Southcentral Foundation

Advanced General Practice Residency

Overview

The Advanced General Practice Residency (AGPR) is an intensive postgraduate training program fully accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation. The program is designed to provide each resident a comprehensive training experience in the advanced general practice of dentistry.

It offers a balanced clinical and didactic program and provides management experiences and insight to prepare the resident to direct a complex dental program within the Public Health.

This program is geared towards US Public Health Service officers to prepare them long-term for senior leadership positions within the Indian Health Service.

The program is comprised of rotations that enable its residents to practice all facets of dentistry with the added advantage of working comfortably in a hospital setting and providing care for compromised patients.

Program Length	24 months	**Decision Date**	Jan. 31
No. of Residents Accepted	1 per year	**Beginning Date**	July 1
PASS Participant	No	**Tuition**	No
MATCH Participant	No	**Stipends**	Salary
Application Date	Oct. 1 - Dec. 31		

Clinical Facilities

Alaska Native Medical Center

The Alaska Native Medical Center (ANMC) is the principal health resource of the Native people of the Anchorage Service Unit, a landmass the size of Washington and Oregon combined. This region encompasses the greater part of southcentral Alaska, ranging from the Canadian border in the east to the upper reaches of the Kuskokwim River in the west, the Prince William Sound Area, Kodiak Island, portions of the Alaska Peninsula and the Aleutian and Pribilof Islands.

In addition to providing primary care for the people of the Anchorage Service Unit, ANMC also serves as the tertiary referral hospital for all the Native people in the state.

The current Alaska Native Medical Center, a state-of-the-art facility and the flagship institution of the Indian Health Service, opened in 1997 and is jointly administered by the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium and Southcentral Foundation.

Southcentral Foundation

Southcentral Foundation (SCF) is an Alaska Native-owned, nonprofit health care organization, under the authority of Cook Inlet Region, Inc., that serves over 65,000 Alaska Native and American Indian people living in Anchorage, Matanuska-Susitna Valley, and 55 rural villages in the Anchorage Service Unit.

The SCF Dental Program has a staff of over 270 employees and operates four state-of-the-art clinics, ranging from 21 to 30 chairs each, and several smaller satellite clinics, including one devoted to Elders and Headstart children and some in rural communities

The AGPR functions within the SCF Dental Program, based at ANMC and the Alaska Native Health campus in Anchorage:

- **ANMC Dental Clinic:** Pediatric and oral surgery sedation, oral surgery services, and adult urgent dental care.
- **ANMC Hospital:** Operating Room, Anesthesia, Emergency Department, Internal Medicine.
- **Drs. Katherine and Kevin Gottlieb Children's Dental Clinic:** Children's dental services, including routine pediatric treatment, school-age services, and orthodontics, and care for special needs patients.
- **Fireweed Dental Clinic:** Adult dental services, including endodontics, periodontics, prosthodontics

Curriculum

We are proud that our AGPR program has a reputation for providing the residents with outstanding education in all aspects of dentistry and medicine related. Our clinics use the latest state-of-the-art dental technology to bring exceptional care to our patients.

By the completion of the program, the resident will demonstrate the ability to:

- Act as a primary care provider for individuals and groups of patients
  - Provide emergency and multidisciplinary comprehensive oral health care
  - Obtain informed consent
  - Provide patient-focused care that is coordinated by the general practitioner
  - Direct health promotion and disease prevention activities
- Assess, diagnose, plan, and provide multidisciplinary oral health care for a wide variety of patients including patients with special care needs.
- Manage the delivery of patient-focused oral health care by applying concepts of patient and practice management and quality improvement that are responsive to a dynamic health care environment.
- Function effectively within the hospital and outpatient clinics as part of interdisciplinary health care teams.
- Apply scientific principles to learning and oral health care, including critical thinking, evidence or outcomes-based clinical decision-making, and technology-based information retrieval systems.
- Utilize the values of professional ethics, lifelong learning, patient centered care, adaptability, and acceptance of cultural diversity in professional practice.
- Understand the oral health needs of communities and engage in community service to prevent or treat oral disease.
- Provide program management, leadership, and human resource management utilizing public health principles.

