additionally, the program utilizes the services of off-station consultants to supplement the instructional curriculum. Didactic aspects of the program are held with the Illinois Masonic General Practice Residents and the University of Illinois, Chicago Oral Surgery and Endodontic Residents.

The resident has the opportunity to gain significant experience in all disciplines of dentistry with the exception of pedodontics and orthodontics (limitations being placed on these by our Federal authority). Location, availability of patients, and staffing direct the major emphasis of the program toward the management of medically compromised dental patients. Emphasis is placed on the dental disciplines of oral surgery, prosthodontics (fixed and removable), endodontics, and periodontics.

Organizationally, the program is divided into clinical, didactic, and administrative areas.

The clinical phase of the program comprises the bulk of the curriculum. It includes twenty-four weeks assigned to the general practice clinic and rotations through anesthesiology, the emergency room, medicine, and oral and maxillofacial surgery.

The didactic activities support the clinical aspects of the program. Primary emphasis is placed on patient management and treatment planning. This is a continuing effort in day-to-day clinical operations and is reviewed on a periodic basis during Patient Care Conference Seminars, Literature Reviews, Oral Surgery Seminars, Resident Presentations, the Physical Diagnosis Course, and Continuing Education Courses. The remainder of the didactic activity is completed at Illinois Masonic Hospital.

The administration of the program is based around the need for documentation of curriculum, resident evaluations, and the commitment to evaluate the program on a continuing basis as a means of change and improvement. Documentation includes quarterly production and activities summaries, as well as rotation evaluations by the residents. Additionally, residents participate in periodic reviews of program curriculum and the selection of new residents. On the administrative side, staff dentists, rotation mentors, and the Program Director evaluate residents. The philosophy is to provide the Program Director and staff with a continual flow of information that can be used to improve the program and the individuals involved in it.

The program's objectives are to graduate residents who are able to:

1. Evaluate, diagnosis, manage and treat ambulatory, non-ambulatory and medically compromised patients through a multidisciplinary oral health care approach.
2. Function effectively within the hospital and other multidisciplinary health care environments.
3. Continually strive to expand their dental knowledge base by critically reviewing literature thereby improving their clinical skills.
4. Appreciate the importance of providing dental resources to the community (i.e. community service).

At the completion of the program, residents are well-trained hospital dentists. They have a good command of general dentistry, are confident of their abilities, and know their limitations. The program provides them with a reasonable basis for future professional development in general dentistry or specialty training.

Stipend: \$46,000 (approximate)

VA is committed to an aggressive affirmative policy to ensure equal employment opportunity and advancement to all qualified persons. Federal antidiscrimination laws are followed and enforced. Both the letter and the spirit of equal opportunity are observed in employment, assignment, and training opportunities. Federal laws prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex national origin, age (40 and over), or mental or physical disability.