More about Blue Shield of California

Blue Shield of California, an independent member of the Blue Shield Association, is a nonprofit health plan dedicated to providing Californians with access to high-quality health care at an affordable price. Headquartered in San Francisco, our 6,800 employees work together from multiple offices statewide to provide access to quality care at competitive rates. We offer our 4 million members a wide range of affordable plans and one of the state’s largest networks of healthcare providers, including physicians, hospitals, allied healthcare professionals and pharmacies.

Pharmacy Services

Our mission is to provide quality and affordable pharmacy benefits. We are uniquely positioned to accomplish this through the use of integrated pharmacy and medical data to ensure effective coordination of healthcare services for individual patients and patient populations.

The Managed Care Pharmacy Residency Program conducted by Blue Shield of California is accredited by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) in partnership with the Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy (AMCP).
**Residency program mission statement**

Blue Shield of California’s Managed Care Pharmacy Residency Program is designed to prepare residents for a career in managed care pharmacy. The program provides opportunities to develop proficient clinical, project management, analytical and leadership skills, and is customized based on the resident’s professional goals. Upon successful completion of the program, graduates are prepared for a variety of clinical pharmacist roles, including drug utilization review, quality assurance and improvement, drug information, and formulary management.

The program provides residents with the training, skills and experience needed for a successful pharmacy career in today’s healthcare environment.

**Residents will:**

- Perform direct and indirect patient care activities through various programs – conducting comprehensive medication reviews, drug utilization reviews and quality improvement interventions
- Review drug information literature to make evidence-based clinical decisions
- Assist in formulary maintenance, including the development of medication policies and coverage criteria
- Analyze claims data to develop drug therapy and disease management programs
- Apply pharmacoeconomic principles to optimize patient outcomes through cost-effective medication use
- Learn claims processing systems and pharmacy benefit design
- Participate in rebate modeling activities
- Complete a high-quality residency research project suitable for publication

**Learning experiences**

- **Orientation**
  Introduction to managed care, overview of learning experiences and development of customized resident plan.

- **Clinical Pharmacy Operations Center (CPOC) – Direct Patient Care**
  Provide direct patient care in the CPOC ambulatory care clinic. Clinical programs include Narcotic Safety Initiative, Therapeutic Interchange and Medication Management.

- **Drug Utilization Review**
  Participate in coverage policy implementation, prior authorization review and patient case presentations at clinical rounds.

- **Formulary and Pharmacy & Therapeutics (P&T)**
  Perform drug literature reviews and therapeutic class reviews, answer medication policy questions, and present at the Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&T) Committee.

- **Pharmacy Benefits and Claims**
  Understand pharmacy networks, rebates, benefits and claims. Participate in drug pricing and competitive strategy discussions.

- **Pharmacy Accounts and Sales**
  Participate in benefit design analysis, utilization analysis, sales and marketing strategies, and negotiations. Contribute to sales presentations.

- **Student Precepting**
  Precept fourth-year APPE students in the CPOC ambulatory care clinics, coordinate learning experiences and promote professional development.

- **Analytics and Residency Project**
  Perform a population-based, medication and/or disease management outcomes study. Understand the basics of pharmacy analytics.

**How to apply**

**Acceptance requirements**

- Doctor of Pharmacy degree from an accredited school of pharmacy
- California licensure or eligible candidate for California licensure*
- Three letters of recommendation
- Letter of intent
- Curriculum vitae
- Official transcript from a school of pharmacy
- Preliminary telephone interview
- Onsite interview for select candidates
- Participation in the Residency Matching Program, implemented by National Matching Services Inc.

**Duration of program:** 12 months; July through June

**Application deadline:** January 15

**Stipend:** $50,000

**Benefits:**

- Health/dental/vision
- 20 days personal time off (PTO)
- 10 paid holidays
- Paid professional leave for conferences, including travel allowance

**Contact information:**

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* The resident must obtain pharmacist licensure from the California State Board of Pharmacy within 90 days of the start of the program. If the resident is unable to obtain licensure by December 31 of the residency year, the resident will be considered for dismissal from the program.

**Note:** This residency site agrees that no person at this site will solicit, accept or use any ranking-related information from any residency applicant.