Preparing for a Pediatric Pharmacy Residency
Tips for the residency application process

First and second year pharmacy students
- Maintain a competitive pharmacy school 3.0 GPA or above
- Demonstrate leadership qualities and involvement in pharmacy school activities
- Create a CV and update it regularly
- Plan ahead for who you’d like to ask for letters of recommendation
- Show interest and learn more about pediatric pharmacy
  - Participate in events and activities involving children
  - Talk to and/or shadow a pediatric pharmacist
  - Volunteer/work at a pediatric hospital, clinic or other facility
  - Take a pediatric elective class in pharmacy school
- Consider attending the residency showcases at regional clinical meetings (e.g. CSHP Seminar) and/or ASHP Midyear

Third year pharmacy students (or second year students in a three year program)
- Continue above recommendations for first and second year students
- Request a pediatric focused APPE rotation for the beginning of your rotational year
  - Residency interviews are generally in late January and February, so have your pediatric experience before your interview
- Begin considering residency programs and research programs online (see ASHP online residency directory) and make a list of prospective residency programs to talk to during your APPE rotations
- Strongly consider attending the residency showcase at regional clinical meetings (e.g. CSHP Seminar) and/or ASHP Midyear

Fourth year pharmacy students (or third year students in a three year program)
- Continue to show interest in pediatric pharmacy
  - Complete a pediatric clinical rotation, if possible – try to schedule this before the application/interview period so you can speak of it in your CV and during interviews
- Schedule core rotations (i.e. internal medicine, ambulatory care, hospital rotations) before application period
- Build professional relationships with preceptors, supervisors, faculty and healthcare professionals you work with
  - These are your potential sources for letters of recommendation
- Go to the residency showcase at regional clinical meetings (e.g. CSHP seminar) and/or ASHP Midyear
- Application process and materials*
  - Thoroughly research programs you apply to, analyze strengths and weaknesses
  - Letter of intent - Tailor letters specifically for each program
  - CV – Make sure all extracurricular activities are highlighted (especially if pertaining to a pediatric experience)
    - Optional: Consider including a photo
  - Have mentors proofread your application materials, cover letters and CV
  - Official transcript (sent directly from pharmacy school to ASHP’s pharmacy online residency centralized application service called PhORCAS)
  - All application materials are submitted via PhORCAS. Application processes for each program may differ. For more information, see website for each residency program and visit https://portal.phorcas.org/
Prepare for interviews

- Start early
- Prepare for personal/clinical interview questions
- Practice SOAPing patient cases
- Talk to pediatric pharmacists about current issues in pediatric pharmacy and potential interview questions
- Research the program you are interviewing for and talk with/ask questions of the current residents
- Prepare questions to ask about the program during your interview
- Prepare/practice your presentation (most pediatric residency programs require a presentation on a pediatric topic)

Navigating residency showcase (regional clinical meetings – e.g. CSHP Seminar and ASHP Midyear)

- Introduce yourself and the year of pharmacy school you are in
- If you are a pharmacy student who is not looking to match this year because it is not your last year of pharmacy school, consider the following:
  o Browse through the residency showcase and learn about available programs
  o Due to the large number of students attending the residency showcase, residency program directors may divert attention to candidates applying for the upcoming year
  o Be respectful of candidates looking to match for the upcoming year
  o Network with current residents and pharmacy directors
- If you are in your last year of pharmacy school and interested in applying for a residency program consider the following:
  o Narrow down the programs you want to visit at the residency showcase before attending
  o Find out the date and time those programs will be at the showcase (not all programs will be present at all sessions)
  o Look at the residency showcase map to find the location of the program booths
    ▪ Programs are listed by site, not by the specific type of residency program offered
    ▪ Figure out your game plan by prioritizing the programs you are most interested in and map out where they’re located
  o Make a list of questions you want to ask for each program
    ▪ Take notes after visiting a program’s booth
    ▪ Write down what you liked and did not like about each program
  o If you run out of time and are unable to get all of your questions answered, ask for contact information of residents and/or program director to communicate via email
  o Find out if the programs you are interested in will be at another clinical meeting and if you are able to attend, make a point to visit the booth again
  o Some programs also hold an open house in December to give more program details and a tour so attend these for programs you are highly interested in
  o Some programs are involved in ASHP’s personal placement services (PPS). This allows time for more personal one-on-one interviews and gives candidates more opportunities to meet the director and/or preceptors, but it requires an additional fee to participate. Check with the programs you are interested in regarding PPS participation. For more information: www.careerpharm.com/basicPPS-seeker.aspx
### Residency Application Process Timeline

(For candidates applying to 2020-2021 residency programs)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>September</th>
<th>October</th>
<th>November</th>
<th>December</th>
<th>January-early March</th>
<th>March</th>
<th>July</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>• Start working on CV and cover letter</td>
<td>• Finalize CV (peer-reviewed)</td>
<td>• Applications are due at the end of December and beginning of January, depending on program</td>
<td>• End of June to beginning of July: Start of many residencies; check each program for specific start date</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Register for regional clinical meeting (e.g. CSHP)</td>
<td>• Ask for letters of recommendation</td>
<td>• Work on presentations (if required for interview)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Make travel and housing arrangements for clinical meetings</td>
<td>• Attend regional clinical meeting and go to residency showcase</td>
<td>• Prepare for interview questions</td>
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### September

- Review ASHP online residency directory
- Register for ASHP Midyear
- Narrow down programs you want to visit at regional clinical meetings and/or ASHP Midyear
- If attending ASHP, consider registering for PPS
  - www.careerpharm.com

### October

- Attend ASHP Midyear and go to residency showcase
- If possible, schedule tours of programs to which you are applying
- Register for the ASHP resident matching program and submit required fees at www.natmatch.com/ashprmp/reqlink.htm
- Fill out required paperwork in PhORCAS*

### November

- Completion of interviews
- Narrow down residency choices
- Feb. 28, 2020: Rank Order Lists submission deadline for Phase I of the Match
- March 13, 2020: Results of Phase I of the Match are released to applicants and program directors
- March 17, 2020: Applicants who either did not obtain a position in Phase I or did not participate can submit applications to programs participating in Phase II of the Match
- April 1, 2020: Rank Order Lists submission deadline for Phase II of the Match
- April 8, 2020: Results of Phase II are released to applicants and program directors
- April 9, 2020: Unmatched residency candidates will be able to submit applications using PhORCAS to programs with available positions in the post-match process

### * Application paperwork and process may change. For more information: [https://natmatch.com/ashprmp/schedule.html](https://natmatch.com/ashprmp/schedule.html) and [https://portal.phorcas.org/](https://portal.phorcas.org/)