



American University of the Caribbean  
School of Medicine

est. 1978



**2017 RESIDENCY REPORT**



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## MD PROGRAM

Personalized Education  
Global Perspective

At American University of the Caribbean School of Medicine, we help prepare our students for success in residency placement and beyond, but we do it a little bit differently than other schools. We keep our class sizes small, allowing us to personalize the educational experience to fit your unique learning style.

During the Medical Sciences curriculum, you will gain a global perspective on healthcare. Our Clinical Sciences curriculum offers opportunities in the US as well as internationally, where you can choose to visit other countries to engage in their healthcare systems, separating you from those limited strictly to the US healthcare system.

AUC's close-knit community enables enhanced relationships with our expert faculty—and with fellow students of diverse backgrounds. Join a family of 6,500+ graduates who have harnessed the power of an AUC education.

# GLOSSARY

- **Canadian Resident Matching Service (CaRMS):** A national, independent, not-profit, fee-for-service organization created in 1969 to place medical school graduates into residency training programs at Canadian teaching hospitals.
- **Categorical Residency:** A program that offers full residency training required for board certification in a particular specialty.
- **Fellow:** A physician who has completed residency and is now in subspecialty training. This training generally lasts for one or more years (examples include cardiology and medical oncology, which are subspecialties of internal medicine).
- **International Medical Graduate (IMG):** A physician who received his or her medical degree from a medical school outside of the United States. The location of the medical school, not the citizenship of the physician, determines whether a graduate is considered an IMG. All AUC graduates are IMGs—those who are US citizens are US IMGs.
- **National Resident Matching Program® (NRMP):** A US-based private, non-profit, non-governmental, organization created in 1952 to place medical school graduates into residency training programs at US teaching hospitals.
- **PGY:** PGY, or post-graduate year, indicates the stage of a graduate during residency training.
  - **PGY-1** refers to a graduate in year one of residency (also known as the intern year).
  - **PGY-2** refers to a graduate in his or her second year of residency. Graduates who matched into a preliminary year residency must reapply to the Match for a PGY-2 position in a categorical specialty.
  - **PGY-4 and PGY-5** residencies generally signal fellowship training, which takes place after residency.
- **Preliminary Position:** One to two year programs that provide internal medicine training for those wishing to specialize but need that additional experience first.
- **Supplemental Offer and Acceptance Program® (SOAP®):** The process by which eligible unmatched applicants in the Match apply for and are offered positions that did not fill when the matching algorithm was processed.
- **Transitional Year:** A one-year program designed to facilitate the choice of and/or preparation for a specialty. This provides a broader exposure to different fields whereby the residents rotate through cores and electives much like they did during medical school. A transitional year is not itself a complete graduate education program.



**Heidi Chumley, MD, MBA**  
Executive Dean

## MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

*There is a growing realization that medical schools like AUC are making an important contribution to the healthcare workforce of the United States. A 2015 review by the Robert Graham Center found that 58 percent of AUC graduates are practicing primary care compared to 36 percent of US medical school graduates. This year, more than 230 AUC graduates entered US residency programs, more than a third of them in primary care. Now, more than one US medical school will tout its primary care numbers, but at AUC we mean it. Every year AUC graduates enter fellowship programs on the way to sub-specializing, but many more go into fields like internal medicine, family medicine, and pediatrics and build long-standing careers there. As one who trained in family medicine, this makes me very proud.*

Welcome to our annual report on residency attainment. American University of the Caribbean School of Medicine (AUC) conducts a rigorous accounting of our medical education program and here present those results in terms of our graduates' success in obtaining a postgraduate training position. By reading this report, we hope you gain a sense of who we are and how we approach our mission as an institution for medical education. In presenting data illustrating our graduates' performance and success, we aim to be the most transparent among our fellow institutions. In presenting stories of individual alumni, we aim to help you understand their background and get a sense of the medical school journey they took to reach their goal. And in describing a bit about our education program and the ways we prepare our graduates specifically for residency, we aim to demonstrate our commitment to the students who become part of our community, and report on how our efforts are bearing fruit.

This residency report is meant for future students, aspiring physicians, residency program directors, doctors who perform the duty of teaching in their hospitals, and anyone interested in helping us fulfill our mission to prepare a diverse group of students to become excellent physicians.

Schools like AUC were created to provide opportunity to aspiring physicians. Nearly 40 years ago, when AUC was founded, it was apparent that each year, a number of qualified students would have their applications rejected by US medical schools, due to lack of capacity. Many who are denied admission are non-traditional students or come from diverse backgrounds. At AUC we are proud to have an admissions process that is rigorous

and selective but also looks deeper into an applicant's full life and story to find those with the potential to become our future physicians, chief residents, and leaders.

But being a school of opportunity is not enough. We must also strive to be a school of achievement, positioning students to excel academically and prepare for rewarding careers. This is the essence of our mission at AUC, and residency attainment rate is an important student outcome measure. This year's graduating cohort achieved a residency attainment rate of 84.4 percent\*.

This report also describes how AUC is continuously working on ways to help our graduates be competitive in the residency match. We review data and survey responses from residency program directors who are clear on what they are looking for in future residents. And we discuss with our clinical teaching affiliates the traits that will make the best candidates for residency.

But we also bring the experience to know this and pass it on to our students. We have leaders in medical education in senior leadership positions at AUC. They are in tune with what is happening in US healthcare and bring that back into our education program. And they are stimulating improvements that will benefit our students.

\*As of 9/5/2017

# RESIDENCY HIGHLIGHTS

With nearly 40 years of experience, AUC knows what residency programs are looking for and we understand how our students and graduates can stand out among the competition. Our residency preparation doesn't start in the final year of medical school—it's begins the moment our students set foot on campus.

We know, for example, that United States Medical Licensing Examination® (USMLE) scores are an important factor for residency program directors. That's why our faculty focus on USMLE exam preparation while also providing residency and career advising throughout all four years of medical school. That, combined with a wide range of clinical training and advocacy and research opportunities, helps our graduates secure residencies at quality programs year after year.

