

Program Goals & Objectives

As a cooperative program of Arkansas Children's Hospital, the University of Central Arkansas, and Allied Therapy and Consulting Services, the Pediatric Residency Program provides advanced clinical and didactic post-professional education in pediatric physical therapy. Graduates of the program will be highly skilled practitioners of pediatric physical therapy who will use their advanced training to make contributions to the field through clinical research, professional service, and clinical teaching.

Program goals

1. Train physical therapists who wish to pursue advanced pediatric clinical practice skills in multiple settings.
2. Facilitate the ability of program graduates to integrate theory into practice utilizing current evidence.
3. Provide the resident with opportunities to participate as the primary physical therapist in interdisciplinary health care teams providing care for pediatric patients with complex and non-complex conditions.
4. Prepare residents to contribute to the profession through scholarship and teaching.

Program Objectives

1. Residents will demonstrate integration of knowledge and skill in the elements of practice found in the ABPTS Description of Specialty Practice in Pediatrics.
2. Faculty will provide mentoring for residents in the following areas:
 - a. developmental science
 - b. pediatric tests and measures
 - c. pediatric task analysis
 - d. pediatric gait analysis
 - e. equipment assessment/procurement
 - f. pediatric interventions
 - g. administrative principles and methods
 - h. research design and principles
3. Residents will contribute to the profession through shared knowledge with students and peers.
4. Faculty will provide programming to facilitate development related to provision of physical therapy service for the pediatric population with an overall goal of preparing the resident for pediatric specialization:

UCA/ACH/Allied Therapy and Consulting Services
Pediatric Physical Therapy Residency Program

5. The Pediatric Residency will incorporate programming to prepare residents to contribute to the profession through serving as:
 - a. clinical educators
 - b. complex case consultants
 - c. classroom/laboratory instructors
 - d. professional leaders

1.2.1.1.C How Program Mission and Goals are Consistent with the Mission of the Umbrella Organization

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The Mission Statements for all three organizations involved in this cooperative residency program—UCA, ACH and Allied Therapy and Consulting Services—incorporate as an integral part of their Mission Statements the inclusion of educational criteria to support provision of physical therapy services. In providing “advanced clinical and didactic post-professional education in pediatric physical therapy” the Pediatric Residency Program mission is consistent with the educational directives of the missions for each of the organizations. Reflection of the commitment of each of the organizations to seek excellence in the clinical component of the residency program is addressed as well in the mission statement for each of the cooperative organizations through provision of “excellent clinical services, teaching and research,” (from ACH mission statement), “treatment, consultative, educational and advisory services,” (from Allied Therapy and Consulting Services mission statement) and seeking “to produce physical therapy practitioners who will help meet the diverse health, education, and research needs of the global community.” (from UCA Physical Therapy Department mission statement)