

 **Most Frequently Asked Questions**

PGY2 Cardiology Pharmacy Residency at CHI St Luke’s Health- Baylor St. Luke’s Medical Center (BSLMC)

**What is the ASHP PGY2 Cardiology Pharmacy Residency?**

A specialized residency in cardiology pharmacy practice is defined by ASHP as an organized, directed postgraduate program that centers on developing a mastery of knowledge and an expert level of competency in the area of cardiology pharmacy practice. The residency is organized and conducted to develop expert skills and competency in providing pharmaceutical care services to patients who are either acutely or critically ill and who have had cardiac arrest. It should be a minimum of 12 months in length and is designed to build on those competencies developed by a PGY1 Residency in Pharmacy Practice.

**What are the goals of residency training at CHI St Luke’s Health Baylor St. Luke’s Medical Center?**

The PGY2 Cardiology residency program will build upon Doctor or Pharmacy (PharmD) education and PGY1 pharmacy residency programs to contribute to the development of clinical pharmacists in cardiology and cardiovascular diseases.   This PGY2 residency program provides residents with the opportunity to function independently as practitioners by conceptualizing and integrating accumulated experience and knowledge and incorporating both into the provision of patient care that improves medication therapy.  Residents who complete the PGY2 in Cardiology at CHI St Luke’s Health-Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center will possess advanced clinical competencies that qualify them for clinical pharmacist and/or faculty positions and position them to be eligible for attainment of board certification and acquired qualification in cardiology.

**What is the history of the residency programs at Baylor St. Luke’s Medical Center?**

An ASHP-accredited residency in hospital pharmacy was first initiated at BSLMC (formerly St. Luke’s Episcopal Hospital) in 1972. It continued for some time, producing many graduates who have since assumed significant positions in all areas of the country. Full accreditation for the new program at BSLMC was awarded by the ASHP Commission on Credentialing in July 1991. As of the fall of 2018, we have had 85 graduates of the current program and six in training. Baylor St. Luke’s Medical Center has several other residency opportunities. We have a post-graduate year 2 (PGY2) Critical Care Residency which was accredited in 1998, with 23 graduates and two in training. We also have a PGY2 Cardiology specialty residency program started in July 2007 and received full accreditation 2011, with seven graduates and one in training. Also in 2008, we established a two year Infectious Diseases Fellowship in conjunction with the University of Houston College of Pharmacy. We have had nine fellows complete the program. There are currently two in the program. Lastly, we have a PGY1/PGY2 MS and Pharmacy Administration residency in conjunction with the University of Houston that was established in July 2009 and received full accreditation in 2011. We have had seven graduates in the program. In 2012, we expanded the PGY1 Pharmacy Residency to 6 positions. In addition, we added a PGY2 Solid Organ Transplant Residency program, which has had six graduates, two in training and received full accreditation in 2013.

**How is the PGY2 Cardiology Pharmacy residency offered at** **CHI St Luke’s Health- Baylor St. Luke’s Medical Center?**

The residency is a full-time 52-week program which requires a commitment of 40-48 hours per week. The residency is conducted through the accomplishment of formal learning objectives, consistent with the accreditation standards of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP). The program has an established core of learning activities but may also be custom tailored to each resident’s background, experiences, and personal goals for the program.

The start date of the residency is early July. Earlier or later start dates may be arranged based on individual circumstances. Ample time is given off to take the licensure exam if that is an issue. PGY2 residents staff every third weekend and can expect to cover one major and one minor holiday during the year, in addition to a clinical practice month rotation. Two weeks of paid vacation are available during the year and are given as additional pay if not used.

**Tell me more about “staffing experiences”.**

We knew you’d ask. Staffing experiences mean that the resident will be dedicated to working as a clinical practitioner here at CHI St Luke’s Health- Baylor St. Luke’s Medical Center. This is a critical component to the program as often times; this is your first opportunity to be an independent pharmacist. Residents complete their staffing component through every third weekend assignment covering CCU/CVICU floors, weekday evenings assignments on a resident-rotational basis, and a clinical practice month rotation. While staffing, residents rotate through positions focused on patient centered services as well as centralized prospective order review. We believe that such staffing experiences are a very important part of meeting practice residency goals and objectives and that the absence of such experiences diminishes the resident’s growth and practice maturity in the program.

