

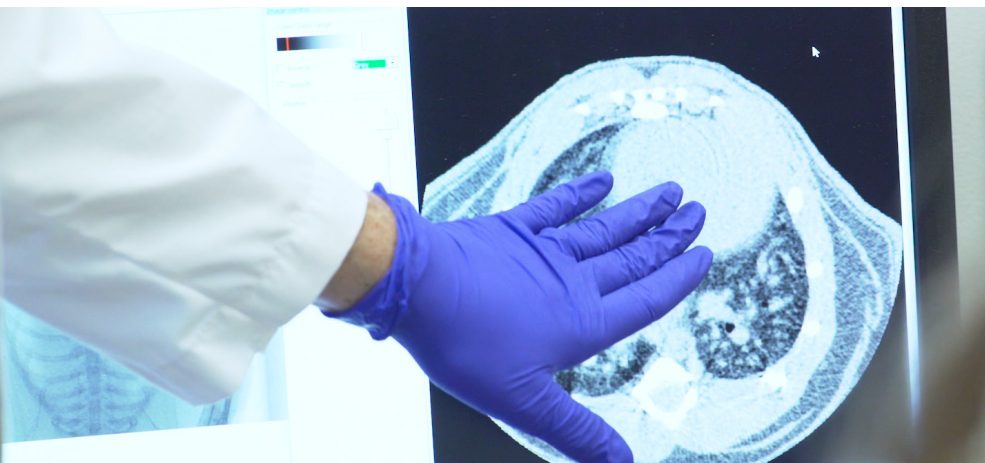
VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration

75 YEARS

OAA Office of Academic Affiliations
Passion to learn. Power to heal.



OFFICE OF ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS
75TH ANNIVERSARY
PASSION TO LEARN. POWER TO HEAL.

MESSAGES FROM LEADERSHIP

VA conducts the nation’s largest education and training program for health professions trainees across 1,000 sites of care in partnership with 1,800 academic affiliates. This mission enhances timely, high-quality care for Veterans while training future health professionals. VA’s academic mission began on January 30, 1946 with Policy Memorandum No. 2 that created mutually beneficial partnerships between VA and its academic partners. Seventy-five years later, it has grown into the most comprehensive academic partnership in U.S. history. I congratulate the Office of Academic Affiliations (OAA) for continually advancing this mission, “To educate for VA and the Nation”.

RICHARD A. STONE, MD
ACTING UNDER SECRETARY FOR HEALTH, VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

Academic affiliation partnerships are extremely important to maintain VA’s high standard of care while training future health professionals in the latest evidence-based practices in our dynamic patient-centered environment. Through these affiliations, VA shares faculty, trainees and expertise that advances Veteran care. World-class clinicians and teachers come to VA to share their knowledge with approximately 120,000 health professions trainees each year. This 75-year-old affiliation model empowers a pivotal relationship that has led to innovations, clinical advances and the development of new therapeutics—from which our Veterans and the nation benefit.

CAROLYN CLANCY, MD
ASSISTANT UNDER SECRETARY FOR HEALTH FOR DISCOVERY, EDUCATION AND AFFILIATE NETWORKS, VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

OAA is proud to celebrate 75 years of VA’s academic mission. Delivering the best health care to our Veterans is of the utmost importance and we have put forth vast efforts to ensure a system to do so. The academic affiliation partnership model is vital to VHA, our Veterans and our country. VA operates America’s largest health care training system providing training to nearly 70% of all U.S. physicians and trainees in over 40 health disciplines. I invite you to review this report to learn about VA’s academic mission and the important contributions VA and its academic partners have made so far.