Plan and provide comprehensive multidisciplinary oral health care:

- Function as a patient's primary, and comprehensive, oral health care provider.
- Work with patients in a manner that is professional, builds rapport and confidence, respects patients' rights and dignity, puts patients' interests first, and maximizes patients' satisfaction with dental care.
- Provide dental care as a part of a health care team.
- Make referrals to, and obtain consultations from, professional colleagues for the treatment of dental, medical, psychological, and social problems presented by dental patients.

Detect, diagnose, and prevent oral disease:

- Select and use assessment techniques to arrive at a differential, provisional, and definitive diagnosis for patients with complex needs.
- Assess patient's cultural background and expectations for dental care and perform patient care consistent with that assessment.
- Obtain and interpret clinical and other diagnostic data from dental professionals and other health care providers.
- Use the services of clinical, medical and pathology laboratories and make referrals to other health professionals for the utilization of these services.
- Use accepted prevention strategies to help patients maintain and improve their oral health and aspects of their systemic health.

Treat oral disease:

- Obtain informed consent for dental treatment by discussing with patients / parents / guardians, the following: findings; diagnoses; the risks, benefits, and process of various treatment options; patient responsibilities during and after treatment; and estimated fees and payment responsibilities.
- Integrate multiple disciplines into individualized, comprehensive, sequenced treatment plans for patients with advanced and complex needs.
- Develop and carry out dental treatment plans for patients, including patients with special needs, in a manner that considers and integrates medical, psychological, and social needs.

- Modify the treatment plan based on therapeutic outcomes, unexpected circumstances, or individual needs.

Operative Dentistry

- Treat and manage patients requiring restorations, including endodontically treated teeth, primary dentition, and techniques to enhance patient's facial esthetics.

Restoration of Edentulous Space

- Treat and manage patients with missing teeth requiring fixed or removable prostheses, including uncomplicated dental implant restorations.

Periodontal Therapy

- Diagnose, manage, and treat periodontal disease, from early to advanced disease, using nonsurgical and surgical procedures.
- Evaluate the results of periodontal treatment and establish periodontal maintenance program.

Endodontic Therapy

- Diagnose and treat pulpal and periapical pathology on anterior and posterior teeth, in permanent and primary dentition, and manage complications.

Oral Surgery

- Perform surgical and nonsurgical extraction of teeth, including third molars and pre-prosthetic surgery.
- Treat patients with complications related to intraoral surgical procedures.
- Manage the surgical component of dental implant systems and complications.

Evaluation and Treatment of Dental Emergencies

- Provide treatment to manage intraoral, extraoral, and complex orofacial emergencies and infections.

Pain and Anxiety Control Utilizing Behavioral or Pharmacologic Techniques

- Provide control of pain and anxiety in the conscious patient through the use of psychological interventions, behavior management techniques, local anesthesia, and oral and nitrous oxide conscious sedation techniques.
- Use pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic behavior management with the pediatric patient.
- Prevent, recognize, and manage complications related to use and interactions of drugs, local anesthesia, and conscious sedation.

Orthodontics

- Recognize, diagnose, and manage orthodontic treatment for children.
- Treat minor occlusal abnormalities and arch space problems using space maintenance and other orthodontic appliances.

Medical Emergencies

- Anticipate, prevent, diagnose, and provide initial treatment and follow-up management for medical emergencies that may occur during dental treatment.

Oral Pathology

- Diagnose, manage, and biopsy (if indicated) oral pathological abnormalities.
- Diagnose and manage oral manifestations of systemic disease.

Temporomandibular Disorder

- Diagnose and non-surgically manage temporomandibular disorders.

Orofacial Pain

- Assess and manage facial pain.

Management of Inpatients and Surgery

- The resident will gain training and experience in the following areas:
  - Reviewing medical histories and physical examinations.
  - Prescribing treatment and medication.
  - Providing care in the operating room.
  - Preparing the patient record, including notation of medical history, review of physical examination, pre- and post-operative orders, and description of surgical procedures.
- Inpatient and surgery experiences will be included in the quarterly resident report, with an emphasis on the objectives listed above.