So how did AUC graduates fare in 2017? For the ninth consecutive year, more than 80% of AUC's first-time eligible graduates earned residency positions. Our PGY-1 residency attainment rate is 84.4%\*.

- In total, 274 AUC graduates secured residency positions this year. The majority (232) were first-time eligible graduates, many of whom earned a position through the NRMP Main Match.
- For a second year, an AUC graduate earned a residency in Canada. Last year's match was at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia and this year's match was at the University of Saskatchewan in North Battleford, Saskatchewan—one of AUC's affiliated teaching hospitals.
- PGY-1 and PGY-2 graduates obtained residencies in 20 different specialties, including competitive fields like anesthesiology, vascular surgery, and child neurology, and the new combined specialty of emergency medicine/family medicine. This year saw an increase in radiology, family medicine, and preliminary surgery positions compared to years past.
- AUC's PGY-1 and PGY-2 footprint extended across 34 US states, the District of Columbia, and Canada. New York state welcomed the largest number of graduates while Michigan, Florida, and Pennsylvania followed close behind. This year saw an increase in residency placements in California, Indiana, Kentucky, Mississippi, New York, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin.





- Graduates who want to practice back home can and do—in fact 78 graduates secured residencies in their home state.
- 187 unique and diverse residency programs welcomed AUC graduates in 2017. They included bustling urban hospitals, rural health clinics, community health centers, university-based hospitals, and newly established residency programs.
- 9 AUC graduates accepted positions at US News & World Report’s top ranked residency programs, including Albany Medical Center (vascular surgery and pediatrics), Allegheny General Hospital (neurology), Atlantic Health System (pediatrics), Bergen Regional Medical Center (psychiatry), Berkshire Medical Center (psychiatry), Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center (pediatrics), New York Presbyterian Hospital (internal medicine), and University of California, San Francisco (family medicine).
- 33 graduates secured residencies at one of AUC’s affiliated teaching hospitals.



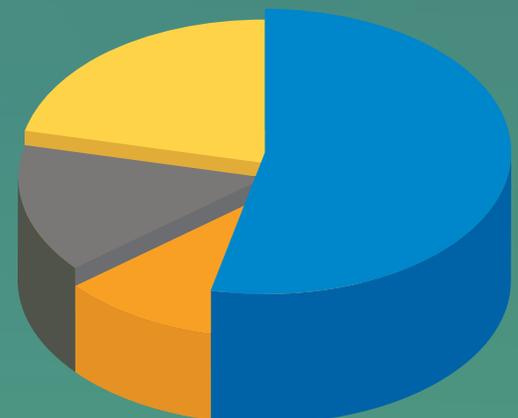
## THE GROWING INFLUENCE OF INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL GRADUATES

AUC graduates who participate in the US and Canadian residency match do so as international medical graduates (IMGs). IMGs now account for one-quarter of the US physician workforce and more than one-fifth of the Canadian physician workforce.

While this year’s NRMP Main Match saw a decrease in both US citizen and non-US citizen IMG applicants, the match rate for both groups was the highest it’s been since 2004 and 2005 respectively. In fact, IMGs filled 24% of all residency positions offered.

International medical graduates’ influence is strong and steadily growing in the primary care sector, which faces a shortage of 14,900 to 35,600 physicians by 2025. Graduates from international medical schools like AUC choose to fill critical primary care positions, accounting for 30.9% of the NRMP’s family medicine residents, 42.7% of internal medicine residents, and 17.0% of pediatrics residents\*.

### NRMP Match Applicants

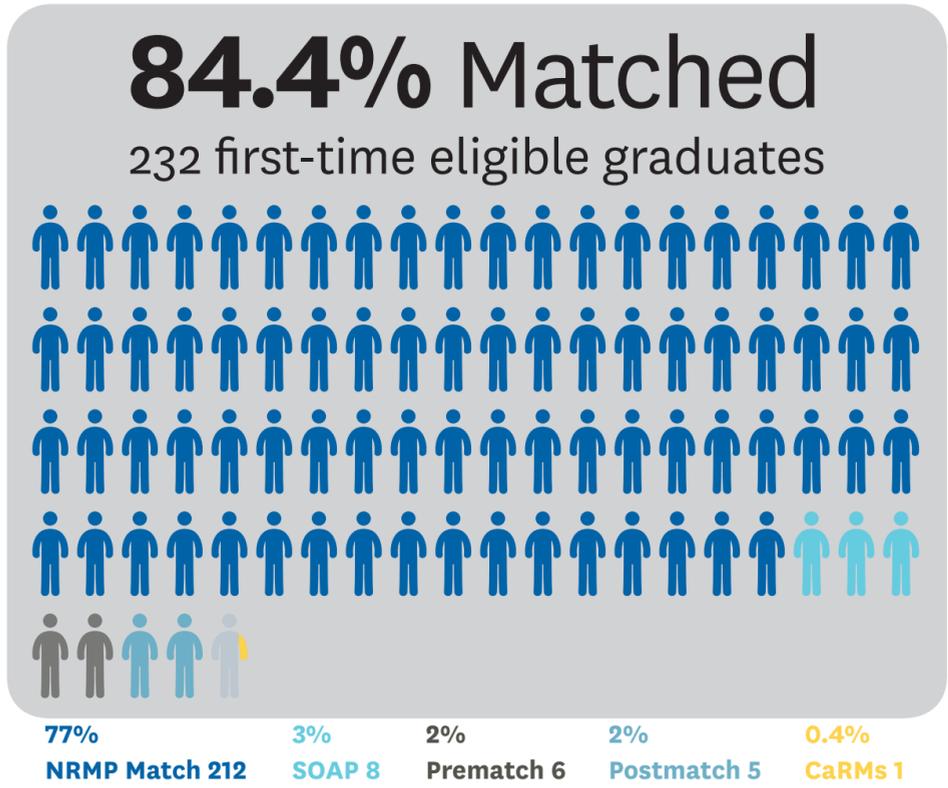


\*Data does not include the Canadian and 5th Pathway students.

