THE PSYCHIATRY RESIDENCY PROGRAM AT WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE (WMed) IS DEDICATED TO FOSTERING COMPASSIONATE CARE AND PROMOTING CLINICAL EXCELLENCE IN PSYCHIATRY.

As a program, we will excel in providing a high quality, state-of-the-art education and training in general psychiatry. Residents and faculty will work together as colleagues and as a community of physician-learners to become knowledgeable about the biological, psychological, socio-cultural, and spiritual foundations of psychiatry, and to excel as psychiatric clinicians who are competent to treat patients both psycho-therapeutically and pharmacologically. Program graduates will be well prepared to enter clinical practice or to present themselves as worthy candidates for further specialized training.

“Educating and training physicians to be excellent clinical psychiatrists is our primary goal at WMed. We want our graduates to be well-prepared to practice psychiatry, whether it be in a private practice, community mental health, or academic setting; and we want those who are interested in subspecialty training to be viewed as attractive candidates by the best programs.

At WMed, we have worked hard to develop a program that is clinically and academically rigorous, and a learning environment that is supportive and resident-friendly.”

Robert Strung, MD
Chair and Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry
Program Director, Psychiatry Residency
Western Michigan University
School of Medicine

THE CURRICULUM

Our fully accredited four-year program will prepare you for board certification in psychiatry. The curriculum reflects recent changes in psychiatric health care and provides residents with a strong foundation in psychotherapy and neurosciences. Highlights of our program include:

- Being a valued member of the medical team, given the support and progressive autonomy needed to provide quality, direct patient care.
- Having intensive contact with patients and faculty, both formally and informally, providing you with an excellent education in the practice of clinical psychiatry.
- Having protected time for learning. For example, during your four years as a psychiatry resident, you will be excused from clinical duties to attend weekly lectures and conferences.
- Training you to be an effective consultant to primary care physicians and other mental health professionals.
- Carrying out research projects through didactics on methodology, and mentoring to ensure completion of your research study.
- Gaining experience using state-of-the-art electronic health records for patient care, preparing you for your future work environment.
- Immersing yourself in didactic seminars, one-on-one supervision, and group discussion of psychodynamic, cognitive behavioral, interpersonal, family and group psychotherapy over the course of your residency.

CLINICAL ROTATIONS

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MAXIMIZE YOUR POTENTIAL

We encourage you to continue your education at WMU as we offer many unique benefits:

• Our residency is located in a family-friendly mid-size city, rich in resources for learning psychiatry.
• We are part of a regional medical community serving a population of over one million people.
• Our primary teaching site, Borgess Medical Center, hosts inpatient units for adolescent, adult, and geriatric patients, a partial hospitalization program for adolescents, and an active emergency department.
• Kalamazoo offers a busy and diverse community mental health program.
• WMU is the continuing medical education site for the region and attracts nationally known speakers who will update you on the latest trends, research and procedures.
• The intimate relationship between residents and faculty fosters a process of “becoming” rather than “learning to be” a psychiatrist. This will lay the foundation for a long and satisfying career.

CALL SCHEDULE

First-year residents have extended day coverage until 10 pm about once a week and one weekend day of hospital duty once a month. They are paired with more senior residents at the beginning of their residency. Second-year residents have night call once a week, on average, and one weekend day of hospital duty per month. Third-year residents average two calls, and senior residents one call, per month.

APPLICATION/INTERVIEW PROCESS

Applications are accepted from senior medical students and foreign medical graduates with approved postgraduate training through ERAS (Electronic Residency Application Service). Completed applications should include the following documents:

• Personal statement
• Curriculum vitae
• USMLE score reports
• Medical school transcript
• Dean’s letter
• Three letters of recommendation
• Recent photo (optional)

A personal interview is required for those who pass the screening process. Interviews are scheduled from November through mid-January. Western Michigan University School of Medicine is happy to provide lodging for you during your visit and encourages you to bring your significant other with you, as we understand that his/her input may be critical for your decision.

TAKE THE NEXT STEP

At WMU, you will benefit from unique, quality opportunities typically found in large metropolitan areas and graduate with an experience focused on learning. We will treat you as a colleague and inspire your best performance through a clinically and academically rigorous program. We invite you to visit us and see the challenging and fulfilling experience our program will provide.

Please visit us on the web at med.wmich.edu or contact us by phone or email.

(269) 337-6375 · (855) ASK-WMed ext. 6375 · psychiatry@med.wmich.edu

Our program’s moderate size allows residents to benefit from close personal relationships with our faculty of experienced clinicians and educators. The core faculty includes experts in essential psychiatric subspecialties, and our talented community faculty represents a comprehensive range of professional expertise.
When current residents were asked what makes our program unique, these were their thoughts:

- “Residents are mutually supportive.”
- “This is a family-friendly residency.”
- “The teaching faculty is very dedicated.”
- “I am very comfortable here…the community feels like home.”
- “Attendings are accessible, easy to work with, and they really take time to teach.”
- “I value the individual one-on-one supervision.”
- “Good patient population.”
- “Residents have autonomy.”