Practice Management, Leadership, and Public Health

- The resident will receive training in dental practice

management, leadership and public health administration in order to prepare graduates for senior positions within Indian Health Service dental clinics. This consists of focused contact time with senior leadership, didactic sessions, and practical exercises in structured learning activities, addressing the following topics:

- Management of allied dental professionals / office personnel
- Quality management and continuous quality improvement
- Principles of peer review
- Business management and practice development
- Principles of professional ethics
- Jurisprudence and risk management
- Alternative health care delivery systems
- Informational technology

Hospital Organization and Processes

- The resident will gain an understanding of hospital organization and functioning, including medical staff bylaws and hospital committees.
  - Become familiar with the credentialing process and the process for application for privileges.
  - Understand hospital records protocol.
  - Understand the responsibilities of dentists as members of the medical staff.
  - Become familiar with the standards and evaluation protocols for The Joint Commission and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

Community Service

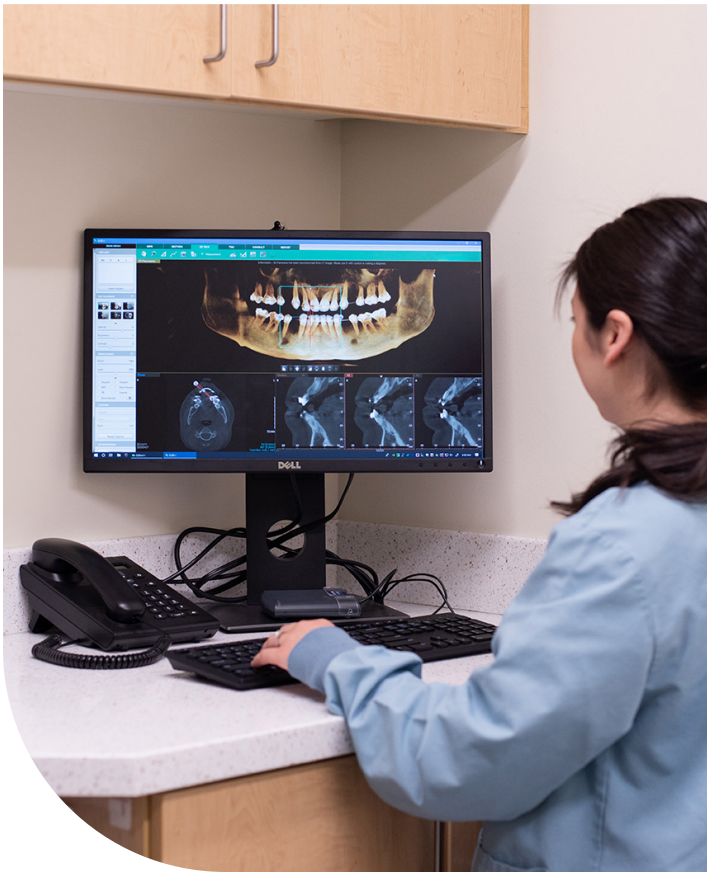
- The resident will advocate for and participate in community programs to improve access to oral health care and prevent or reduce the incidence of oral disease.
  - Dental Field Trip
    - The resident will provide examinations, preventive services, basic restorative services, urgent dental care, and patient education presentations in a rural community setting.
    - The resident will coordinate logistical and travel arrangements, including contacting the school, preparing the mobile dental equipment, and distributing health history and consent forms.
  - Additional community outreach experiences
    - University of Alaska Anchorage Dental Days
    - Mission of Mercy
    - Presentations at schools, health care centers, or with other civic groups

On-Call Duty

The AGPR training program includes participation in after-hours on-call to the community through the Alaska Native Medical Center Emergency Department (ED). The after-hours on-call service provides residents the opportunity to treat a wide range of emergencies from dentoalveolar and maxillofacial trauma, to severe odontalgias and infections. The on-call schedule is pre-assigned, and all residents receive their on-call schedule for the entire year at the beginning of the program year.

Didactics

The didactic series covers a wide variety of topics including internal medicine, physiology, anatomy, physical diagnosis, moderate parenteral sedation and medical emergencies, Systematic review-evidence based dentistry, ACLS, PALS, pharmacology, dental implants, basic and innovative dental procedures, literature review and practice management. We encourage residents to request presentations on topics of interest.



