



Applying for Our Residency



Application Deadline: January 3, 2020

Applicants must submit through PhORCAS a personal statement, pharmacy transcripts, three letters of recommendation and a curriculum vitae. An on-site interview also is required. Please contact one of us if you are interested in the program or have any questions regarding the residency.



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Resident Salary and Benefits

Salary

\$47,476

Health and Dental Insurance

Residents are eligible for enrollment in group health insurance. Coverage starts after the first 30 days of employment.

Life Insurance

The hospital provides term life insurance at one times the annual salary at no cost to the resident.

Educational Leave

A maximum of seven days will be authorized for travel to meetings.

Paid Time Off

A total of 15 days of paid time off (Paid Time Off or PTO) is provided. These days are used for holidays, vacation days, and the first three days of any extended episode of illness. Hours will accumulate in the extended illness bank beginning on the first day of employment. A total of eight days per year will accumulate.

Authorized Absence

Up to six days will be allowed to travel for job interviews. This absence must be approved by a rotation preceptor.

Holidays

The six annual holidays are Christmas, New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day and Thanksgiving. The resident will be scheduled to work only one holiday.

Support Services

Residents have privileges at the medical library. Office space, copying privileges, and access to personal computers and the Internet are available. Free parking also is provided.

Licensure

Residents must be licensed by the Missouri Board of Pharmacy.



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Resident Activities

Residents participate in a variety of educational and service activities throughout the year.

Residency Project

The resident is responsible for conceiving, devising and conducting a project during the year. The project will be completed under the guidance of one of the residency preceptors.

Pharmacy Journal Club

Residents will present and discuss current articles of interest at two journal club meetings and two formal resident cases.

Teaching Responsibilities

The resident will participate in a didactic teaching workshop arranged through the college and participate in developing a teaching activity associated with the workshop.

Resident Seminar

The resident will present a formal seminar to the St. Louis metropolitan area pharmacists. Assistance and guidelines for seminar presentation will be provided.

Conferences

A variety of conferences is available at Missouri Baptist Medical Center. These include medicine Grand Rounds and numerous specialty conferences.

Service Commitment

The resident will provide staffing to the department by working two four-hour evening shifts a week (no weekends).



Travel

The residents may attend ASHP Midyear Clinical meeting during the year.

Advanced Cardiac Life Support

Residents will complete advanced cardiac life support (ACLS) and should have current basic life support (BLS) certification prior to taking ACLS.



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Residency Learning Sites

Cardiovascular Recovery

Patients cared for in this unit include those who have received coronary bypass surgery, heart valve replacements and aneurysm repair. Under the guidance of the preceptor, the resident will provide pharmaceutical care to the patients and drug information to the team.

Cardiology

The resident will round with a cardiology team on patients in the advanced cardiac care unit. Under the guidance of a preceptor, the resident will provide care for patients with complex cardiac disease states such as acute coronary syndromes, heart failure, and atrial and ventricular arrhythmias. The resident will also assist in precepting PharmD students.

Internal Medicine

The resident will attend rounds with a hospitalist who cares for patients with a variety of disease states. Under the guidance of the preceptor, the resident will provide drug information to the team and pharmaceutical care to the team's patients. The resident also will assist in precepting PharmD students.

Surgical and Medical Intensive Care Units

The intensive care units consist of two units with a total of 20 beds. The resident will attend rounds in the intensive care units. Under the guidance of the preceptor, the resident will provide pharmaceutical care to the patients and drug information to the team. Knowledge of pharmacotherapy in critical care and interpretation of invasive hemodynamic monitoring data will be emphasized.

Total Parenteral Nutritional Support Team

The resident will attend rounds with a multidisciplinary team which cares for and manages a daily average of 10 patients



receiving total parenteral nutrition. Under the guidance of the preceptor, the resident will write, manage and monitor the parenteral nutrition of the team's patients. The resident will assist in precepting PharmD students.