MARJORIE A. BOWMAN, MD, MPA
CHIEF ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS OFFICER, OFFICE OF ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS, VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION



TABLE OF CONTENTS

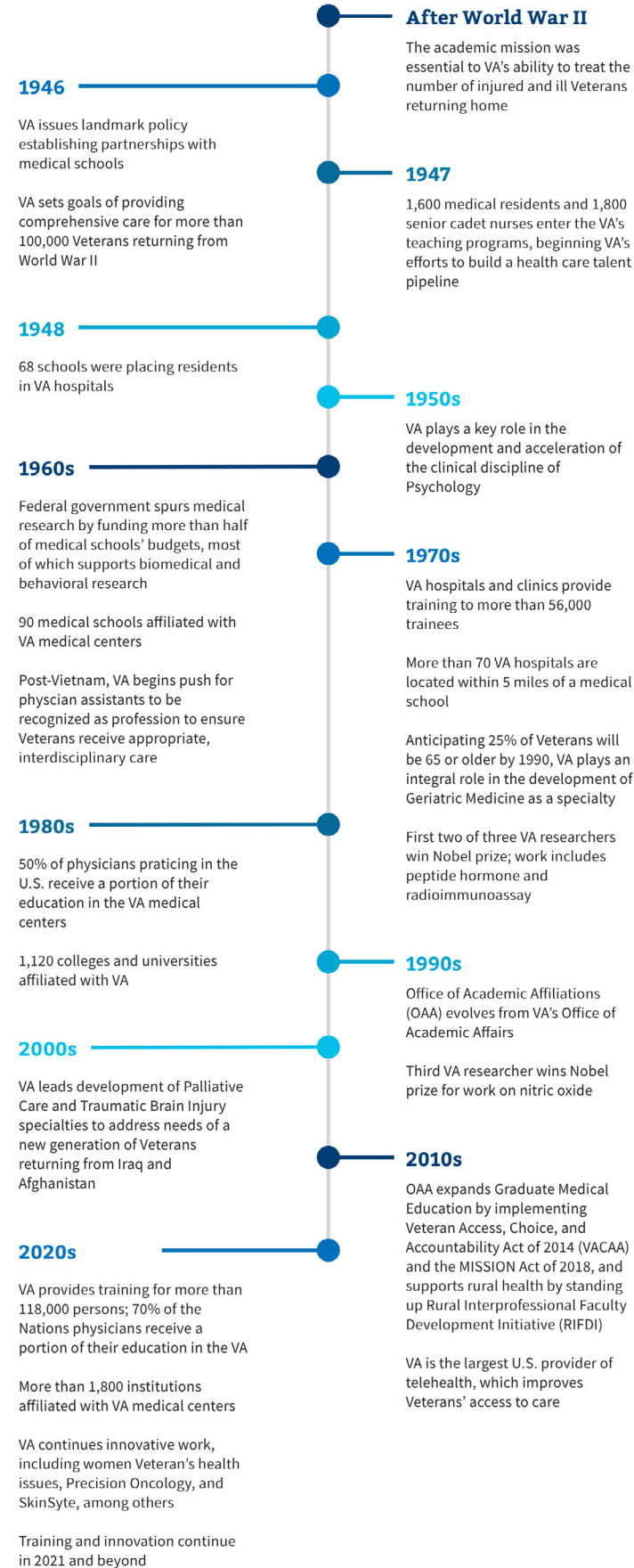
04 MISSION	05 75 YEARS OF SUCCESS	06 KEY PARTNERS	07 OUR STORY, THEIR PERSPECTIVES
08 WORLD-CLASS CARE	10 IMPROVED ACCESS TO CARE	10 QUALITY TRAINING AND EDUCATION	11 DIVERSITY, INCLUSION AND REPRESENTATION
12-13 MEDICAL AND DENTAL EDUCATION	14-15 NURSING EDUCATION	16-17 ASSOCIATED HEALTH EDUCATION	18-19 ADVANCED FELLOWSHIPS
20-21 BEHIND THE SCENES	22-23 LOOKING FORWARD		



MISSION: TO EDUCATE FOR VA AND THE NATION

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) educates and trains health professionals to enhance quality and timely access to health care for Veterans. As one of four statutory missions — to educate for VA and the nation, and in accordance with the landmark [1946 Policy Memorandum No. 2](#), VA has conducted health professions education and training in partnership with affiliated U.S. academic institutions for the past 75 years.

[Title 38 U.S.C. Section 7302](#) mandates that VA assist in carrying out a “program of education and training of health personnel” for VA and the nation. Overseen by the Office of Academic Affiliations (OAA), this mandate spurred significant growth in the depth and breadth of health professions education in VA, making VA the largest provider of health professions education and training and second largest funder of graduate medical education in the United States.



