

Why Consider A Residency?

- AMCP maintains a list of managed care pharmacy residencies and tips at www.amcp.org/Residencies.
- A Managed Care Pharmacy Residency will help you become proficient in managed care pharmacy and can help you obtain the position you want.

Choosing A Residency

- Accredited Residencies vs. Non-Accredited – Accredited programs have to meet rigorous standards for training activities and outcomes, goals and objectives. Does that mean non-accredited programs are bad? No, but sometimes it can be more difficult for applicants to determine the quality and the learning objectives of a non-accredited program. Be sure to ask questions and, if possible, talk to current/past residents when evaluating a program.
- Learn more about specific managed care pharmacy residencies at www.amcp.org/residencies and your school information sessions.

“As part of completing a fellowship program, I was able to gain valuable insight into the health care industry through my involvement in a variety of diverse project types. With many of my projects traversing multiple therapeutic areas, it allowed me to build upon my clinical foundation and keep abreast of emerging therapies. Participating in a fellowship allows both professional and personal growth in a learning environment.”

- Jasmine Knight, PharmD, MS,
Xcenda
2013 Graduate
University of Southern California

Applying For A Residency

- Most ASHP-accredited residencies use PhORCAS (Pharmacy Online Residency Centralized Application), a web-based tool that brings residency application material together in one location. PhORCAS decreases the overall administrative burden that comes with paper applications. Access information about PhORCAS and an informational video at www.ashp.org/phorcas. Only managed care pharmacy residencies that are ASHP-accredited use PhORCAS or participate in the Match. Be sure to check the AMCP website for application information on these programs.

What If I Don't Match?

- When the results are initially released, there will be a list of unfilled positions. There is a “cooling off period” before you and/or programs can contact those that haven't matched. Know when this period opens.
- Consider a non-accredited residency if they are still accepting applications.
- Have a back-up plan in case you don't find a residency. Some options may be a position in a pharmacy and applying for a residency program the following year or continuing on with your education.
- Stay connected with individuals you networked with throughout the year; it's possible they may know someone or an opportunity that may help you out.

Why Consider A Fellowship?

- A Managed Care or Pharmaceutical Fellowship will help you become proficient in managed care, medical affairs, or other fields and can help you obtain the position you want.
- A fellowship provides in-depth training in line with the goals of a specific department within a managed care organization, health outcomes organization or pharmaceutical company. In contrast to a fellowship, a managed care residency or clinical residency provides additional experience that tends to have greater focus on patient care, clinical training and aspects of care management.
- AMCP maintains a list of managed care fellowships and general pharmaceutical fellowships and tips at www.amcp.org/fellowships/.

Choosing A Fellowship

- Ask questions and, if possible, talk to current/past fellows when evaluating a program.
- Learn more about specific fellowships from web searches and your pharmacy school information sessions.
www.amcp.org/fellowships
www.accp.com/resandfel/search.aspx
<http://www.ashp.org/menu/CareerPharm/PPS-Candidates>

Applying For A Fellowship

- Access information on fellowships via IPHO, individual pharmaceutical company or a health care organization website. IPHO lists all pharmaceutical fellowships, as well as the brochures and the program contact information. They also list pharmaceutical fellowships before and after midyear that are not advertised anywhere else.
- Registration for PPS (Personnel Placement Service) is separate from the ASHP Mid-year conference registration and you need to register for the clinical part of ASHP Mid-year as well to interview on-site.
- Set up a LinkedIn profile and PPS profile before the ASHP meeting. There are interviews that can usually be requested via PPS in October and November and these interviews occur during the ASHP Mid-year meeting in December.
- Be sure to check the AMCP website for application information on these programs.

Filling Out The Application

- Good organization skills will help make your application process smooth and manageable. Plan ahead and decide how many programs you want to apply to and how many interview invitations will provide you with sufficient options from which to choose from when making a decision. This number will differ from applicant to applicant based on your criteria. Outline each residency or fellowship program's application requirements and include all deadline dates.

"Completing a managed care residency has been a tremendously rewarding decision in my career. Residency, along with AMCP involvement has allowed me the opportunity to develop a variety of skills and professional network that otherwise would have taken years to establish. AMCP offers students the ability to build a strong foundation, in combination with a residency, can be a catalyst to a career in managed care pharmacy!"

-Vimal Reddy, PharmD
CVS Health,
2014 Graduate
The Ohio State University

- Recommendation letters are important. Carefully consider who you ask to write one – make sure they will give you a strong recommendation. Be sure to give them plenty of time so they don't feel rushed. If they will need to mail the letter, give them an addressed stamped envelope. Be sure to include letters of recommendation deadlines in your outline of key dates.
- Most programs require a personal statement or essay from the candidate describing short- and long-term career goals, training and background, interest in residency or fellowship training, interest in managed care pharmacy as well as why the particular program was chosen. Give yourself plenty of time to synthesize a master personal statement that covers these basic questions. Once you have this master document, you should edit it to suit each program's application.

Interview Tips

- Prepare for the Interview! Check with your career center for sample interview questions and prepare ways you would answer the questions. Practice with your friends or professors and check with your school career center to see how they can help with interviews.
- Many managed care residency programs require that you give a short presentation before the selection committee. Find out ahead of time if this is required, and if you can choose your own topic. You can re-use a presentation that you prepared for school, but make sure the information in the presentation is still current and addresses an area of interest for the residency program. Topics dealing with a managed care pharmacy issue are generally preferred.
- You should receive an itinerary ahead of time. Use this to learn the names of those you will be meeting with and orient yourself to the process. Print out a copy and bring it with you to refer to during breaks – don't rely on your smart phone! You may have reception issues and it looks unprofessional to refer to your phone during an interview.
- Dress the part and be on time – remember first impressions count!
- The program's current resident(s) or fellow(s) will likely be your host at the interview. Ask the resident questions about the city, the work environment, what they have done so far. Make sure to be prepared with questions.
- Many times a meal will be included with your interview – keep in mind this is still part of your interview and you are being evaluated.
- Turn your cell phone OFF and put it away during interviews.

What If I Am Not Selected For A Fellowship?

- Have a plan. Take a pharmacy position, apply for a managed care residency program and consider re-applying the next year.
- Stay connected with individuals you networked with throughout the year; they may know someone who can assist you in securing a fellowship or the next position in your career.