Emergency Medicine

The emergency department consists of a 26-bed unit. Residents will participate in direct patient care on a daily basis in conjunction with emergency medicine physicians and nurses. They will assist in medication history documentation, admission order review and pharmaceutical care. In this dynamic setting, residents will develop skills to rapidly review charts, interview and counsel patients, assist in medical emergencies and provide empiric treatment recommendations as well as drug information for a broad range of disease states.

Patient Safety

The resident will be involved in various areas of medication safety, such as understanding and conducting Root Cause Analysis and Failure Mode and Effects Analysis.



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About the Residency Program

Missouri Baptist Medical Center, a 440-staffed bed tertiary care community hospital in the heart of St. Louis County and a member of the nationally renowned BJC HealthCare system, is offering an extraordinary opportunity in a pharmacy practice residency accredited by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists.

The program provides a unique residency experience at a hospital that has developed a national reputation for its commitment to quality care, safety and excellence. Missouri Baptist was ranked the No. 2 hospital in the St. Louis metro area, No. 3 in Missouri, and rated “high-performing” in eight procedures and conditions evaluated by U.S. News & World Report.

The pharmacy department provides an extensive spectrum of clinical services, including interdisciplinary patient rounds, nutritional support team, pharmacokinetics, drug information, investigational drug service and involvement in multiple performance improvement committees.

The pharmacy department also utilizes a state-of-the-art medical informatics system that alerts pharmacists regarding medication management.



The department has 40 full-time equivalent (FTE) pharmacists, 32 FTE technicians and four satellite pharmacies, including an oncology/ infusion center and operating room satellites. Utilizing automated dispensing technology, the department serves an average daily census in excess of 250 to 270 inpatients.



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Resident Profiles



Ara Gharabagi

PGY-1 Resident, 2019-2020
PharmD, St. Louis College of Pharmacy
Ara.Gharabagi@bjc.org

Matching with Missouri Baptist Medical Center has been one of the most exciting moments of my pharmacy career. I was drawn to the unique learning experiences provided here as well as the excellent clinical pharmacists, who not only serve as my teachers, but role models and mentors. I also have the opportunity to work alongside a plethora of experienced medical professionals who are invested in patient care and educating future generations of clinicians and practitioners. Using these resources, I have been provided a foundation upon which to build my clinical knowledge and continually develop my abilities as a clinical pharmacist.

The program structure at Missouri Baptist Medical Center is tailored to challenge residents and provide opportunities to learn on a daily basis. The program offers a wide array of opportunities ranging from teaching, preceptorship, and research. Rotation experiences cover such specialties as nephrology, nutrition support, cardiology and more. This provides an excellent knowledge base over commonly seen disease states as well as specialized topics. I am continually encouraged by my preceptors to learn and grow through critical thinking, by integrating evidenced-based medicine and clinical judgment to optimize patient therapy. They serve as model clinicians and are deeply invested in my development and success as a resident. After completion of this program I will be prepared to function as a well-rounded, knowledgeable, and successful practitioner.

Missouri Baptist Medical Center is consistently recognized as one of the premier hospitals in the region, providing an exceptional level of care to all patients. I am truly fortunate to work alongside such dedicated and caring medical professionals. I encourage you to consider Missouri Baptist Medical Center during your residency search and would be happy to answer any questions regarding the program or the application process. Please feel free to contact me at Ara.Gharabagi@bjc.org or (314)-280-1929.



Kirsten E. Robles

PGY-1 Resident, 2019-2020
PharmD, St. Louis College of Pharmacy
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There are no words that can adequately express how thankful I am to have matched with Missouri Baptist Medical Center. This program truly exceeded my expectations for a PGY-1 residency. Each day, I know I am surrounded by preceptors and physicians who are invested in helping me expand my clinical knowledge, grow my skills as a pharmacist, and achieve my career goals. I love being able to provide patient care as a valued member of a multidisciplinary healthcare team.

