

Low Vision Rehabilitation and Geriatric Ocular Disease Residency

Providing Advanced Competency Training in Low Vision Rehabilitation and Ocular Disease through Education, Scholarship and Patient Care

- **Program Site:** The Chicago Lighthouse for People Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired, Alfred and Sarah Rosenbloom Center on Vision and Aging and Illinois Eye Institute
- **Program Coordinator:** Kara Crumbliss, OD
- **Residency Director:** Janice Jurkus, OD, MBA
- **Number of Positions Available:** 2
- **Duration/Program Dates:** The residency is a 53-week program beginning the first week of July. This time frame ensures overlap with current residents to provide an orientation period.
- **ORMatch:** 15421

Program Description

This post-graduate residency program is offered by the Illinois College of Optometry in conjunction with the Chicago Lighthouse for People Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired and the Alfred and Sarah Rosenbloom Center on Vision and Aging at the Illinois Eye Institute. The goal of this program is to provide advanced clinical training in low vision rehabilitation in an interdisciplinary as well as a not-for profit private practice clinical setting. Interaction with various programs for people who are blind or visually impaired, including job readiness and placement, psychology and occupational therapy services, a hereditary retinal disease service and a school for children with visual and other impairments, is an integral part of the residency.

In addition to the direct low vision patient care experience at the Chicago Lighthouse and the Alfred and Sarah Rosenbloom Center on Vision and Aging, the resident will have the opportunity to examine patients in a variety of satellite clinic facilities and the Illinois Eye Institute. The program also emphasizes advanced competency in the diagnosis, treatment and management of geriatric ocular disease, with a focus on those age related conditions that frequently result in vision loss. This is accomplished through clinical rotations at the Illinois Eye Institute's Center for Advanced Ophthalmic Care and the Geriatric Service of the Alfred and Sarah Rosenbloom Center on Vision and Aging, housed within the Illinois Eye Institute. Residents will provide patient care in the Centers' Vitreo-retinal, Glaucoma, Comprehensive Ophthalmology, Urgent Care and Geriatric Services. The resident typically has over 1,000 patient encounters during the program.

About The Chicago Lighthouse

The Chicago Lighthouse was founded in 1906. It is a comprehensive agency with programs for people who are blind or visually impaired. Its low vision clinic was founded in 1956 as a cooperative effort of the Illinois Optometric Association and the Chicago Ophthalmological Society. Today the Chicago Lighthouse is the oldest and largest Low Vision Rehabilitation Clinic in the country. Its interdisciplinary staff includes optometrists who are residency trained and/or AAO diplomate certified in low vision, a licensed clinical psychologist, a certified low vision therapist, an occupational therapist, an orientation and mobility specialist, and an ophthalmologist. In addition, the Chicago Lighthouse Low Vision Rehabilitation Service provides care in 2 main clinics and five satellite clinics.

About The Alfred and Sarah Rosenbloom Center on Vision and Aging

Founded in 2015, The Alfred and Sarah Rosenbloom Center on Vision and Aging at the Illinois Eye Institute provides unparalleled care to the aging population and the visually impaired. Services include: Primary and secondary vision care to adults 65 and older; Vision rehabilitation for vision-impaired patients of all ages; Occupational therapy; Adaptive technology; Electrophysiology; Psychological support and Clinical Research. Residents benefit from the exposure to vision rehabilitation and geriatric ocular disease management including further exposure to many common age related eye conditions resulting in vision loss.

Program Design

To obtain advanced training in:

- Prescribing low vision devices
- Ordering low vision rehabilitation training
- Interacting with professionals in other disciplines
- Interacting with state agencies that serve people who are blind or visually impaired
- Low vision rehabilitation of children, working age adults, and seniors
- Low vision rehabilitation in various settings
- Diagnosis, treatment and management of ocular disease, with an emphasis on geriatric conditions that frequently result in vision loss
- Use and interpretation of advanced diagnostic technologies
- Clinical and didactic teaching

To accomplish these objectives, the resident participates in the following rotations.

At the Chicago Lighthouse/Rosenbloom Center/Illinois Eye Institute, and their satellites:

- Direct low vision patient care and interaction with other professionals and programs: 16 hrs/wk

At the Rosenbloom Center/ Illinois College of Optometry/Illinois Eye Institute:

- Geriatric Service - Age related Eye Disease including Cataract Pre and Post-op: 4-8hrs/wk
- Advanced Care Service - Vitreo-retinal, Glaucoma, Neuro-ophthalmology and/or Comprehensive Ophthalmology: 8-12 hrs/wk
- Urgent Care Service: 4 hrs/wk
- Elective rotations in Primary Care, Pediatrics, Cornea/Contact Lens: 4hrs/wk, 1 or 2 quarters
- Low vision laboratory, or other course work: 4 hrs/wk, 1 quarter
- Conference participation/Research/Independent study: 4 hrs/wk

Research Responsibilities

The resident is required to prepare a paper of publishable quality during the course of the residency year. This may be in the format of a literature review, case report, or original research. Residents are strongly encouraged to engage in research during their residency year. The resident is encouraged to publish this work or present it at a professional meeting.

Educational Opportunities

The resident attends and participates in weekly conferences at the Illinois College of Optometry. Residents may attend, at no charge, any continuing education courses provided by the Illinois College of Optometry. The resident has full access to any of the material or services provided at the College. This includes the library and media production department. The resident will participate in a teaching seminar at the Illinois College of Optometry provided by an expert in medical education. The goal of this program is to enhance the resident's clinical precepting skills as well as to aid the resident with development of public speaking skills. The resident is encouraged to attend professional meetings relevant to the residency program. Five days of educational leave and travel support are provided to facilitate participation.

Residency Supervision/Evaluation

The residency program coordinator is responsible for supervision of the resident, however, the resident will work with a variety of attending optometrists at all sites. The program coordinator reports to the Director of Residencies at the College.

The resident receives three formal evaluations in addition to informal feedback from the residency program coordinator and other faculty. Grand Rounds presentations given three times a year at the College are evaluated by faculty in attendance. The resident is asked to

evaluate the program faculty three times a year and their residency experience at mid-year and at the end of the program.

Salary and Benefits

\$39,670 prorated over 53 week residency year.

Benefits

Benefits include eligibility to participate in medical and dental insurance programs with a prescription card, and professional liability insurance for eye care provided at the Illinois Eye Institute and its affiliated clinics. Group term life and disability insurance is also provided. Additional benefits include: five days of personal vacation, five days academic leave, as well as six days of floating holidays.

Criteria for Completion and Completion Acknowledgement

- Attendance at all clinical assignments
- Attendance and participation in all scheduled conferences
- Submission of a paper of publishable quality to a peer-reviewed journal
- Successful completion of all learning objectives

Completion of Acknowledgment

A certificate is presented upon successful completion of the residency program.

For more information:

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