It is our belief that meaningful staffing experiences are absolutely necessary in the cardiology residency. We are, after all, focused on training competent practitioners who will provide pharmaceutical care to acutely and critically ill patients. Staffing experiences gives the resident the opportunity to function independently as a practitioner by conceptualizing and integrating accumulated experience and knowledge and transforming it into improved pharmaceutical care for patients who are acutely and critically ill. The absence of such experiences diminishes the resident’s growth and practice maturity in the program.

**What is the stipend, and what benefits are included?**

The current stipend per year is $51,300. Residents are entitled to the same benefits as clinical pharmacists. BSLMC offers medical, dental, vision insurance benefits, with many options available to fit the individual or family situation.

BSLMC allocates “benefit dollars” to employees, who then can spend them on the benefits of their choice. The allocation covers the needs of the individual employee, with payroll deduction for increased individual coverage or family/dependent plans. Parking is provided for free at a remote lot with access to Metro Transit (Metrorail) and free, air-conditioned shuttle service at all hours.

Funded meetings include the American Heart Association Meeting or American College of Cardiology Annual conference. Presentations are required to be given at each meeting attended.

The resident has dedicated desk space with access to a personal computer with all contemporary software and printing. Full internet access is provided with e-mail services.

**What other opportunities are available with the CHI St Luke’s Health-Baylor St. Luke’s Medical Center residency?**

A major advantage in taking the residency program at St. Luke’s is its location in the Texas Medical Center (TMC). The TMC is the largest medical center in the world, and is more than twice as large as the second largest medical center. It occupies over 500 acres, including twelve major hospitals representing over five thousand beds and has a large central medical complex. It is home to nine academic institutions including two colleges of medicine, two colleges of pharmacy, several colleges of nursing, dentistry, and other medical disciplines. TMC is adjacent to the Rice University campus and the Hermann Park/Museum complex of the City of Houston BSLMC itself is home to the world renowned Texas Heart Institute®. The first human heart transplant in the United States was performed here; more open heart surgical procedures have been performed here than anywhere else in the world, and St. Luke’s has the largest cardiac catheterization facility in the world.

Houston is the fourth largest city in the nation and has an abundance of recreational opportunities. Immediately to the south of the Medical Center is the large Reliant Park complex, featuring Reliant Stadium. Evenings out can include events such as the Houston Astros, Texans, Rockets or Dynamo games. The beaches and attractions of Galveston Island are less than an hour away. Other activities include multi-cultural activities such as opera, the ballet, symphony or musicals. In addition, there are many places to eat and try new foods.

**What about the Department of Pharmacy?**

The Department of Pharmacy at CHI St Luke’s Health-Baylor St. Luke’s Medical Center consists of approximately 140 staff members, of which nearly 85 are pharmacists. All contemporary services are provided. We emphasize being a “pharmacist-centered pharmacy in a patient-centered hospital.” Our distribution model uses unit based automation with decentralized clinical pharmacy services. We have automated carousels and automated repackaging in Central Pharmacy. Pharmacy Services are available 24/7 in Central Pharmacy. We have four pharmacy satellites in the operating room (OR), Cardiovascular OR, Outpatient OR Satellite, and Emergency Department Satellite.

The hospital itself has 850 available beds, of which 157 are intensive care. It has forty-four operating rooms and twelve cardiac catheterization labs.

