



CELEBRATING **TWO**
PROUD HISTORIES

Walter Reed National Military Medical Center

Primary Care / Brain Injury Visual Rehabilitation

Optometric Residency

SPONSOR: Walter Reed National Military Medical Center

AFFILIATE: Midwestern University,
Arizona College of Optometry, Glendale, Arizona

MISSION: The Mission of Walter Reed Eye Institute's Optometry Residency in Primary Care and Brain Injury Vision Rehabilitation is to provide advanced clinical training for military optometrists with concentrated emphasis on TBI including diagnosis, treatment, and vision rehabilitation with additional advanced competencies in medical contact lenses, ocular disease, and primary care optometry. Upon completion of the Program, residents are expected to experience greater autonomy and increased professional capacity for managing diverse and complex patient populations across the spectrum of military



Introduction

The Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (WRNMMC) is one of the nation's largest and most renowned military medical centers. Recently dubbed "The Nation's Medical Center," it represents the joining of the "Best of the Best" in military medicine when the National Naval Medical Center and Walter Reed Army Medical Center merged in September of 2011, to form WRNMMC as decreed by the Base Realignment and Closure law of 2005.

Nearly 7,100 dedicated staff members comprise the WRNMMC, and their daily mission is to achieve the vision and mission of the medical center. Its vision is to serve military families and the nation's active duty forces, returning war heroes, veterans, and U.S. leaders. WRNMMC is committed to operational readiness; outstanding customer service; maintaining excellent graduate medical and dental education and research; and always delivering premier quality health care within an integrated system. Those entering its doors come to heal, to stay healthy, to help others, to teach the next generation, and to practice quality medicine and engage in cutting-edge clinical research. While taking pride in its rich history, WRNMMC is moving toward a new horizon in healthcare, one that offers synergy and revolutionary collaboration.

The WRNMMC Optometry Service is a world-class clinic that specializes in eye and vision care. The Optometry Service offers state-of-the-art testing, diagnosis, and treatment in ocular pathology, refractive conditions, binocular vision, TBI, and low vision. WRNMMC Optometry Service serves as a center of learning for the nation's optometry colleges as well as conducts and collaborates on vision and eye research.

The WRNMMC entered into a Collaborative Residency Training Agreement with Midwestern University Arizona College of Optometry in December 2017 and formally began a Residency Program in Primary Eye Care and Brain Injury Vision Rehabilitation in July 2018, when the first resident entered the Program.

Goals

1. Develop expertise in the diagnosis, treatment, and visual rehabilitation of TBI patients
2. Develop expertise in the fitting of specialty medical contact lenses for patients with advanced corneal disease or injury
3. Strengthen the resident's clinical skills and promote the development of confidence in examining patients in the areas of primary care and ocular disease
4. Stimulate scholarly development through lectures, grand rounds, journal clubs, continuing education and case report activities
5. Guide the resident in the development of skills necessary for effective clinical and didactic teaching
6. Develop the knowledge and skills necessary to successfully function as an optometrist in a military setting

Duration of the resident's training program

The residency program is one calendar year in length, typically beginning each year on July 1st and continuing through June 30th of the following year. For the current resident, the start and end dates of the program are July 2 and June 28, respectively

Number of positions

One

Expected weekly hours of resident's attendance including on-call duties

The resident is scheduled 40-45 hours per week at the various clinics; the resident typically starts at 0700 and ends at 1600 with an hour break for lunch. The resident is encouraged to pursue scholarly activity during the scheduled time and after clinic as needed.

Compensation

The resident receives a military salary commensurate with the resident's years of service and rank, regardless of the resident's productivity.

Health, professional and leave benefits

The resident accrues military leave at the rate of 2.5 days per month (30 days/year). In general, WRNMMC clinics are closed for all Federal Holidays and may have several military training holidays. Residents also

receive professional leave to attend continuing education meetings. The amount of professional leave the resident receives is at the discretion of the Residency Coordinator.

Professional liability protection

The resident's professional liability protection is covered by Federal Tort Claims Act (FTCA) under 28 US Code, Section 2679.

Requirements for residency completion

- Participate in 1000 patient encounters
- Prepare and submit a manuscript of publishable quality to a peer-reviewed optometric journal
- Submit one poster or lecture to a major optometric meeting
- Deliver a COPE-approved continuing education lecture at a quarterly NCRFOS meeting.

Selection Procedure

Residents are appointed by their respective branch service optometric consultant.

Admissions eligibility criteria

- a. Possess a Doctor of Optometry degree from an accredited program (by starting date)
- b. Pursue a full and unrestricted optometry license in any U.S. state by starting date (and obtain within one year)
- c. Have a competitive GPA
- d. Successfully complete Parts I and II of the NBEO examinations (successfully complete Part III within one year)

e. Submit completed U.S. military application materials

f. Be on U.S. military active duty status

Non-Discrimination Policy

Non-discrimination policies must be followed in selecting residents; WRNMMC adheres to non-discrimination policies. For more information regarding WRNMMC non-discrimination policies, please visit: <https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/diversity-and-inclusion/reference-materials/>

Recruitment Materials

Interested military applicants should contact his/her specialty leader for information regarding the program.

Information regarding the WRNMMC residency program is also available at: https://www.midwestern.edu/programs_and_admission/az_optometry/more_about_the_program/optometric_azcopt-affiliated_residencies.html

Contact Information

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