Missouri Baptist Medical Center's residency program initially drew my attention with its well-rounded curriculum. It provides a multitude of experiences from unique clinical rotations and research to teaching and precepting pharmacy students. The preceptors also made sure to tailor the residency to match my interests and help me get the most out of the year. I love learning in such a welcoming environment in which each member of the pharmacy team is friendly and supportive.

My residency at Missouri Baptist Medical Center has been an amazing learning experience, and I am so grateful to be a member of such an extraordinary and inspirational community of practitioners at an ever-evolving, top-ranked hospital in St. Louis. I strongly encourage you to consider Missouri Baptist Medical Center during your residency search. I would be happy to answer any questions you have regarding the residency program or application process. Please feel free to contact me at kirsten.robles@bjc.org or 314-393-8456.



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The Clinical Staff and Faculty



Thomas G. Hall, PharmD, BCPS, FASHP
Pharmacy Director
PharmD: University of Texas
Residency: Truman Medical Center, Kansas City



Laura Veltri Hamann, PharmD, BCPS
Clinical Pharmacy Specialist,
Residency Program Director
PharmD: Creighton University
Residency: Barnes-Jewish Hospital, St. Louis



Katie Tellor, PharmD, FACC, BCPS
Clinical Pharmacy Specialist
PharmD: Drake University
Pharmacy Practice Residency: St. Luke's
Hospital, Chesterfield, MO
Internal Medicine Specialty Residency:
St. Luke's Hospital, Chesterfield, MO



Meredith Hampton, PharmD
Clinical Pharmacist
PharmD: University of Missouri Kansas City
Residency: Missouri Baptist Medical Center,
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Amanda R. Buckallew, PharmD, BCPS
Clinical Pharmacy Specialist
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**Anastasia Armbruster, PharmD,
AACC, BCPS, BCCP**
Clinical Pharmacy Specialist
PharmD: St. Louis College of Pharmacy
Pharmacy Practice Residency: West Virginia
University Hospitals, Morgantown, WV
Internal Medicine Residency: St. Louis
VAMC - John Cochran Division, St. Louis



Naomi Barasch, PharmD, MHA, BCPS
Clinical Pharmacy Specialist
PharmD: Drake University
Residency: Missouri Baptist Medical Center,
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Shane Austin, PharmD, BCPS
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Pharmacy Practice Residency:
SSM Health St. Mary's Hospital
Internal Medicine Specialty Residency:
VA St. Louis Health Care System



Friend Denish, PharmD
Clinical Pharmacist
PharmD: St. Louis College of Pharmacy



Natalie Freiberger, PharmD, BCPS
Clinical Pharmacist
PharmD: University of Missouri Kansas City
Residency: Missouri Baptist Medical Center,
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Missouri Baptist “Points of Pride”



✿ The team of four cardiothoracic surgeons, 28 cardiologists and electrophysiologists, and specially trained healthcare professionals specializes in the prevention, diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation of heart disease. More heart surgeries and more cardiac cath procedures were performed at the Missouri Baptist Heart Center during the last five years than at any other St. Louis County hospital.

✿ The medical and radiation oncologists, nurses, social workers and clinical professionals in the Missouri Baptist Cancer Center provide screening and early detection, diagnosis, intervention and rehabilitation for oncology and hematology patients.

✿ The Digestive Disease Center offers a full range of diagnostic and interventional endoscopy services for inpatients and outpatients experiencing gastrointestinal or pulmonary disease.

✿ The Ortho/Neuro/Spine Program provides education, physical therapy, rehabilitation, drug therapies and surgical intervention programs designed to meet the needs of its orthopedic patients.

✿ The Clinical Learning Institute at Missouri Baptist has been a valued resource helping to develop expert, compassionate nurses who are committed to service excellence at Missouri Baptist. Thousands of nurses and other healthcare professionals have participated in courses, workshops or seminars offered at the CLI.



