

Frequently Asked Questions Updated 2023

1. How has the curriculum changed over the past three years?

In 2020, our program re-designed our curriculum to better target the adult learner to achieve expert level practice, to allow access to all topics and content throughout the duration of the residency to better align didactic and clinical experience learning, and to utilize content experts within our organization.

2. When does the program begin?

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

3. What is the tuition for the program?

There is no tuition for our program.

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 36-hours per week. 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 (Carolinas Medical Center) 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 and spinal cord injury teams with neuro oncology exposure while at CR-Charlotte Inpatient. In outpatient your caseload will be 100% neuro focused with a variety of conditions.

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

Yes. All residents receive the same benefits as other full-time employees of Atrium Health. This includes options for health, dental, and vision insurance, and 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 \$1500.00 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 managers before transferring to the residency to discuss options after 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, but they are not required, and most can be accessed through the free AHEC (Area Health Education Center) NC digital library account.

10. How is each resident evaluated throughout the program?

Residents are provided feedback through various informal and formal methods throughout the year. Formal assessments include live patient examinations, end of rotation core competency form, feedback grading rubrics for presentations and a final examination.

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