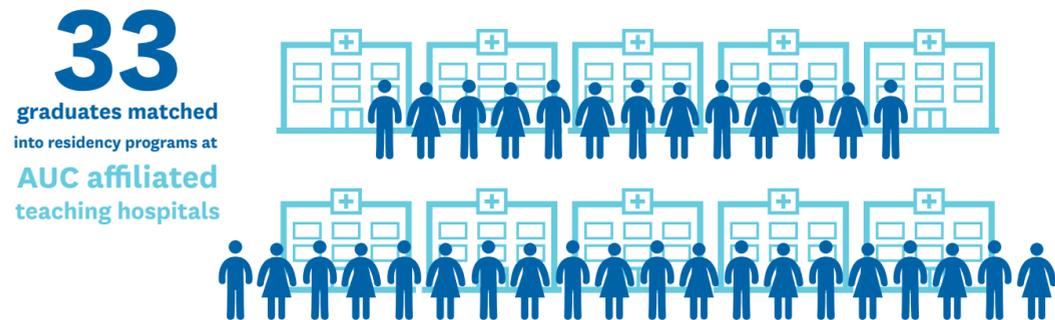
# AUC's 2017 RESIDENCY MATCHES BY THE NUMBERS

Evaluating the number of AUC graduates who obtained residencies and the specialties and programs where they placed in 2017\*

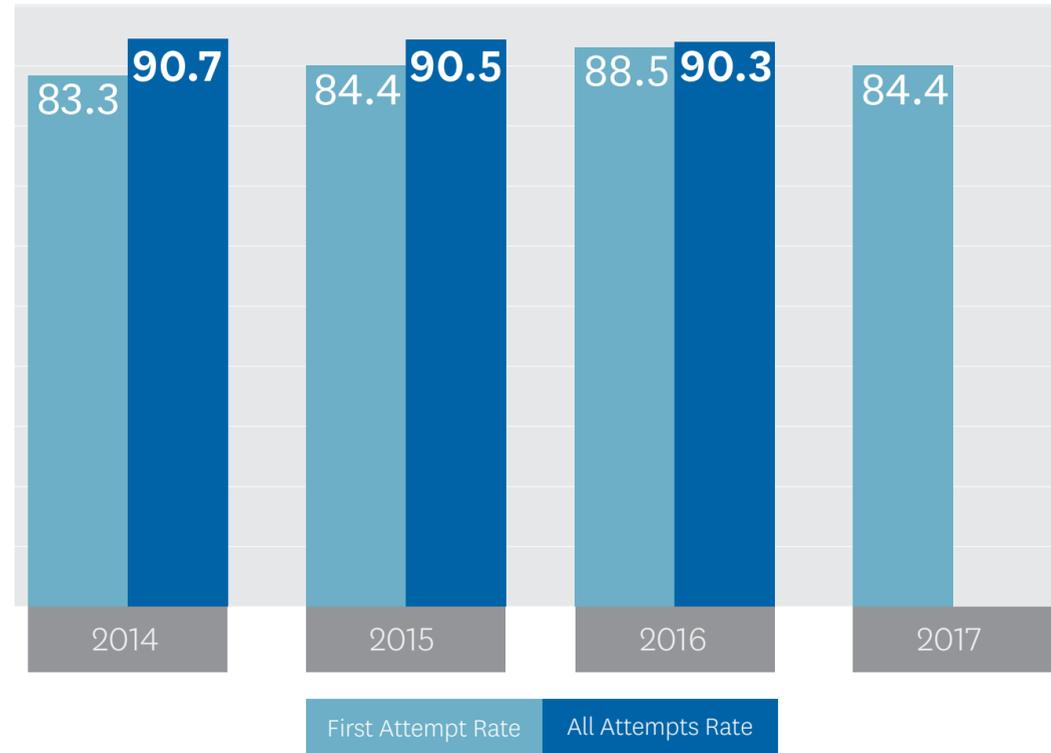
## 2017 RESIDENCY ATTAINMENT RATE



## CLINICAL AFFILIATE RESIDENCIES



Graduates who are unable to secure a residency during their first attempt receive comprehensive advising and support to prepare for the next year's match. AUC's "all attempts" residency attainment rate grows each year and has exceeded 90% over the past three years.



## RESIDENCIES BY STATE



## SPECIALTY SELECTIONS (PGY-1 & PGY-2)

The majority of AUC graduates, like all NRMP Match participants, enter primary care specialties. In 2017, the number of internal medicine, family medicine, and pediatrics residency positions offered increased by 2.9%—trending with AUC graduates' specialty choices. At the same time, AUC graduates match into highly selective specialties such as radiology, anesthesiology, and vascular surgery.



# 2017 RESIDENCY PLACEMENTS BY STATE

**Alabama (4)**  
*Family Medicine*  
 • University of South Alabama (2)  
*Preliminary Medicine*  
 • University of South Alabama  
*Radiology*  
 • University of South Alabama

**Arizona (1)**  
*Family Medicine*  
 • Abrazo Central

**Arkansas (4)**  
*Anesthesiology*  
 • University of Arkansas, Little Rock  
*Family Medicine*  
 • University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Regional Programs (2)  
*Radiology*  
 • University of Arkansas, Little Rock

**California (14)**  
*Family Medicine*  
 • Mercy Medical Center  
 • Natividad Medical Center  
 • Shasta Community Health Center  
 • University of California, San Francisco  
*Internal Medicine*  
 • Eisenhower Medical Center (4)  
 • Kern Medical Center (2)  
 • Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital  
*Pediatrics*  
 • Valley Children's Healthcare  
*Preliminary Surgery*  
 • Harbor-UCLA Medical Center  
 • San Joaquin General Hospital

**Connecticut (7)**  
*Internal Medicine*  
 • Danbury Hospital (2)  
*Internal Medicine/Primary Care*  
 • University of Connecticut