✿ Missouri Baptist Medical Center provides numerous health fairs, screenings and educational programs, which offer wellness and prevention tips to the St. Louis community. These include the annual Missouri Baptist Heart Center Heart Fair, and “Pearls of Wisdom,” which addresses women’s health issues.

✿ Numerous Missouri Baptist physicians and specialists have provided diagnosis and treatment for hundreds of patients in Missouri and Illinois communities whose hospitals comprise the Missouri Baptist Rural Outreach Program.



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About Missouri Baptist Medical Center

From our convenient location at the crossroads of St. Louis County, Missouri Baptist Medical Center has secured a reputation as one of the top hospitals in the area. Thousands of residents from metropolitan St. Louis, Missouri and Illinois, and across the nation choose Missouri Baptist each year for the quality medical services provided here. Missouri Baptist Medical Center is committed to improving the health and well-being of the people and communities we serve.

From our humble beginnings in 1884 in the home of Dr. William Mayfield, Missouri Baptist Medical Center has grown into the existing campus located on Ballas Road near the intersection of I-270 and Hwy. 40 (I-64) — a facility licensed for 489 beds, with four adjacent medical office buildings.



With 1,180 physicians on staff and 2,744 employees, Missouri Baptist provides a full spectrum of medical and surgical services, with specialization in cardiac and vascular services, oncology, ortho/neuro/spine, digestive diseases, and obstetrics.

Missouri Baptist is a member of BJC HealthCare, one of the nation's largest healthcare organizations, employing nearly 30,000 individuals in greater St. Louis, southern Illinois and mid-Missouri. Through its network of 15 hospitals and other health-service organizations, BJC provides a full continuum of services.



Since becoming a member of BJC in 1994, Missouri Baptist has further developed key services and witnessed phenomenal growth. In 2018, the hospital provided care for 21,009 admissions, 38,461 emergency department visits and 9,619 outpatient surgery visits.

Missouri Baptist has consistently ranked as a top Missouri hospital for cardiac surgery and cardiac care, ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as one of the top hospitals in the region, and a member of Heartland Cancer Research, one of 40 consortia granted the prestigious Community Oncology Research Organization (NCORP) designation by the National Cancer Institute.

In 2016, Missouri Baptist Medical Center was named a Magnet® hospital by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC). The prestigious designation is the highest credential a healthcare organization can receive for nursing excellence and quality patient care. Only about 400 out of nearly 6,000 U.S. hospitals have achieved Magnet recognition.



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Welcome to St. Louis

Welcome to St. Louis, home of the Gateway Arch. The metropolitan area offers a wide variety of cultural and recreational opportunities, and because Missouri Baptist Medical Center sits at the intersection of two of the city's major highways (I-270 and I-64), you will be 15-20 minutes from almost everything.

St. Louis features more than 20 institutions of higher learning, as well as libraries, museums, professional drama and opera theaters, a dance company and the second-oldest symphony orchestra in the United States.

St. Louis is home to the St. Louis Cardinals baseball team, and the 2019 Stanley Cup Champions St. Louis Blues hockey team, as well as several minor league teams in a variety of sports.

A more recent world-class attraction, the World Chess Hall of Fame is located in the bustling Central West End neighborhood near Forest Park, and hosted the international Grand Chess Tour.

One of the city's major attractions is Forest Park, the site of the 1904 World's Fair. In addition to the many athletic and recreational opportunities at the park, Forest Park is home to the St. Louis Zoo, the St. Louis Science Center, the St. Louis Art Museum and the Missouri Historical Society.

Other attractions and events include:

- University City's Delmar Loop
- The Fabulous Fox Theater
- The Pageant
- Missouri Botanical Garden
- Contemporary Art Museum of St. Louis
- St. Louis Art Fair
- The Great Forest Park Balloon Race
- Six Flags – St. Louis
- Grant's Farm



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