75 YEARS OF SUCCESS

What started as a visionary agreement between VA and medical schools has transformed into a historic national partnership model that embodies OAA's 75th anniversary theme: "Passion to learn. Power to heal."



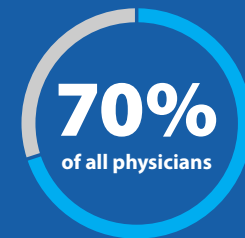
170

VA MEDICAL CENTERS (VAMCS) PARTNER WITH OVER **1,800** ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS ACROSS **7,000** TRAINING PROGRAMS.



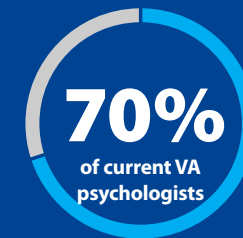
120,000

HEALTH PROFESSIONS TRAINEES ROTATE ANNUALLY THROUGH VA TO CARE FOR OVER **9 MILLION** VETERAN PATIENTS.



in the U.S. train with VA.

AND



report having trained in VA.



of medical schools are affiliated with VA, including 149 allopathic (LCME) and all 34 osteopathic (AOA) schools.



40+

DIFFERENT HEALTH PROFESSIONS FROM DOCTORS AND NURSES TO PSYCHOLOGISTS, PODIATRISTS, OPTOMETRISTS, PHARMACISTS AND SOCIAL WORKERS ARE SUPPORTED BY VA.



3

NOBEL PRIZE WINNERS OF PHYSIOLOGY OR MEDICINE HAVE BEEN AFFILIATED WITH VA:



Dr. Rosalyn Yalo
Medical Physicist



Dr. Andrew Schally
Endocrine Oncologist



Dr. Ferid Murad
Physician, Pharmacologist and Biomedical Researcher

KEY PARTNERS

OAA values its partners as these relationships help fulfill VA's academic mission and provide quality health care.



OUR STORY, THEIR PERSPECTIVES

After the allied victory in WWII, VA faced the imminent arrival of more than 100,000 new Veteran patients. With 98 mostly rural hospitals offering fewer than 84,000 beds and only 1,000 physicians, VA needed to rapidly expand its medical workforce. In 1946, a groundbreaking idea formed to partner with medical schools leveraging their senior clinicians, academicians and trainees to care for Veterans, which solved VA's urgent need for expert medical staff and provided an infrastructure for training medical students and residents to become America's future health care workforce.

Through these organizational relationships health professions trainees (HPTs), VA staff, educators and Veterans learn together. HPTs are introduced to unique complex medical conditions affecting Veterans and gain valuable experience while serving those who served our country. They learn the latest evidence-based treatments to care for our Veterans, utilizing the latest therapeutics and state-of-the-art technologies. HPTs are prepared to deliver comprehensive Veteran-focused care at VA and in communities across the U.S. As history over the past 75 years indicates, VA training experiences continue to shape America's health care workforce and improve care for Veterans.

"The biggest impact training at VA will have on my future career is that no matter where I go and practice psychiatry, I will be confident in my ability to take care of a Veteran as soon as they walk through the door."

— Shawn Jin, MD
Resident Physician
VA Boston Healthcare System



"Veterans are very dedicated to the country. They are very patriotic, and they are very willing to have trainees take care of them. It's a wonderful partnership to have trainees and Veterans talking together and learning together. When trainees come to VA, they actually learn about what care is necessary for Veterans. It is much more of an evidence-based health care system and the trainees see what a good non-profit health care system can provide."

— Karen Sanders, MD
Senior Advisor, Office of Academic Affiliations, Veterans Health Administration



"VA trainees have access to a large amount of data that not only adds value to their experience with clinical research, but also allows them to work on high-impact and quality improvement projects."

— Kiran Motwani, MD
Chief Resident, Quality and Safety
VA Maryland Health Care System



WORLD-CLASS CARE

As the largest integrated health care system in the country, VA is dedicated to continually innovating its practices, systems and technology to provide world-class care to U.S. Veterans.

