Geriatric Clinical Residency

APPLICATION & SELECTION PROCESS

To apply for admission to the University of Minnesota Geriatric Residency Program, applicants should complete the centralized residency application form (RF-PTCAS) found on the APTA American Board of Physical Therapy Residency and Fellowship Education webpage.

Applications will be evaluated based upon the following criteria:
1. Academic education and background
2. Clinical education, internship, and mentoring experiences
3. Clinical experience in geriatric physical therapy
4. Research experience and interest
5. Quality of application materials

Minimal eligibility requirements for acceptance into the Geriatric Residency Program include:
1. Successful completion and graduation from a CAPTE accredited physical therapy program
2. Successful passing of the National Physical Therapy Licensure Examination
3. Hold a current Minnesota Physical Therapy License, and be in good standing with the Minnesota Board of Physical Therapy (no disciplinary action)
4. Be a member of the American Physical Therapy Association and the Geriatric Section, and maintain membership for the duration of the residency
5. Comply with all clinical site employment requirements

Desirable applicants include those who:
1. Possess superior verbal and written communication skills
2. Have experience in data collection, analysis, and publication
3. Have solid background in searching out and interpreting clinical research
4. Completed an extended internship or externship under the direct supervision of a Clinical Specialist in Geriatric Physical Therapy
5. Possess strong fundamentals in the principles of clinical reasoning and the application of examination and treatment procedures related to the practice of geriatric physical therapy

The application deadline is March 31st each year.
Applications will be reviewed by the Geriatric Residency Admissions Committee. Members of the Admissions Committee include:

1. Geriatric Residency Director
2. Academic Coordinator of Clinical Education (ACCE) of the University of Minnesota’s Program in Physical Therapy
3. 2 Residency Clinical Faculty members who are Physical Therapy Geriatric Clinical Specialists practicing in the community

The Clinical Site Residency Coordinator(s) will act as consultants to the Admissions Committee.

Residents are selected by the Admissions Committee and their decision is final. There is no appeal process. However, applicants are welcome to re-apply the following year. Decisions for acceptance into the Residency Program are based on a candidate’s desire to advance their skills in geriatric physical therapy, and their likelihood of success in a rigorous post-graduate setting. This is evidenced by:

1. Review of all of the components in the application package
2. Evaluation of the applicant’s interests and genuine desire to advance skills in geriatric clinical research, administration in geriatric facilities, and/or clinical teaching.

Superior candidates will be given an interview (either in person or via Skype), which is conducted by at least 3 members of the Admissions Committee. Candidates are assessed in the areas of commitment, knowledge of the purpose of the Residency Program, interests (as outlined above), and personality. Good candidates will possess qualities of flexibility, team building, leadership, good communication skills, and a desire to learn.

Eligible applicants will be notified within 3 weeks, and interviews will then be arranged. Interviews will be conducted in person, to allow the applicant to best represent her/himself. Travel expenses for the interview will be the applicant’s responsibility. Phone interviews will be conducted only in extenuating circumstances.

Final notification of applicants who have been accepted into the Geriatric Residency Program will be completed by or before May 31 of each year.

It is University policy to provide, on a flexible and individualized basis, reasonable accommodations to students who have a documented disability (e.g., physical, learning, psychiatric, vision, hearing, or systemic) that may affect their ability to participate in course activities or to meet course requirements. Residency applicants with disabilities who are requesting special accommodations must do so by filing a written request to the Residency Director, including the specific accommodations requested. If the applicant is accepted into the Residency Program, s/he must then contact University of Minnesota Disability Services to have a confidential discussion of their individual needs for accommodations. Disability Services is located in Suite180, McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak Street, Minneapolis, MN 55455. Staff can be reached by calling 612/626-1333 (voice or TTY).