*OB/GYN*  
 • Bridgeport Hospital  
*Pathology*  
 • Hartford Hospital  
*Preliminary Surgery*  
 • Danbury Hospital  
 • Waterbury Hospital

**District of Columbia (1)**  
*Internal Medicine*  
 • Howard University Hospital

**Florida (22)**  
*Anesthesiology*  
 • Kendall Regional Medical Center  
 • Mount Sinai Medical Center  
*Emergency Medicine*  
 • Kendall Regional Medical Center (2)  
*Family Medicine*  
 • Florida State University  
*Internal Medicine*  
 • Broward General Medical Center (3)  
 • Florida Atlantic University (3)  
 • Florida State University  
 • Orlando Health  
 • University of Miami/JFK Palm Beach  
*Pediatrics*  
 • Broward General Medical Center (2)  
*Preliminary Surgery*  
 • University of South Florida  
*Psychiatry*  
 • Citrus Health Network  
*Transitional Year*  
 • Broward General Medical Center (3)  
 • Orange Park Medical Center

**Georgia (3)**  
*Family Medicine*  
 • Floyd Medical Center (2)  
*Internal Medicine*  
 • Mercer University/Memorial Health University Medical Center

**Illinois (3)**  
*Family Medicine*  
 • Jackson Park Hospital  
 • Southern Illinois University, Carbondale  
 • St. Mary's and Elizabeth Hospital

**Indiana (5)**  
*Family Medicine*  
 • Deaconess Hospital  
 • St. Vincent Hospital-Indianapolis (2)  
 • Union Hospital (2)

**Kansas (3)**  
*Family Medicine*  
 • University of Kansas (2)  
*Pediatrics*  
 • University of Kansas

**Kentucky (1)**  
*Family Medicine*  
 • St. Elizabeth Medical Center

**Louisiana (8)**  
*Emergency/Family Medicine*  
 • Louisiana State University, Shreveport  
*Family Medicine*  
 • Baton Rouge General Medical Center  
 • Louisiana State University (2)  
*Internal Medicine*  
 • Baton Rouge General Medical Center (2)  
 • Louisiana State University, Shreveport  
 • Ochsner Health System

**Maryland (4)**  
*Internal Medicine*  
 • Sinai Hospital of Baltimore  
*Pathology*  
 • University of Maryland, Baltimore  
*Preliminary Surgery*  
 • St. Agnes Hospital  
*Radiology*  
 • University of Maryland, Baltimore

**Maine (2)**  
*Family Medicine*  
 • Central Maine Medical Center (2)

**Massachusetts (3)**  
*Anesthesiology*  
 • Baystate Medical Center  
*Pathology*  
 • University of Massachusetts  
*Psychiatry*  
 • Berkshire Medical Center

**Michigan (25)**  
*Anesthesiology*  
 • Detroit Medical Center  
*Family Medicine*  
 • Genesys Regional Medical Center (2)  
 • Mercy Memorial Hospital System  
 • Providence-Providence Park Hospital  
 • St. Mary Mercy Hospital  
 • Wayne State University  
 • Western Michigan University (2)  
*Internal Medicine*  
 • Allegiance Health  
 • Providence-Providence Park Hospital (3)  
 • Wayne State University (4)  
*OB/GYN*  
 • Beaumont Health System  
 • Providence-Providence Park Hospital  
*Pediatrics*  
 • Hurley Medical Center  
 • St. John Hospital and Medical Center  
*Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*  
 • Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Center  
*Preliminary Surgery*  
 • Providence-Providence Park Hospital (2)  
*Transitional Year*  
 • Providence-Providence Park Hospital

**Mississippi (4)**  
*Emergency Medicine*  
 • University Hospital, Jackson  
*Neurology*  
 • University Hospital, Jackson

*Pediatrics*  
 • University Hospital, Jackson (2)  
**Missouri (2)**  
*Family Medicine*  
 • University Hospital (2)

**Nebraska (2)**  
*Internal Medicine*  
 • University of Nebraska Medical Center (2)

**Nevada (3)**  
*Internal Medicine*  
 • Mountainview Hospital (3)

**New Jersey (14)**  
*Family Medicine*  
 • Hoboken University Medical Center  
 • Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital (2)  
 • Rutgers University (2)  
*Internal Medicine*  
 • Jersey Shore University Medical Center  
 • Mountainside Hospital (4)  
*Pediatrics*  
 • Atlantic Health System  
 • Jersey Shore University Medical Center  
*Pediatrics/Primary Care*  
 • Cooper University Hospital  
*Psychiatry*  
 • Bergen Regional Medical Center

**New Mexico (2)**  
*Anesthesiology*  
 • University of New Mexico  
*Preliminary Surgery*  
 • University of New Mexico

**New York (58)**  
*Anesthesiology*  
 • University of Rochester  
*Emergency Medicine*  
 • Brooklyn Hospital Center  
 • Wyckoff Heights Medical Center

*Family Medicine*  
 • Hofstra Northwell School of Medicine/ Staten Island University Hospital  
 • Institute for Family Health  
*Internal Medicine*  
 • Hofstra Northwell School of Medicine/ Staten Island University Hospital (3)  
 • Icahn School of Medicine/Queens Hospital  
 • Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center  
 • Nassau University Medical Center (4)  
 • New York Methodist Hospital (2)  
 • New York Presbyterian Hospital  
 • Stony Brook University Hospital  
 • SUNY Health Science Center at Brooklyn (2)  
 • SUNY Upstate Medical Center at Syracuse (4)  
 • Winthrop University Hospital  
*Internal Medicine/Pediatrics*  
 • University of Buffalo  
*Neurology*  
 • Westchester Medical Center