AGPR Rotations

General Anesthesia Rotation: 100 hours

The resident will understand fundamental principles of general anesthesia and gain practical experience in the following areas:

- Preoperative evaluation
- Assessment of the effects of behavioral and pharmacologic techniques
- Venipuncture technique
- Patient monitoring
- Airway management and intubation
- Understanding of the use of pharmacologic agents
- Prevention and treatment of anesthetic emergencies
- Assessment of patient recovery from anesthesia

Emergency Department: 100 hours

The resident will gain practical experience in the following areas:

- Obtaining and interpreting the patient's chief complaint, medical, and social history, and review of systems.
- Obtaining and interpreting clinical and other diagnostic data from other health care providers.
- Using the services of clinical, medical, and pathology laboratories.
- Learn wound management
- Evaluation of fractures

Medical Rotations: 150 hours

The resident will receive training and be able to demonstrate skill in the following areas:

- Taking, recording, and interpreting a complete medical history.
- Understanding the indications of and interpretations of laboratory studies and other techniques used in the diagnosis of oral and systemic diseases.
- Understanding the relationship between oral health care and systemic diseases.
- Interpreting the physical evaluation performed by a physician with an understanding of how it impacts on proposed dental treatment.

Cleft Lip and Palate Program: 160 hours

Alaska's Cleft Lip and Palate Program is the first state endorsed cleft lip and palate program in Alaska. Our team includes an audiologist, ear, nose and throat specialist, speech language pathologists, behavioral health consultant, nutritionist, pediatrician, pediatric dentist, oral surgeons, plastic surgeons, orthodontists, along with a parent navigator to help guide the families.

Admission and Applying

The Southcentral Foundation Dental Program at the Alaska Native Medical Center accepts applications from October 1st to December 31st for one Advanced General Practice Residency position. Training begins July 1st of the following year. Advanced clinical and administrative training are provided during the two-year experience. The intent of this residency is to prepare IHS career-oriented dentists for senior leadership positions (O-5/O-6). Upon completion of this program, residents are qualified to challenge the American Board of General Dentistry, and Commissioned Officers are eligible for special pay contracts, per USPHS policy.

Application

Applicants to the AGPR training program must meet the following criteria:

- Obtained a dental degree (DMD/DDS) from an accredited United States dental school.
- Possess a current, valid dental license from any state in the United States.
- Two years of dental clinical experience.
- Be engaged in the full-time practice of dentistry and meet credentialing requirements of the Southcentral Foundation Dental Program and the Alaska Native Medical Center.
- Have no disqualifying obligations, such as IHS or NHSC Scholarship or Loan Repayment.

Each applicant must submit the following information:

1. **Application forms**
   - a. For Commissioned Officers:
     - i. Application for Training for PHS Commissioned Personnel (PHS form 1122-1 and supplement)
     - ii. Disclosure Statement (DD 2807-1)
     - iii. Report of Medical History (DD 2807-1)
     - iv. Report of Medical Examination (DD 2808)
     - v. DOD Dental Examination (DD 2813)
     - vi. PHS Intramural Long Term Training Agreement (PHS form 6374)
   - b. For civilian dentists:
     - i. Application for AGPR at the Alaska Native Medical Center
2. **Current CV or Résumé.** Include dental program responsibilities and accomplishments, training experiences, awards, professional activities, etc.
3. **Statement of Intent,** describing the reasons for seeking the AGPR, short- and long-term professional interests, career goals, and how the residency will help you achieve these goals.
4. **Three Letters of Recommendation,** addressing the applicant's interpersonal skills, performance, and work habits:
   - a. One from a current direct supervisor
   - b. Two from anyone having knowledge of the applicant's professional skills, duties, and performance, such as Area Dental Officer, specialist, or colleague.
5. **Final Dental School Official Transcripts.** If the transcript does not indicate class rank, please submit a letter from the dental school indicating overall class rank.
6. **Commissioned Officers' Effectiveness Reports or Employee Performance Evaluations** from the two most recent evaluation periods.

Applicants for the AGPR will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

a. Experience
b. Current Billet / Position
c. Academic Performance
d. Work Performance
e. Career Potential

The deadline for receipt of application materials is December 31.

If you are interested in the Advanced General Practice Residency at the Alaska Native Medical Center in Anchorage, Alaska, and would like additional information about the program, please contact the residency director:

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