

Pathology Residency Program
University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine/University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC)
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), Last Updated 08.19.26

<https://www.path.pitt.edu/training/clinical-opportunities/pathology-residency-program> (Program website)
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T68u3hR4sec> (PIRRT)

Is the Residency Program accredited by the ACGME?

Yes, we are fully accredited by the ACGME (<https://apps.acgme.org/ads/public/>) to enroll 33 Residents under Pathology (Anatomic & Clinical). Our ACGME Program Number is 3004121324.

How many positions are there in your Program?

In general we have 6 – 8 residents in each class PGY-1 through PGY-4. We recruit for APCP, AP, and CP tracks.

What candidates are considered to be highly competitive?

a) USMLE Step 1 or Step 2CK first attempt three digit score 230 or higher or COMLEX Level I or Level 2-CE first attempt three digit score 580 or higher; b) Two months or more of pathology elective experience, preferably at an institution with a pathology residency program; c) Two letters of reference from pathologists; d) Academic record of abstracts and/or publications; e) Graduation from medical school in last 5 years; f) Pathology post-sophomore year, and f) IMGs with pathology residency training experience.

What criteria are preferred to identify candidates to be considered for an interview in addition to the above?

a) No USMLE or COMLEX failures; b) Graduation from medical school less than 10 years before start date; c) At least one month U.S. pathology experience; d) Some academic or project activity.

How do I apply to your Program?

All applications are accepted through ERAS (<http://www.aamc.org/students/eras/start.htm>). We begin reviewing applications on September 23rd. The deadline for applying is October 31st.

How many letters of recommendation do you require with each application?

Three and at least two must be from pathologists.

What are your criteria for USMLE Step 1, Step 2, and Step 3 or COMLEX Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3?

No applicants will be invited to interview who have not passed USMLE Step 1/COMLEX Level 1. We may invite candidates to interview who have not taken USMLE Step 2 or COMLEX Level 2 but prefer that applicants for our match list have passed USMLE Step 2 CK or COMLEX Level 2-CE on the first attempt. Taking USMLE Step 3 or COMLEX Level 3 is not a requirement for being considered for our match list. Passing USMLE Step 3 by the rank order list deadline is required for consideration for H1-B visa sponsorship.

How do you review applications?

A holistic approach is used to select individuals to interview from eligible applicants on the basis of program-related criteria including those above. We do not discriminate with regard to sex, race, age, religion, color, national origin, disability, or any other applicable legally protected status. Competitive applicants are considered for an interview. Applicants invited for interviews are notified via the email address provided to ERAS. All interviewed candidates are considered for ranking on our competitive match list.

Can I contact the Program Office to inquire on the status of my application?

You are welcome to contact the office anytime with questions.

Do you interview International Medical Graduates (IMGs)?

We consider IMGs who are highly competitive. ECFMG certification (<http://www.ecfm.org/certification>) is required for all IMGs.

Do you sponsor visas for IMGs?

We routinely consider sponsorship for J-1 and H-1B visas. Sponsorship for an H-1B visa requires that the applicant has passed USMLE Step 3 prior to being considered for our match list unless the applicant is a graduate of an U.S. medical school, must be eligible for H-1B status as of the date of the Match in order for UPMC and the program to consider H-1B sponsorship; if currently in the U.S. in another nonimmigrant visa status, must be eligible for an in-country change of status as of the date of the Match; and for J-1 visa holders, the applicant must not be subject to the two-year home residence requirement OR has successfully obtained a waiver of the two-year home residence requirement as of the date of the Match. If it becomes legally or otherwise impossible for us to sponsor the applicant for H-1B visa status, the applicant will need to be sponsored for J-1 visa status as an alternative.

Do you participate in the NRMP?

All of our positions are included in the match through the match process of the NRMP (<https://www.nrmp.org/intro-to-main-residency-match/>).

Do you participate in ERAS Program Signals and view Geographic Preferences?

We participate in ERAS Program Signals. We view Geographic Preferences.

How many Fellowships do you have?

We have 15 fellowships – some with more than one position ([Pathology Fellowship Program | Department of Pathology](#)).

Please contact the Pathology Residency Program Office at torresa4@upmc.edu with specific questions. Best wishes.