*Internal Medicine/Pediatrics*  
 • University of Buffalo  
*Neurology*  
 • Westchester Medical Center  
*Pediatrics*  
 • Albany Medical Center  
 • Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center  
 • Hofstra Northwell School of Medicine/ Staten Island University Hospital  
 • Nassau University Medical Center  
 • SUNY Update Medical Center at Syracuse  
*Pediatrics/Primary Care*  
 • Maimonides Medical Center  
*Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*  
 • Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center  
*Preliminary Medicine*  
 • Flushing Hospital Medical Center  
 • Maimonides Medical Center  
 • Nassau University Medical Center (4)  
 • New York Methodist Hospital  
 • Richmond University Medical Center  
 • SUNY Upstate Medical Center at Syracuse

*Preliminary Surgery*  
 • Hofstra Northwell School of Medicine/ Staten Island University Hospital (2)

*Psychiatry*  
 • Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center  
 • St. John's Episcopal Hospital  
 • Stony Brook University Hospital  
 • SUNY Health Science Center at Brooklyn  
*Radiology*  
 • Stony Brook University Hospital (2)  
 • SUNY Health Science Center at Brooklyn  
 • SUNY Upstate Medical Center at Syracuse  
*Surgery*  
 • Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center  
 • Hofstra Northwell School of Medicine/ Staten Island University Hospital (2)  
*Transitional Year*  
 • Wilson Memorial Regional Medical Center/SUNY Upstate  
*Vascular Surgery*  
 • Albany Medical Center

**North Carolina (2)**  
*Internal Medicine*  
 • Carolinas Healthcare System  
 • Vidant Medical Center/East Carolina University

**Ohio (5)**  
*Internal Medicine*  
 • Case Western Reserve University  
 • Kettering Medical Center (2)  
*Neurology*  
 • Wright State University  
*Psychiatry*  
 • Ohio State University Hospital

**Pennsylvania (17)**  
*Anesthesiology*  
 • Temple University  
*Family Medicine*  
 • Bryn Mawr Hospital  
 • Conemaugh Memorial Medical Center  
 • Drexel University  
 • Reading Hospital and Medical Center  
 • Sacred Heart Hospital (2)

*Internal Medicine*  
 • Allegheny General Hospital  
 • Drexel University  
 • Geisinger Health System (2)  
 • York Hospital  
 • University of Pittsburgh Medical Center Mercy Hospital  
*Neurology*  
 • Allegheny General Hospital  
*Preliminary Medicine*  
 • Allegheny General Hospital  
 • Conemaugh Memorial Medical Center  
*Preliminary Surgery*  
 • Drexel University

**Rhode Island (1)**  
*Pathology*  
 • Rhode Island Hospital

**Saskatchewan (1)**  
*Family Medicine*  
 • University of Saskatchewan

**South Carolina (2)**  
*Child Neurology*  
 • Medical University of South Carolina  
*Family Medicine*  
 • Grand Strand Regional Medical Center

**Tennessee (2)**  
*Internal Medicine*  
 • University of Tennessee, Chattanooga  
*Pediatrics*  
 • University of Tennessee, Chattanooga

**Texas (12)**  
*Anesthesiology*  
 • Texas Tech University, Lubbock  
 • University of Texas Medical School, Houston  
*Internal Medicine*  
 • Christus Spohn Memorial University Hospital  
 • Methodist Hospitals

• University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center  
 • Wadley Regional Medical Center  
*Internal Medicine*  
 • Baylor College of Medicine  
 • Methodist Hospital  
 • University of Texas Medical School, Houston (2)  
*Preliminary Surgery*  
 • Texas Tech University, Lubbock  
*Surgery*  
 • University of Texas Medical Branch

**Virginia (3)**  
*Family Medicine*  
 • Lynchburg Family Practice  
*Internal Medicine*  
 • Virginia Tech University/Carilion Clinic  
*Psychiatry*  
 • Virginia Commonwealth University Health Systems

**Washington (2)**  
*Family Medicine*  
 • Central Washington Hospital  
 • Kadlec Medical Center

**West Virginia (2)**  
*Family Medicine*  
 • United Hospital Center  
 • Wheeling Hospital

**Wisconsin (5)**  
*Family Medicine*  
 • Aurora Medical Center  
 • Aurora St. Luke's Medical Center  
 • Medical College of Wisconsin  
 • University of Wisconsin  
*Internal Medicine*  
 • Aurora Medical Center

# PREPARING AUC STUDENTS FOR RESIDENCY

Preparing students for residency is AUC's main priority. The Office of Student and Professional Development (OSPD) offers resources, workshops, and one-on-one advising to help students develop a residency match plan, decide on a specialty, and understand the application process.

OSPD develops resources using trends analysis and insights from post-graduate medical training organizations. OSPD continually expands these services and offerings to keep our students and graduates competitive for residency.

## RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO HELP AUC STUDENTS PREPARE FOR THE MATCH:



### **Residency Workshops:**

Students gain an understanding of the different components of the residency application process.



**Webinar Series:** Students learn about best practices for writing personal statements, developing CVs, requesting letters of recommendation, and conducting residency program interviews.



**Match Handbook:** A comprehensive guide to help AUC students navigate the residency application process and understand important deadlines and paperwork.



**Personal Advising:** Residency advisors meet virtually and in-person at clinical sites to provide individualized guidance and match strategies.



**Physician Match Advisors:** Students are "matched" with a physician advisor who can coach him or her through the residency application and provides specific counseling related to a desired specialty or program.



**Specialty Interest Groups:** Students interested in a particular area of medicine meet routinely and host AUC graduates, faculty, and deans who made a career in that field to provide unique perspectives.

Graduates who are unable to obtain a residency during their first attempt can access all of these OSPD resources as well as two unique fellowship programs. AUC's Clinical Education Fellowship and Clinical Teaching Fellowship programs provide recent graduates with

the opportunity to mentor AUC students, conduct clinical research, write manuscripts, and present at international conferences and meetings. These valuable experiences help graduates show personal progress heading into the next year's residency application cycle.

# GAINING GLOBAL HEALTH EXPOSURE

Tomorrow's physician will care for the most culturally diverse patient population the United States has ever seen. AUC is committed to preparing students who will be culturally competent physician leaders and globally aware citizens. It's why we offer an integrated medical education program rooted in immersive global health experiences.

