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AMERICAN OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION

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**Basic Standards for  
Community Based Residency Training in  
Pediatrics**

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**American Osteopathic Association  
and the  
American College of Osteopathic Pediatricians**

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### SECTION I - Introduction

3 These are the basic standards for community based residency training in pediatrics as approved by  
4 the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) and the American College of Osteopathic  
5 Pediatricians (ACOP). These standards are designed to provide the osteopathic resident with  
6 advanced and concentrated training in community based pediatrics.

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### SECTION II - Mission

8 The specialty of pediatrics consists of the study and management of care of newborns, infants,  
9 children and adolescents, as well as the diagnosis and treatment of their diseases. The purposes of  
10 an osteopathic community based pediatric training program are to:

- 11 A. Provide training and experience to enable the resident to care for the whole patient,  
12 incorporating osteopathic **PRINCIPLES AND PHILOSOPHY** in the practice of  
13 pediatrics.
- 14 B. Provide continuity of advanced educational experience and increased patient care  
15 responsibilities to prepare the resident for the complete medical care of the pediatric patient  
16 **IN THE COMMUNITY.**
- 17 C. Provide a structured educational program that will enable the resident, upon completion of  
18 training, to demonstrate expertise in clinical proficiency and in the technical skills required to  
19 perform at a level expected by a peer group of qualified community based pediatricians.

20

### SECTION III- Educational Program Goals

21 The goals of the educational programs of the pediatric residencies are based on the core  
22 competencies as outlined by the American Osteopathic Association. Each Core competency is  
23 outlined below and is adapted to reflect the specific needs of the pediatric profession.

24 **Competency 1:** Osteopathic Philosophy Principles and Manipulative Treatment:

25 Pediatric residents shall demonstrate and apply knowledge of accepted standards in OPP/OMT  
26 appropriate to pediatrics. The educational goal is to train a skilled and competent osteopathic  
27 pediatrician who remains dedicated to life-long learning and to practice habits in osteopathic  
28 philosophy and manipulative medicine.

29 **Competency 2:** Pediatric Knowledge and Its Application Into Osteopathic Medical Practice:

30 Pediatric residents must demonstrate and apply integrative knowledge of accepted standards of  
31 clinical pediatrics and OPP, remain current with new developments in pediatrics, and participate in  
32 life-long learning activities, including research.

33 **Competency 3:** Osteopathic Patient Care:

34 Osteopathic pediatric residents must demonstrate the ability to effectively treat patients, provide  
35 pediatric care that incorporates the osteopathic philosophy, patient empathy, awareness of  
36 behavioral issues, the incorporation of preventive medicine, and health promotion.

37 **Competency 4:** Interpersonal and Communication Skills in Osteopathic Pediatric Practice:

1 Residents must demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills that enable them to establish  
2 and maintain professional relationships with patients, families, and other members of health care  
3 teams.

4 **Competency 5:** Professionalism in Osteopathic Medical Practice:

5 Residents must uphold the Osteopathic Oath in the conduct of their professional activities that  
6 promote advocacy of patient welfare, adherence to ethical principles, collaboration with health  
7 professionals, life-long learning, and sensitivity to a diverse patient population. Residents shall be  
8 cognizant of their own physical and mental health in order to care effectively for patients.

9 **Competency 6:** Osteopathic Medical Practice-Based Learning and Improvement:

10 Residents must demonstrate the ability to critically evaluate their methods of clinical practice,  
11 integrate evidence-based traditional and osteopathic medical principles into patient care, show an  
12 understanding of research methods, and improve patient care practices.

13 **Competency 7:** System-Based Osteopathic Medical Practice:

14 Residents must demonstrate an understanding of health care delivery systems, provide effective and  
15 qualitative osteopathic patient care within the system, and practice cost-effective medicine.

