

Atrium Health & Wingate University
Physical Therapy Neurologic Residency
Frequently Asked Questions

1. How does the partnership between Atrium Health and Wingate University function for the neurologic residency program?

Atrium Health facilities (Carolinas Rehabilitation Charlotte - Inpatient, Carolinas Rehabilitation Blythe – Outpatient and Carolinas Medical Center – Main) provide clinical exposure to patients with varied neurologic diagnosis, clinical mentorship, multi-disciplinary team interaction including work with other Advanced Care Practitioners, coordination and provision of didactic material consistent with the Neurology Description of Specialty Practice and guidance with preparing patient case presentations. Faculty at Wingate University provide additional didactic support, guidance and assistance with project completion, teaching opportunities within the Doctor of Physical Therapy program, including mentoring of DPT students in their pro-bono wellness clinic.

2. When does the program begin?

Our year-long program begins the first week of June and continues through mid-May.

3. What is the tuition for the program?

Current tuition is \$8,500 for the year. For your convenience, Atrium Health will adjust your salary to cover the tuition amount over the course of the 12 months of the residency year.

4. How is my salary determined?

Exact annual salary offers will be determined by human resources once a formal offer is made. For current employees of Atrium Health, your current salary will be adjusted for tuition deduction. If you are currently in a Level II or III position you will be expected to meet all career ladder expectations while in the residency or you may drop down to a Level I position for the duration of the program.

5. What type of position will I have within Atrium Health?

Your residency position is housed under a residency designated cost center, but you will work clinically through three rotations: CMC Acute Care, CR-Charlotte Inpatient Rehabilitation and CR-Blythe Outpatient Rehabilitation. While at CMC you will transition through various neurologic units with the potential of advancing to the Neuro ICU contingent on your performance. You will rotate through the brain injury, spinal cord injury and oncology teams while at CR-Charlotte Inpatient.

6. Do residents receive the same benefits as other employees?

Yes. All residents receive the same benefits as other 40-hour employees of Atrium Health. This includes options for health, dental, and vision insurance, as well as optional life and accident insurance. Your paid time off (PTO) is dependent on the number of years you have worked for the system. Paid time off is not only used for vacation and sick days, but also holidays. You are eligible for \$1000.00 in continuing education reimbursement beginning after 90 days of employment. This can be used for reimbursement of course tuition only (not hotels, food, airfare, etc.) and must be pre-approved. You must use paid time off benefits for continuing education purposes if they occur during normal scheduled work hours.

7. How many hours per week will residents be treating patients during the residency year?

Residents treat patients 36 hours each week. Three to four of these hours each week will include mentor time (both treating and discussing patient care).

8. Are there opportunities to continue working within Atrium Health after the residency is completed?

Continued employment within Atrium Health is not guaranteed following completion of the residency program, however, our hope and desire are that graduates will choose to remain with Atrium Health. Every effort will be made to find graduates a suitable position. Thus far, every graduate that has wanted to remain with the system has been placed in a role that fits well with their professional goals. Current Atrium employees are encouraged to speak with their respective managers prior to transferring to the residency to discuss options following completion of the program.

9. Are there any recommended textbooks for the residency program?

Yes. Prior to the start of the program, each resident will receive a list of recommended textbooks and other materials.

10. How is each resident evaluated throughout the program?

Residents are evaluated through written assignments, graded presentations, examinations (written, oral, and practical) and live patient examinations.

11. I am practicing outside the US; can I still apply for Atrium Health employment and the PT Residency?

Residency applicants must be graduates from a CAPTE-accredited PT program or, if foreign-trained, they must have a visa credential verification certificate from FCCPT (Foreign Credentialing Commission on Physical Therapy) and an H-1B visa. All residency applicants must be licensed to practice in NC prior to the start date of the program and must be active members of the American Physical Therapy Association and the Academy of Neurologic Physical Therapy.