Whether choosing to participate in research and service-learning projects while on our medical sciences campus in St. Maarten,

or traveling to one of nine countries for clinical clerkships, AUC students gain a deep appreciation for diverse healthcare settings, healthcare teams, and patient populations. These once-in-a-lifetime opportunities broaden their horizons and shape their medical careers.

Residency programs too are interested in global health training. AUC students who participate in clerkships abroad are often asked about their encounters—a discussion that adds value to their applications and helps to keep them competitive as candidates.

## Canada

Saskatchewan natives can complete core and elective clerkships at the University of Saskatchewan College of Medicine

## United States

Core and elective clerkships available at 21 affiliated teaching hospitals in seven states and the District of Columbia

## Dominican Republic

6-week global health elective at the PAP Hospital in Paraiso

## St. Maarten

Two years of medical sciences education with opportunities to work on research and public health education projects

## United Kingdom

Core rotations available at eight affiliated teaching hospitals across London's bustling city center and in surrounding boroughs

**87.7% of first-time eligible graduates who did at least one clerkship in the UK secured a residency in 2017.**

## Uganda

6-week global health elective at Makerere University College of Health Sciences, Kampala Hospital, and Kasensero Clinic

## Zimbabwe

6-week global health elective at the University of Zimbabwe College of Health Sciences, Parirenyatwa Hospital, and Harare Central Hospital

## Russia

6-week global health elective at Kazan State Medical University in Kazan

## Vietnam

6-week global health elective at Cho Ray Hospital in Ho Chi Minh City



*“My experience in Uganda was life-changing. I lived with a local family, delivered babies, visited the village elders, taught young people about the importance of family planning, assisted with HIV counseling, and took Luganda culture and language lessons along the way. It was a truly transformative experience.”*

– Deyanna Boston, MD '17



Ever since Dr. Tomilade Adepoju can remember, she has been infatuated with. So it's rather fitting that this AUC graduate and first generation Nigerian-American secured a residency in ophthalmology, the branch of medicine associated with vision. Dr. Tomilade is completing her preliminary year at Queens Hospital in New York before joining the ophthalmology program at Nassau University Medical Center.

*“I’d like to continue that—maybe setup a clinic and contribute to global eye care.”*



**Tomilade Adepoju, MD '16**  
Ophthalmology Resident  
Nassau University Medical Center  
East Meadow, NY

One month before the start of residency interview season, Dr. Chris Haltigin's cancer relapsed. With no option for surgery, he began a nine-week course of chemotherapy just five days after his interview with Beaumont-Royal Oak Hospital's OB/GYN program—the same program that would offer him a residency spot two months later. He doesn't necessarily fit the standard profile—he's a former Canadian professional hockey player from Ontario—but he is enthralled with OB/GYN's fast pace, surgical opportunities, and the ability to bring life into the world.

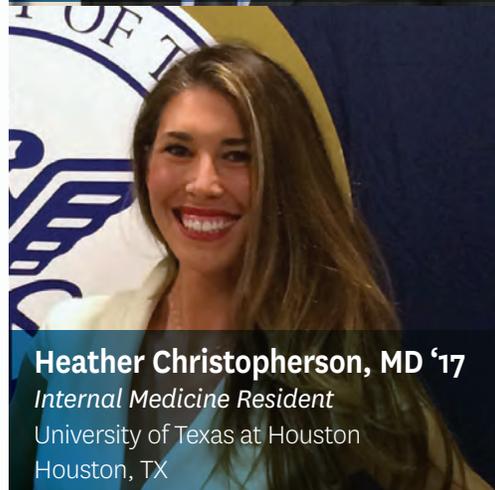
*“I was always proud to be an AUC student, but now I'm even more proud.”*



**Chris Haltigin, MD '17**  
OB/GYN Resident  
Beaumont-Royal Oak Hospital  
Royal Oak, MI

Despite a thriving fashion business, Dr. Heather Christopherson wanted a more profound and fulfilling career. In 2013, she mustered up the courage to apply to AUC and is now an internal medicine resident at her first-choice program at the University of Texas at Houston.

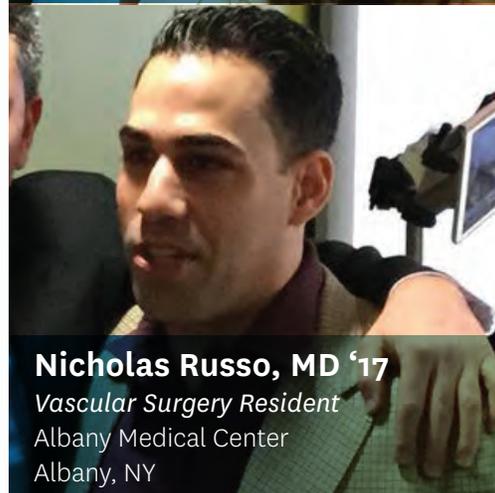
*“Go for that position or that specialty that you want. Have a backup, but put your dream out there and see what happens. So many of us have succeeded beyond what we might have expected. You just need to try.”*



**Heather Christopherson, MD '17**  
Internal Medicine Resident  
University of Texas at Houston  
Houston, TX

On his first day in the vascular operating room, Dr. Nicholas Russo experienced the rush of an angiogram before moving swiftly to a carotid endarterectomy. In ways, it reminded him of his earlier days as a New York City firefighter. But he also knew how competitive vascular surgery residencies are so he mapped out a plan early on. That hard work paid off with a first-choice match at the prestigious Albany Medical Center in Albany, New York.