16 **SECTION IV - Community Based Institutional Requirements**

- 17 1. The community based institution must provide patient care experience to train a minimum  
18 of three (3) residents in pediatrics. No program may accept a new resident unless at least  
19 two (2) other residents are also in the program. A new program will have three (3) years to  
20 enact this requirement.
- 21 2. The community based institution shall provide for the interaction between the pediatric  
22 service and other departments including, but not limited to, obstetrics, medicine, pathology,  
23 radiology, emergency medicine, and surgery.
- 24 3. The teaching staff shall be composed of physicians with diversified experience in clinical  
25 pediatrics, basic and behavioral sciences and allied health fields.
- 26 4. The community based institution must provide an opportunity for exposure in a supervised  
27 ambulatory site for continuity of care training. Institutional clinics or pediatricians' offices  
28 may be used. The residents must function as the patients' primary care providers. **UNDER**  
29 **A PRECEPTING PEDIATRICIAN'S SUPERVISION.**

30 **SECTION V – Program Requirements and Content**

- 31 5.1. The residency training program in pediatrics shall be three (3) years (thirty-six (36) months  
32 general pediatric medicine. **“IF THE OGME-1 YEAR IS A ROTATING**  
33 **INTERSHIP, IT SHALL BE FOLLOWED BY 3 YEARS (36 MONTHS) OF**  
34 **COMMUNITY BASED PEDIATRIC RESIDENCY.”**
- 35 5.2. At least twenty-four (24) months of the required thirty-six (36) months must be served IN  
36 the same program unless an exemption is granted by the ACOP.
- 37 5.3. The general educational content of the residency training program must include:
  - 38 5.3.1. The neuromuscular component of disease and the osteopathic concept of evaluating  
39 and treating the whole patient in inpatient care and ambulatory care settings.

1 5.3.2. Development of basic cognitive skills and knowledge pertaining to normal  
2 physiology and pathophysiology of the body systems and the correlating clinical  
3 applications of medical diagnosis and management.

4 5.3.3. Experience and training in the following procedures and development of respective  
5 interpretation skills. Verification by the program director of experience and  
6 competency in required procedures is necessary.

7 Required:

- 8 • developmental screening,
- 9 • intradermal subcutaneous and intramuscular injections,
- 10 • lumbar puncture,
- 11 • intravenous access,
- 12 • endotracheal intubation,
- 13 • umbilical artery lines,
- 14 • umbilical venous lines,
- 15 • arterial blood gas sampling,
- 16 • suturing of lacerations,
- 17 • bladder catheterization,
- 18 • phlebotomy,
- 19 • newborn resuscitation,
- 20 • intraosseous access,
- 21 • procedural sedation,
- 22 • pelvic examinations,
- 23 • Basic Life Support (BLS), Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) and  
24 Neonatal Resuscitation Program (NRP).

25 5.3.4. Bio-psychosocial knowledge and skills shall be taught in both **DIDACTIC**  
26 **CLASSROOM** and **PATIENT CARE** settings throughout the residency. These  
27 shall include such factors as medical sociology  
28 doctor/patient/parent/guardian/family communication, crisis recognition and  
29 intervention, the effects of psychological components of health states, interviewing  
30 skills, recognition and management of uncomplicated behavioral disorders, substance  
31 abuse care, and death and dying.

32 5.3.5. All elective training must be approved by the program director.

33 5.3.6. Ambulatory Care: To include the traditional care of the well child and also the child  
34 with acute illness, trauma, poisoning and chronic disorders. Training must enable  
35 the resident to develop skills in counseling and guidance, developmental appraisal,  
36 referral, consultation, health maintenance assessment and the management of a  
37 practice as well as to prepare the resident to assist in the continuing care of the  
38 developmentally disabled child. Participation in the activities of the outpatient  
39 department and the emergency medicine department are important, as they pertain  
40 to the pediatric patient including child abuse evaluations, treatment and reporting.

41 5.3.7. Inpatient Care: To include the management and understanding of functional and  
42 organic diseases of newborns, infants, children and adolescents. Training shall  
43 enable the resident to appraise and react to the rapidly changing clinical status of the  
44 patient as well as to handle multiple or conflicting consultations and coordinate  
45 services for individual patients requiring multidisciplinary care.

