**Mission Statement**

The mission of the Cincinnati VA Medical Center and University of Cincinnati Residency Program in Geriatric Physical Therapy is to prepare advanced practice practitioners who integrate the teacher-scholar model into their clinical practice through mentorship with master clinicians, structured didactic and clinical learning experiences, and research and teaching opportunities. As high level geriatric physical therapists, graduates will serve as resources and role models within their professional, academic, and social communities and contribute to an expanding body of knowledge through the application of evidence-based practice.

**Program Goals and Objectives**

1. Prepare physical therapists to become advanced practice practitioners of geriatric physical therapy.

2. Develop and deliver an experiential curriculum that integrates the teacher-scholar model.

3. Contribute to an expanding body of knowledge in Geriatric Physical Therapy.

4. Serve as a resource within professional, academic, and social communities.

5. Graduate physical therapists who demonstrate professional excellence/virtue and who are prepared to pursue ABPTS certification as a geriatric clinical specialist.

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**Cincinnati VA Medical Center and University of Cincinnati Residency in Geriatric Physical Therapy**

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**Websites:**

www.cincinnati.va.gov/internships/PhysTherapy_Residency.asp  
www.abptrfe.org/RFPTCAS/ApplicantWebsite/
Residents will enjoy full-time employment with the Cincinnati VA Medical Center for a period of one year while completing 150+ hours of 1:1 mentoring with Geriatric Clinical Specialists with advanced practice skills in a variety of areas.

Health Insurance coverage with paid leave: 9 federal holidays; 13 vacations days; and 13 sick days.

The University of Cincinnati provides teaching opportunities within the PT and PTA programs for our Residents that involve both classroom lecture and lab experience.

APTA CI Certification.

1:1 didactic instruction with faculty across multiple settings and key diagnostic patient populations.

Clinical observation in multidisciplinary settings within the largest healthcare system in the United States that employs more than 2,000 PTs.

Hands-on experience with Assistive Technology and Telehealth technology as part of the patient evaluation experience.

Active participation in Journal Club and Grand Rounds.

Community education and service-learning opportunities.

### Applicant Information

Highly regarded applicants are those who:

- Demonstrate superior written and spoken communication skills
- Have completed an advanced internship under the mentoring of a geriatric clinical specialist
- Demonstrate experience in data analysis and publication
- Demonstrate a passion to work with the geriatric client through the acquisition of advanced clinical reasoning and application within the practice of geriatric physical therapy
- Demonstrate a desire to explore federal employment opportunities in geriatric physical therapy
- Veterans

Minimal eligibility for residency selection:

- United States Citizenship
- English language proficiency
- Unrestricted State Licensure or demonstrated plan to achieve licensure within initial weeks of the start of the residency
- Completion of required federal forms: Application for Health Professions Trainees (VA Form-1—2850D and Declaration for Federal Employment (OF 306)

### Curriculum

Our curriculum is composed of paced modules reflective of areas of importance in the care for the older adult. The modules are comprised of independent readings, 1:1 didactic instruction, and learning integration projects with opportunities for teaching and community service. These modules complement mentored advanced clinical practice in the area of geriatric physical therapy across multiple settings.

#### Professionalism

Clinical Education
- Interpreting & Using Research in Clinical Practice
- Aging
- The Aging Cardiovascular System
- Geriatric Pharmacology
- The Aging Pulmonary System
- The Aging Musculoskeletal System
- Posture Assessment & Osteoporosis
- Prosthetics, Orthotics & Protective Devices
- Mobility, Assistive Technology & Environmental Adaptations
- The Aging Neuromuscular System
- Parkinson’s Disease & Parkinsonism
- Balance/Falls & Vestibular Assessment
- Cognitive Issues & Impact on Communication with the Elderly
- The Aging Integumentary System
- Diabetic Care of the Elderly
- Nutritional Needs of the Elderly
- Oncology
- Incontinence
- Pain Management
- Frail Elderly

#### Application Acceptance:

Interview (Onsite): January – April

Notification of Acceptance: No later than April 30

Program Begins: After July 4

### Timeline:

- Application Acceptance: October -- March
- Program Begins: After July 4