*“There are a lot of cutting edge procedures but for me a big draws is the patient continuity. For patients with vascular disease, we help manage their issues; we're their caretakers.”*



**Nicholas Russo, MD '17**  
Vascular Surgery Resident  
Albany Medical Center  
Albany, NY



**Rebecca Filbrandt, MD '17**  
*Pediatric Resident*  
Valley Children's Hospital  
Madera, CA

Dr. Rebecca Filbrandt has always drawn inspiration from her parents—two physicians who would take her on morning rounds and medical missions from a young age. Today, she's following in their footsteps by completing her pediatrics residency in the Central Valley region of California, where there's an acute shortage of primary care physicians. While at Valley Children's Hospital, Dr. Filbrandt looks forward to the unique opportunity to operate a mobile health clinic that provides area elementary schools with health exams, vaccines, and other services.

*"Being a leader in your community is something that all physicians should strive to do. AUC was a great place to further develop in that aspect of medicine."*

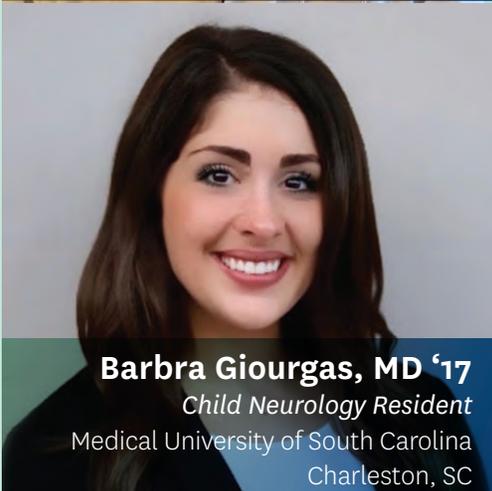
## AUC GRADUATES ON BECOMING PHYSICIANS



**Daniel Judelson, MD '17**  
*Family Medicine Resident*  
University of Saskatchewan  
North Battleford, Saskatchewan

In the years leading up to the match, Dr. Daniel Judelson traveled his home province, meeting program directors and residents and becoming familiar with each hospital—all the while maintaining stellar grades. His hard work resulted in a family medicine residency at the University of Saskatchewan in North Battleford, an integrated program with diverse scopes of practice and rural family medicine rotation opportunities.

*"It's obvious that the faculty really care and want you to do well, and AUC is a great community to be a part of. The curriculum is very focused on preparing you for USMLE® exams, and there are a lot of support services available."*

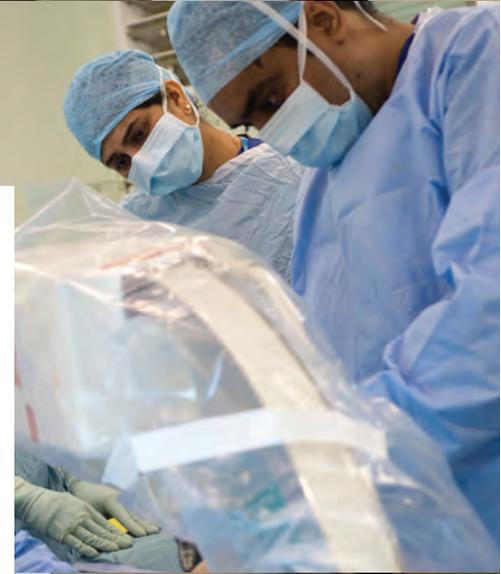
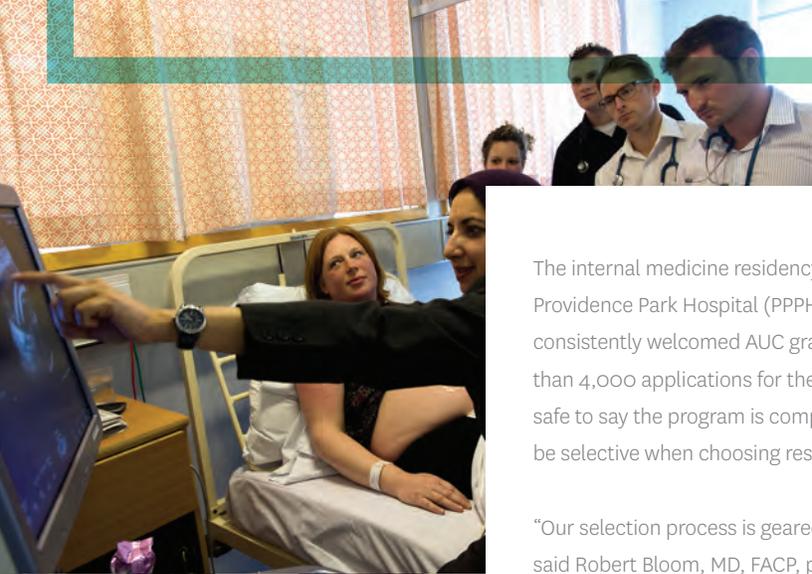


**Barbra Giourgas, MD '17**  
*Child Neurology Resident*  
Medical University of South Carolina  
Charleston, SC

After two years of completing undergraduate research in neurology, Dr. Barbra Giourgas knew she wanted to pursue the field as a physician. And since she'd always wanted to work with kids, the subspecialty of child neurology felt tailor-made for her. When she was selected as the only child neurology resident at the Medical University of South Carolina, the feeling was pure elation. Her residency program includes two years of general pediatrics, one year of adult neurology, and two years of child neurology.