- 1           5.3.8. Experience in the delivery room with newborn care and resuscitation, enabling the  
2           resident to become skilled in the process of infant stabilization when specialized  
3           facilities are not available prior to transfer. The resident must be capable of  
4           stabilizing the seriously ill newborn.
- 5           5.3.9. Experience in the newborn nursery to enable the resident to become proficient in  
6           the management of such conditions as asphyxia, hypoglycemia, jaundice, respiratory  
7           distress syndrome, sepsis and other conditions inherent in the management of a  
8           neonate. The resident shall demonstrate knowledge of the normal growth and  
9           development of the fetus and the effects of drugs, infection and malnutrition.
- 10          5.3.10. The training program shall make available pediatric board review opportunities to  
11          each resident, **IN ADDITON TO** weekly programs (such as Nelson's Club or  
12          Journal Club).
- 13          5.3.11. Residents must attend at least one ACOP meeting prior to completing their  
14          residency.
- 15          5.3.12. Provide training to make sound medical judgments with an understanding of ethical  
16          and legal considerations as well as cultural diversities and the care of the patient.
- 17          5.4. Advanced Placement
- 18          5.4.1. Advanced placement into osteopathic pediatric medicine from non-pediatric  
19          medicine fields or after OGME-1 Traditional.
- 20                a. One (1) month of credit may be awarded for each month of training in general  
21                pediatrics or its subspecialties taken under the direction of a pediatrician in an  
22                AOA- or ACGME-approved program.
- 23                b. Credit may be granted in non-pediatric medicine specialties to include radiology,  
24                pathology, emergency medicine and ambulatory surgical specialties (gynecology,  
25                orthopedics, ENT) up to a maximum of two (2) months credit towards a total  
26                program.
- 27                c. Total advance placement cannot exceed twelve (12) months towards the entire  
28                program.
- 29          5.4.2. Mechanism to request advanced placement. A request for advanced placement must  
30          be received from both the resident and the current pediatric program director and  
31          must include:
- 32                a. A letter requesting advanced placement standing from the resident  
33                b. A letter requesting advanced placement standing from program director  
34                c. ACOP resident annual report for previous training.  
35                d. AOA program director report for previous training.  
36                e. Determination of advanced placement within these guidelines shall be made by  
37                the ACOP GME Committee based on the concept of equivalency.
- 38          5.5. At least twenty-four (24) months of training must include actual clinical pediatric patient  
39          responsibility, and no more than six (6) months of the thirty-six (36) months of training  
40          can be assigned in non-pediatric services.

1 5.6. The program shall provide exposure to medical research/review skills and methods of  
2 presentation including

- 3 • How to read and understand the medical literature,
- 4 • Research types, methodology and statistics,
- 5 • Evidence based medicine,
- 6 • Quality, performance improvement and patient safety initiatives,
- 7 • Health services research, policies, administration (i.e., access of population groups to  
8 healthcare, compliance issues, public policies, managed care, etc.).

9 5.7. Each resident must participate in scholarly activity as determined by the program director.

10 5.8. Community Based Pediatric Training

11 5.8.1. Ambulatory

12 The curriculum must include at least eighteen (18) months in **VARIOUS** community  
13 based ambulatory settings, including general pediatric clinic, acute illness clinic,  
14 emergency department, private practice settings, adolescent clinics and behavioral-  
15 developmental clinics, in addition to the required time spent in the continuity clinic.  
16 **NO MORE THAN (FILL IN THE BLANK) MONTHS SHALL BE SPENT**  
17 **IN ANY SINGLE SETTING.**

18 The following requirements pertain to ambulatory general pediatric care:

19 5.8.1.1. Continuity Clinic The resident must have at least 36 sessions of continuity  
20 clinic scheduled in no less than 26 weeks per year. The volume per session must  
21 be enough to demonstrate skills in development, longitudinal care and chronic  
22 disease. The residents must be proctored by attendings with the experience in the  
23 above qualities and the medical home concept. OGME1 and OGME2 must  
24 experience their sessions in an atmosphere that demonstrates the medical home  
25 concept. OGME3 may experience their sessions either in the same setting or in a  
26 longitudinal subspecialty clinic consistent with their future career goals. The  
27 medical home concept must be the center of the residents sessions including the  
28 above mentioned qualities of wellness, disease prevention, care coordination,  
29 longitudinal care, developmental awareness, chronic disease management and  
30 family centered care. The sessions must be organized to identify the resident as  
31 the primary care giver to the set of patients consistent with medical home model

32 5.8.1.2. Community-based assignments: Assignments may be solid blocks of time or  
33 may run concurrently with other assignments on a part-time basis. Verification  
34 of all patients seen must be kept by residents. Residents must be involved in  
35 decision-making processes and not function merely as observers. Assignments  
36 must show evidence of experience with business aspects of practice, medical  
37 home model, office based scholarly work and electronic medical records.  
38 Evidence of a daily didactic activity must be present in each assignment in topics  
39 such as immunization, well child care, development, chronic disease  
40 management, behavioral, addiction, obesity, and mental health.