**What are the residency requirements?**

The following table outlines the residents’ requirements to complete the program. Other requirements include staffing, code blue participation, on call responsibility along with other rotation requirements.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **REQUIREMENT** | **PGY1** | **Admin 1** | **PGY2** | **ID FELLOW** | **Admin 2** |
| Clinical On-Call | 🗸 | - | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸\*Admin & Clinical On-call |
| Sterile Compounding Certification | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | - |
| Disease State Topic List Completion | - | - | 🗸 | 🗸 | - |
| Project I (Major Project) (Change implemented and evaluated) | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 |
| Project II (Best Practice Improvement Project) | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 |
| Medication Use Evaluation | 🗸 | 🗸 | - | - | - |
| Pharmacy Practice: Drug class review, monograph, treatment guideline, or protocol (2 required) | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | - | - |
| IRIS Reporting (minimum 5 per year) | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 |
| ASHP Poster (Project I) | 🗸 | 🗸 | - | - | 🗸 |
| TSHP Poster (Project II) | 🗸 | 🗸 | - | - | - |
| Alcalde Presentation (Project I) | 🗸 | 🗸 | - | - | - |
| Pharmacy Rounds [Present both Project I (March) and Project II (May)] | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 |
| Resident/Fellow Seminar | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 |
| Case Conference x 1 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 |
| Journal Club x 1 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 |
| Tech Topics x 1 | 🗸 | 🗸 | - | - | - |
| Vancomycin Consult Service Validation | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | - |
| Warfarin Consult Service Validation | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | - |
| Review article (Critique journal article submitted to major journal) | - | - | 🗸 | 🗸 | - |
| Submission of at least 1 manuscript for publication\* | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 |
| Presentation submission to Fellowship Forum | - | - | - | 🗸 | - |
| Thesis Submission to UH | - | - | - | - | 🗸 |
| Submission to ID Conference | - | - | - | 🗸 | - |
| Submission to ATC | - | - | 🗸(SOT resident) | - | - |
| Submission to Critical Care Conference (may be after residency ends) |  |  | 🗸(CC resident) |  |  |
| Submission to ACC | - | - | 🗸(Cardiology resident) | - | - |
| Pharmacotherapy lab | 🗸 | 🗸 | - | - | - |
| Teaching & Scholarship in Academia Program | 🗸 | 🗸 | - | - | - |

*\*Must be by end of residency program. For Admin residents and ID fellows only, one manuscript must be submitted for each residency/fellowship year (total of 2 manuscripts).* **SPECIAL NOTE: A residency/fellowship certificate will not be awarded until all of the above requirements are met. Any deviation of requirements must be approved by the Director of Residency and Fellowship Programs. This list in not inclusive of individual preceptor requests and other requests made based upon departmental needs.**

**What is desired in an applicant for the CHI St Luke’s Health- Baylor St. Luke’s Medical Center residency?**

We are looking for a mature individual who has made a career decision to become a leader in health-system or institutional pharmacy. The candidate must be prepared to make a serious commitment to satisfactorily complete all requirements of the program, as planned in advance. This commitment includes attendance at required meetings, programs, presentations and trips, and the availability and willingness to participate in any function of the Department of Pharmacy on a 24-hour basis. The residency is tailored to each individual, and regular evaluations of accomplishment must be satisfactory. This is a mature program for mature individuals who are serious about the profession as a lifelong career, and cardiology as a specialty practice. Applicants should hold the PharmD degree and complete and ASHP-Accredited PGY1 in Pharmacy Practice Residency prior to starting the Specialty Residency. Texas licensure is a mandatory requirement.

**How does one apply and what about interviews?**

You will need to apply to our residency program online through the ASHP PhORCAS program ([www.ashp.org/phorcas](http://www.ashp.org/phorcas)). Application documents required are a letter of intent, curriculum vitae, college transcripts (if less than five years post-graduation), and three letters of professional reference. The application deadline is **January 4, 2019 at 11:59 PM.**

An on-site interview is considered very important and is required for a complete application. All applications will be screened by our Residency Advisory Council, and all applicants chosen for interview will be contacted by the middle of January. The on-site interview is a full day, and will include a fifteen minute presentation on a disease state management topic of your choice to a group of pharmacists. You will interview with Clinical Pharmacist IIs and Pharmacy Management as well as Residents. The last date for interviews is normally one week before the ASHP match list submission date. Financial assistance for the on-site interview is not available, but we will work with you in any way we can to reduce expenses.

**More information and questions?**

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