

The Oncology Program at the University of Georgia welcomes applications for a 3-year residency training program in veterinary oncology. This residency provides non-degree, advanced clinical training in companion animal oncology and the opportunity to gain experience in clinical and basic oncologic research. The program prepares veterinarians for board certification in the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (ACVIM), Specialty of Oncology. Candidates must be highly motivated and have previously completed a one-year rotating internship or its equivalent broad-based clinical experience.

The University of Georgia's College of Veterinary Medicine is located in Athens, Georgia. Athens is a community of approximately 125,000 residents located 65 miles northeast of Atlanta. The College's Small Animal Hospital annual caseload is approximately 27,000, with the Oncology Service seeing over 3,800 cases/year. Our 187,000 square foot state-of-the-art Veterinary Teaching Hospital opened in 2015 and features cutting edge technology and green space. The integrated oncology service at UGA includes 4 ACVIM board-certified oncologists (including one PhD in tumor biology), 1 ACVR board-certified radiation oncologist, 3 medical oncology residents, 1 radiation oncology resident, 3 medical oncology technicians, and 2 radiation oncology technicians, and 2 client care representatives. We have a large and varied caseload and actively participate in clinical trials. A Varian Trilogy® System Linear Accelerator is onsite and we offer intensity modulated radiation therapy and stereotactic radiation therapy. In addition, Sr-90 plesiotherapy is available. Chemotherapy is prepared by pharmacy technicians under the supervision of doctors of pharmacy and our facility is USP 800 compliant. Complete diagnostic imaging, clinical pathologic, and histopathologic services and facilities provide support to our service. We work closely with specialists in all veterinary specialties on site, including surgery, internal medicine, emergency and critical care, neurology, cardiology, ophthalmology, dermatology, anesthesia, diagnostic imaging, interventional radiology, anatomic and clinical pathology, nutrition, and zoological medicine.

The majority of the residency is spent as directly supervised weeks on the Oncology Service. Clinical duties are conducted under the supervision of the oncologists and include diagnosing and treating companion animals with cancer, managing radiation patients, providing consultations for doctors from other hospital services and regional general practices, and contributing to the education of senior veterinary students in the teaching hospital. While oncology residents do not have general emergency responsibilities, they are expected to provide back-up for interns managing patients of the oncology service presenting after-hours on emergency. This duty is rotated among oncology residents. Rotations through other hospital services, such as internal medicine, radiation oncology, radiology, clinical pathology, and pathology are required. In addition, residents will gain experience in chemotherapy preparation and administration under the supervision of experienced pharmacy technicians and veterinary technicians.

Time off of hospital duty will be provided to allow the resident to complete and publish a research project pertaining to oncology. This time will be tailored to the resident's research interests. It is expected that the resident research project will be completed prior to completion of the residency. Residents are encouraged to participate in clinical trials and basic research projects are also possible. All residents will have the opportunity to work in the laboratory, regardless of pursuit of a clinical or basic research project.

Multiple resident teaching rounds and conferences occur weekly. Residents participate in daily patient and topic rounds. All-specialty ACVIM rounds, oncology resident rounds/journal club, and cytology/biopsy rounds are held weekly; oncology residents are expected to attend and participate in these rounds to expand their knowledge base and help prepare for the ACVIM board examinations. Additionally, attendance at weekly college-wide Grand Rounds Seminars is mandatory, and oncology residents are expected to present annually. Residents attend the Veterinary Cancer Society Annual Conference each year. To complete the residency requirements, residents are expected to present the results of their resident research project at the VCS Annual Conference or the ACVIM Forum.

## VACATION, COMPENSATION, FEES, AND UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS

For every 12 months of training, 10 days of vacation time are provided for residents, as well as up to 12 days of sick leave. The beginning annual stipend is \$32,631 for first year. All programs are non-certificate graduate programs, leading to an official University certificate of residency. A one-time application fee of \$75 (\$100 for international students) and tuition and student fees (approximately \$3000/year) are the responsibility of the individual selected for the program. The fees allow access to the Ramsey Student Activities Center (sports complex) and Gilbert Student Health Center, as well as access to student tickets for athletic and cultural events. Parking fees (up to \$240/year currently) are an additional expense.

Proof of medical insurance coverage and proof of immunization for measles, mumps, rubella, chicken pox, tetanus, hepatitis B, and rabies are required. Health insurance is the responsibility of the individual. Medical insurance is available through the Graduate School at a reasonable rate, but may be waived if proof of other coverage is provided. Coverage through the Graduate School will be available beginning August 1, 2021. Residents are responsible for securing their own health insurance that is effective through July 31, 2021. Please visit the following website for additional information regarding health insurance fees <https://hr.uga.edu/students/student-health-insurance/>.

International applicants are required to provide 2 official, certified copies of their academic records from each institution of higher education attended. These records must include all course work. Photocopies are not acceptable. Separate proof of degree(s) is also required. All graduates of veterinary colleges not within the United States or Canada are considered international applicants regardless of citizenship. If the original language of the academic record is not English, a certified English translation must be attached to the original. Candidates must be fluent in written and spoken English. Foreign graduates whose primary language is not English MUST provide TOEFL scores (see <http://www.toefl.org> for details), AND the scores must not be more than 2 years old. Foreign applicants who have completed 1 year of academic study in the US can provide a university transcript in lieu of TOEFL scores.

It is crucial that international candidates consider application processing times well ahead of the program start date. Please note that it may take up to 10 days to obtain a social security number. Information about this process can be found at [http://issis.uga.edu/docs/Student\\_Section/Obtaining\\_a\\_Social\\_Security\\_Number.pdf](http://issis.uga.edu/docs/Student_Section/Obtaining_a_Social_Security_Number.pdf). A social security number is required in order to apply for a Georgia veterinary faculty license, and it may take up to 30 additional days to receive this license. More detailed information for international candidates is available through the Office of International Education (<https://globalengagement.uga.edu/>).

## APPLICATION PROCESS

Residents are selected through the American Association of Veterinary Clinician's Veterinary Intern and Resident Matching Program (VIRMP). Full consideration will be given to candidates who submit a completed application packet by the VIRMP deadline of January 11, 2021. Applications will be reviewed and offers for interviews will be extended during the week of January 18. Due to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, this year all interviews will be held remotely via videoconferencing through Zoom.

The University of Georgia is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, or veteran status in its programs or activities.

The successful candidate will be licensed to practice by virtue of a faculty license. The faculty license permits veterinarians from non-AVMA (American Veterinary Medical Association) accredited vet schools to practice within the graduate programs of UGA and satellite institutions, and may be obtained without examination.

Residents at the University of Georgia are classified as graduate students, and thus for the purpose of

the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program are not considered to be full time employees. Please consider this information if you plan to participate in the Public Service Loan Forgiveness or other loan repayment programs.

The residency start date will be July 15, 2021. Please refer to the Department of Small Animal and Medicine website for further information (<https://vet.uga.edu/education/academic-departments/small-animal-medicine-and-surgery/>).

Questions about the program should be directed to:

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