41 5.8.1.3. Emergency/urgent care and acute illness experiences

1 In addition to their experience in the continuity clinics, residents must have  
2 at least three (3) months of experience managing pediatric patients with acute  
3 problems, including respiratory infections, dehydration, coma, seizures,  
4 poisoning, trauma, lacerations, burns, shock and status asthmaticus. At least  
5 one of these months must be a block rotation in an emergency department  
6 that serves as the receiving point for EMS transport and ambulance traffic  
7 and which is the access point for seriously ill and acutely ill pediatric patients.  
8 The residents must have the opportunity to function as the physician of first  
9 contact for pediatric patients with the problems mentioned above.

10 5.8.1.4. Behavioral/ Developmental Pediatrics

11 Residents must participate in a structured experience in normal and abnormal  
12 behavior and development involving didactic and clinical components.  
13 Experience must include the care of patients from newborn through young  
14 adulthood.

15 Residents must learn how to serve as care managers for patients with chronic  
16 diseases and multiple problems. Subspecialty consultants and ancillary  
17 personnel must be available to the residents as they care for these patients.

18 5.8.2. General Inpatient Care

19 General inpatient pediatric rotations must be a minimum of three (3) months.

20 The list of diagnoses and patient data requested in the program information forms  
21 must show evidence of a sufficient number and variety of complex and diverse  
22 pathologic conditions to ensure that the residents have experience with patients who  
23 have acute and chronic illnesses as well as those with life-threatening conditions in  
24 the pediatric age groups. Residents at more than one level of training must interact  
25 in the care of inpatients.

26  
27 5.8.3. Newborn Nursery Care

28 There must be the equivalent of at least two (2) months that include care of  
29 newborns in the routine nursery setting. This experience must include routine  
30 physical examination of the newborns (at least 50 normal newborn  
31 **EXAMINATIONS**), attendance at routine, high risk deliveries and C-sections, and  
32 counseling of the parents on the care, and comprehensive issues of the neonatal  
33 period. This requirement may be combined or included with other rotations that  
34 have a normal newborn service.

35 5.8.4. Critical Care

36 5.8.4.1. There must be a rotation in neonatal critical care (Levels II and III) for a  
37 minimum of one (1) month, exclusive of experience with the normal  
38 newborn. Residents must have the opportunity to participate in the  
39 resuscitation of newborns in the delivery room.

40 5.8.4.2. There must be a rotation in the pediatric intensive care unit for a minimum  
41 of one (1) months.

1 5.8.4.3. The maximum number of required rotations in both critical care areas  
2 combined must not exceed two months.

3 5.9. Electives

4 5.9.1. Subspecialty Electives

5 The total amount of time committed to all subspecialty elective rotations must be no  
6 more than five (5) months. No more than three (3) months may be spent on any  
7 one subspecialty during the three (3)-year residency. The subspecialty rotations must  
8 occur primarily in the second and third years of training.

9 5.9.2. Subspecialty rotations shall include any of the following: allergy/immunology,  
10 cardiology, child psychiatry, critical care, dermatology, endocrinology/metabolism,  
11 gastroenterology, genetics, hematology/oncology, infectious disease, nephrology,  
12 neurology, pediatric radiology, pediatric rheumatology, pediatric surgery,  
13 pulmonology, school health and international health, anesthesia, ophthalmology,  
14 orthopedics, sports medicine, otolaryngology, physical medicine & rehab.

15 5.9.3. Subspecialty Supervision

16 Subspecialty experience must be supervised by pediatricians who have been certified  
17 in their pediatric subspecialty areas by the appropriate sub-boards of the American  
18 Osteopathic Board of Pediatrics (AOBP) or by another specialty board or who  
19 possess suitable equivalent qualifications. The acceptability of equivalent  
20 qualifications shall be determined by the program director. These individuals must  
21 be directly involved in the supervision of residents during their training in the  
22 subspecialties.

