

Welcome to the Sanford School of Medicine Transitional Year Residency Program website. We are pleased you are considering our program. I am a practicing general internist at the Sanford Imagenetics clinic, where we are working to incorporate genetics into primary care.

Our program philosophy is to provide you with the required ACGME (Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education) experiences for the year, while allowing you time to pursue elective rotations and time for research while maintaining life balance. There are 4 months on the Internal Medicine wards, 1 month of Emergency Medicine, and 1 month of outpatient primary care medicine, which may be completed with Internal Medicine, Pediatrics or Family Medicine. Beyond the established requirements for all Transitional Year Programs our philosophy is to not require further uniform curriculum. Residents in Transitional Year programs will be pursuing a variety of specialties and the educational needs and interests of a Transitional Year resident going into dermatology will be vastly different from a Transitional Year resident going into Radiation Oncology. Our schedule provides the flexibility to customize educational programs to the greatest extent possible.

During the 4 months on the Internal Medicine wards, a Transitional Year resident will find themselves fully integrated into the inpatient rotation working side by side with Internal Medicine R1s without any differences in their duties or expectations. These months are rigorous and provide the solid foundation in hospital medicine needed by all Transitional Year residents regardless of their future objectives.

While on required rotations the Transitional Year residents find themselves treated indistinguishably from categorical residents (primarily medicine). While on specialty rotations; however, attending physicians are acutely aware of the different educational needs of the Transitional Year residents. A rich educational environment is provided in areas such as anesthesia, ophthalmology, dermatology, and others. Some specialty groups also provide opportunities for research.

We foster research interests to the greatest extent possible and encourage residents to both initiate and complete projects that may have been started prior to their matriculation into the residency program. Commonly, residents will complete a dedicated research block during their Transitional Year but often have time to complete research projects after hours when not on required rotations.

Thank you for considering our program. I look forward to the opportunity of meeting you during the interview process.

Sara Ruter, MD

Professor, Chief of General Internal Medicine.

Program Director Transitional Year