“Academic affiliate partnerships allow VA to apply the latest innovations and technology in a matrix of evidence-based medicine and offer world-class care to Veterans.”

— Leonard Moses, MD
Chief Pulmonary/Critical Care
Central Virginia VA Health Care System

VA provides world-class care to Veterans. To sustain and advance this quality of care, OAA partners with over 1,800 educational institutions bringing premier educators and researchers to train students in over 40 disciplines at VA, preparing the next generation of health care professionals.

VA is committed to making innovative evidence-based psychotherapies available to Veterans that focus on treating serious mental illness, substance use disorders, depression and PTSD.

VA’s telehealth services ensure Veterans can access care when and where they need it—from their home, clinic or hospital, making it easier to connect with their care team. Interdisciplinary care teams, which include trainees from multiple disciplines, provide patient-centered, personalized care focused on improving Veteran health outcomes.



IMPROVED ACCESS TO CARE

A focus on establishing training programs in rural areas will improve the health care workforce pipeline for VA and the nation.

VA’s Rural Interprofessional Faculty Development Initiative (RIFDI), a two-year program to develop clinical educators’ skills in rural areas and low resource sites, is a collaborative project between OAA and the [Office of Rural Health](#) (ORH). RIFDI brings together clinical educators and resources from across VA’s 170 medical centers and its 1,800 academic affiliates to expand health professions education in underserved areas. This ensures every Veteran receives the highest quality of care. Two cohorts with 80 clinical educators from 34 VAMCs actively participate in RIFDI.

The Veterans Access Choice and Accountability Act (VACAA) of 2014 established 1,500 new Graduate Medical Education positions with priorities in mental health and primary care. VACAA alleviates physician shortages in rural and underserved areas. By the end of 2020, OAA filled 1,424 of 1,500 available positions: 39% in primary care, 25% in mental health and 36% in critically needed additional specialties.



“VA’s faculty development program is especially important in rural and remote sites where it can be difficult to retain and attract faculty members. By keeping these important members of the VA health care team engaged in their work and excited about teaching, we improve the quality of education and continue to provide care to Veterans in these settings.”

— David Topor, PhD, MS-HPed
Associate Director, Healthcare
Professional Education
VA Boston Healthcare System

QUALITY TRAINING AND EDUCATION

VA prepares students and trainees for dynamic health care careers as long-term VA employees and community providers through quality training with a deep understanding of Veteran care needs.

OAA oversees VA's health professions training mission, which helps ensure Veterans receive high-quality clinical care while creating training opportunities for the next generation of U.S. health care providers.

As a result of VA's pivotal role in education, specialties such as geriatrics, spinal cord injury medicine and addiction psychiatry have become nationally recognized medical specialties.

Recruiting and developing the best talent is essential to delivering quality Veteran care. OAA offers a range of educational opportunities in over 40 health professions disciplines. To attract an even larger pool of trainees, VA also promotes several incentive programs, such as [Education Debt Reduction Program](#), [Employee Incentive Scholarship Program](#), [National Nursing Education Initiative](#) and [VA Learning Opportunities Residency](#).

Approximately 120,000 health professions trainees each year receive training at VA medical facilities through academic affiliation partnerships. VA provides expert faculty and state-of-the-art technology, so trainees realize their maximum potential.

"As a VA trainee, I have the opportunity to use advanced training equipment such as bronchoscopy and endobronchial ultrasound simulators to hone my procedural skills."

— Andrew MacMillan, DO
Pulmonary/Critical Care Fellow
Central Virginia VA Health Care System

DIVERSITY, INCLUSION AND REPRESENTATION

VA takes pride in training future health professionals who will lead intentional actions to fight disparities in health care. VA understands that to advance diversity, inclusion is a must—regardless of race, ethnicity, age, gender, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, disability, economic status, geographic location and other differences. Veterans should be represented in those who provide care to them. The value of diversity extends to the need for evolving health professions fields and programs of study as well.