23 5.9.4. Content of Required and Elective Subspecialty Experiences

24 All subspecialty rotations must have a number and variety of patients to provide each  
25 resident with broad experience in the subspecialty. These experiences also must  
26 include attending subspecialty conferences, reading assignments, and acquainting the  
27 residents with techniques used by subspecialists.

28 Each resident must have patient care responsibilities as a supervised consultant on  
29 the inpatient and outpatient services in each of his or her subspecialty experiences.  
30 As a supervised consultant the resident must have the opportunity to evaluate and to  
31 formulate management plans for subspecialty patients. Instances in which a resident  
32 functions solely as an observer shall not fulfill this requirement.

33 **SECTION VI – Program Director/Faculty**

34 6.1. Qualifications: The program director of a residency program shall possess the following  
35 qualifications:

36 6.1.1. Be certified in pediatrics by the AOA through the AOBP;

37 6.1.2. Have practiced in pediatrics or a pediatric subspecialty for a minimum of three (3)  
38 years;

39 6.1.3. Be a practicing specialist in pediatrics or a pediatric subspecialty;

40 6.1.4. Be a member in good standing of the ACOP



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9.1 Complete one (1) POMT module every quarter throughout pediatric residency

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9.2 Attend one (1) OMT workshop during an ACOP meeting within a three year pediatric

4

residency.

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9.3 Successfully complete a three (3) year AOA approved Pediatric residency.

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**APPENDIX A – Three-Year Required Pediatric ROTATIONS**

	<b>OGME 1</b>	<b>OGME 2</b>	<b>OGME 3</b>
SURGERY	1		
INTERNAL MEDICINE	1		
WOMEN'S HEALTH	1		
EMERGENCY MEDICINE	1	1	1
AMBULATORY PEDIATRICS	6	6	6
NEWBORN NURSERY	1	1	
GENERAL IN-PATIENT PEDIATRICS	1	1	1
PICU	0	0	1
NICU	0	1	0
PEDIATRIC SPECIALTY ELECTIVES	0	2	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>

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**APPENDIX B – Outline For Continuity Ambulatory Training Sites For Residents In  
Osteopathic Pediatric Medicine**

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- 4 1. The ambulatory site must provide for comprehensive continuous general pediatric patient  
5 care where residents can function as the primary care giver for the patient. The site may be  
6 in a clinic (free-standing or in-hospital) or in a private practice setting.
- 7 2. The training site must have the presence of an attending pediatrician for supervision of  
8 residents. The supervisor should not supervise more than four (4) residents per clinic.
- 9 3. Residents must be scheduled a minimum of one half (1/2)-day per week throughout the  
10 training program.
- 11 4. An educational program must be scheduled in the clinic with active participation between  
12 the supervisor and the resident. Cases must be discussed and all charts should be reviewed  
13 and signed by the supervising pediatrician.
- 14 5. The resident should be exposed to the broad spectrum of medical diagnoses in pediatric and  
15 adolescent patients, as well as to demonstrate the ability to integrate the concepts of disease  
16 prevention and health maintenance.
- 17 6. An emphasis on the development of a resident panel of patients must occur during all of the  
18 training years.
- 19 7. Separate resident performance evaluations must be conducted by the ambulatory supervisor  
20 at least quarterly and reviewed between the resident, ambulatory supervisor and program  
21 director.
- 22 8. In addition to clinical exposure in the ambulatory training site, the resident must also be  
23 exposed to osteopathic concepts, behavioral and psycho-social aspects of medical care,  
24 medical ethics, medical-legal implications and practice management.
- 25 9. An opportunity must exist for the resident to be involved and participate in the ongoing care  
26 of his/her clinic patients when they are hospitalized at the base hospital facility and through  
27 all phases of their care (under supervision).
- 28 10. A resident in a teaching ambulatory setting must see a minimum of OGME-1 three (3)  
29 patients, OGME-2 four (4) patients and OGME-3 five (5) patients per half (1/2)-day  
30 session.

31