*"I've already learned so much, and it'll be a great place to spend the next five years."*

# What Residency Program Directors Say About AUC Graduates

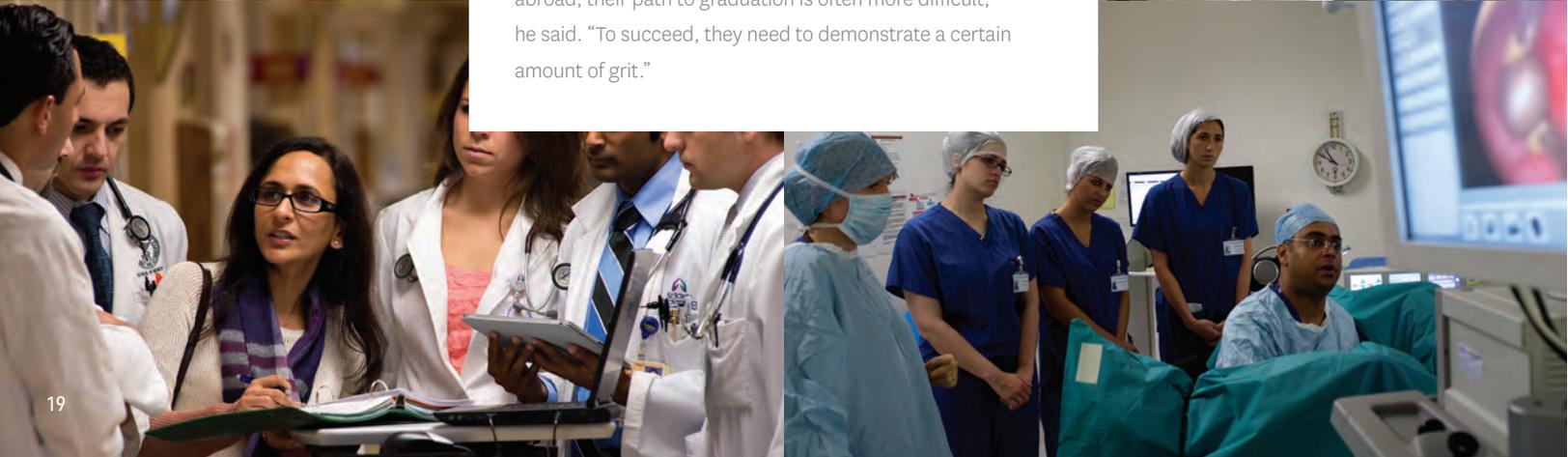


The internal medicine residency program at Providence-Providence Park Hospital (PPPH) in Detroit, Michigan has consistently welcomed AUC graduates for years. With more than 4,000 applications for the program's 12 positions, it's safe to say the program is competitive and PPPH can afford to be selective when choosing residents.

"Our selection process is geared towards two major goals," said Robert Bloom, MD, FACP, program director of the internal medicine residency program. "We attempt to find the highest caliber students to ensure that they will provide the best care for our patients. We are also committed to try to train students who will stay in our community after graduation and provide care to patients in Southeastern Michigan."

So what makes AUC graduates stand out? According to Dr. Bloom, it's a balance of talent, academic achievement, and connection to Michigan, where many AUC graduates were raised or completed much of their clinical training while in medical school. And then there's fortitude.

"Having to spend the first two years of medical school abroad, their path to graduation is often more difficult," he said. "To succeed, they need to demonstrate a certain amount of grit."



# AUC Chief Residents for 2017-18

At the start of each residency cycle, a select group of physicians are chosen to serve as chief residents for their programs. The honor is bestowed to physicians who have showed exemplary leadership, character and performance, and who have expressed a commitment to mentoring others.

Generally, chief residents are selected by the director of a given residency program, but are occasionally nominated by their peers.

For the 2017-18 residency year, more than 20 AUC graduates in numerous specialties cemented their role as chief resident or fellow—proving that AUC graduates not only handle the responsibilities of residency, they thrive at it.

## Anesthesiology Chief Residents

- Dillon Meier, MD  
*Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA*

## Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Chief Fellow

- Janeris Loreda, MD  
*Augusta University Hospital, Augusta, GA*

## Emergency Medicine Chief Residents

- Faizan G. Arif, MD  
*The Brooklyn Hospital Center, Brooklyn, NY*
- Lauren Cassell, MD  
*University of South Florida, Tampa, FL*

## Family Medicine Chief Residents

- Shakellah Amini, MD  
*Advocate Christ Medical Center, Oak Lawn, IL*
- Dunay Barsbay, MD  
*Hoboken University Medical Center, Hoboken, NJ*
- Andrew Rahaman, MD  
*CHRISTUS Spohn Hospital, Corpus Christi, TX*
- William Rusinow, MD  
*St. John Hospital & Medical Center, Detroit, MI*
- Steve Youssefian, MD  
*Reading Hospital, Reading, PA*

## Internal Medicine Chief Residents

- Ryan Keen, MD  
*Augusta University Hospital, Augusta, GA*
- Bobby M. Jacob, MD  
*Nassau University Medical Center, East Meadow, NY*
- Tyler Brinkman, MD  
*University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE*
- Daisy Lankarani, MD  
*Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital, Santa Barbara, CA*
- Joshua Mosdale, MD  
*St. Mary's Hospital (affiliated with Yale School of Medicine), Waterbury, CT*
- Prasanth Ravipati, MD  
*University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE*
- Gaetano Ruggiero, MD  
*Baton Rouge General Medical Center (affiliated with Tulane University School of Medicine), Baton Rouge, LA*

## Pediatrics Chief Residents

- James Statler, MD  
*Memorial University Medical Center, Savannah, GA*

## Pediatrics/Psychiatry/Child Psychiatry Chief Residents

- Erin Knopf, MD  
*Kentucky Children's Hospital (affiliated with University of Kentucky College of Medicine), Lexington, KY*

## Psychiatry Chief Residents

- Matthew Petrilli, MD  
*Creedmoor Psychiatric Center, New York, NY*
- Mohammed Muzzharuddin, MD  
*Creedmoor Psychiatric Center, New York NY*

## Radiology Chief Residents

- Harold W. Hunt III, MD  
*Nassau University Medical Center, East Meadow, NY*
- Mohammed Loya, MD  
*Nassau University Medical Center, East Meadow, NY*

## Surgery Chief Residents

- Farzad Amiri, MD  
*Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, Huntington, WV*
- Ravi N. Kapadia, MD  
*Montefiore Medical Center (affiliated with Albert Einstein College of Medicine), Bronx, NY*



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Important information about the educational debt, earnings, and completion rates of students who attended this program can be found at <http://www.aucmed.edu/Gainful-Employment.htm>  
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