- In 2020, OAA implemented a pilot program—[Veterans Healing Veterans](#) (VHV) that awarded 12 full scholarships available to Veteran students: eight students enrolled at Teague-Cranston schools and four students enrolled at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).
- The awarded VHV students attended the following institutions: University of South Carolina, East Tennessee State University, Wright State University, Marshall University, Texas A&M College of Medicine, Howard University, Morehouse School of Medicine and Meharry Medical College.
- One-sixth of VA health professions trainees come from Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) which includes HBCUs, Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs), Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs) and Asian American and Pacific Islander Serving Institutions (AAPISIs).
- VA maintains strong relationships with Minority Serving Institutions through organized collaborations and events.
- The goal of the OAA-hosted *2021 Minority Summit: The Power of Collaborating with VA* is to convene MSIs and further build health professions trainee diversity and representation.



"VA has an important role in addressing critical issues with regards to diversity, equity and inclusion. Our military is one of the most diverse organizations and VA should reflect the individuals who are in the service. Our physicians, nurses and other providers should look like and represent those for whom they care."

— John E Prescott, MD
Chief Academic Officer
Association of American Medical Colleges

#1 largest provider of health professions education and training in the U.S.

#2 largest funder of graduate medical education in the U.S.

During the 2019-2020 academic year, 20,000 trainees came from Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) of higher education.

Last year, an estimated 80% VA optometrists, 70% VA podiatrists, and 70% VA psychologists trained with VA before becoming employees.

750+ mental health training positions were added in partnership with the Office of Mental Health and Suicide Prevention since 2012.

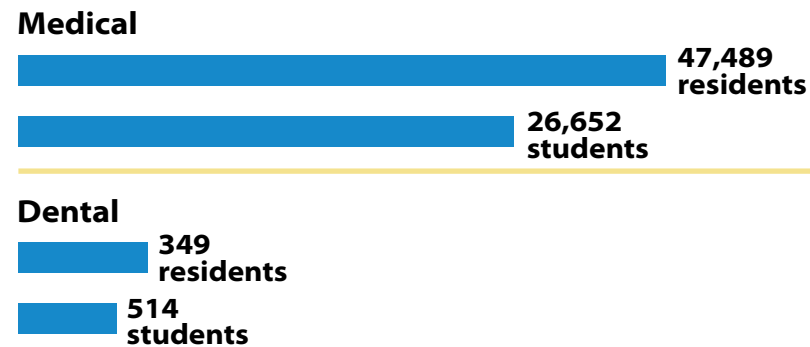
According to the 2019-2020 VA Trainee Satisfaction Survey, trainees are 36% more likely to consider a career at VA following their VA training experience.

MEDICAL AND DENTAL EDUCATION

OVERVIEW

OAA's Medical and Dental programs represent the nation's largest education and training effort for health professionals. Funded by VA, programs are managed by affiliated institutions and prepare health professions trainees (HPTs) to meet the changing needs of the nation's health care system. HPTs learn from VA's physician and dental faculty while enhancing VA's ability to deliver cost-effective and high-quality patient care.

Number of trainees at VA during the 2020-2021 academic year



OAA stands up programs that expand GME to address Veterans' needs.

The Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act (VACAA) alleviates physician shortages in high-need areas. By the end of 2020, OAA filled 1,424 of 1,500 available positions: 39% in primary care, 25% in mental health and 36% in critically needed additional specialties. Two cohorts with 80 clinical educators from 34 VAMCs actively participate in the Rural Interprofessional Faculty Development Initiative (RIFDI) program. This program fosters professional development for rural clinical educators and began in 2019 as a joint project between OAA and the Office of Rural Health (ORH).

The 2020 Veterans Healing Veterans Program (VHV) was implemented as a one-year pilot program as part of the VA Maintaining Internal Systems and Strengthening Integrated Outside Networks (MISSION) Act of 2018. OAA awarded 12 full four-year scholarships to Veteran students. These medical students now attend Teague-Cranston or Historically Black College and University (HBCU) medical schools and will complete a four-year service obligation at a VA facility.

ACHIEVEMENTS

During the 2020 Academic Year, 77 Chief Resident Quality and Safety (CRQS) positions were filled at 54 VAMCs. This initiative enhances VAMC's ability to care for Veterans by redesigning medical education and patient care with a focus on quality and patient safety.



VA facilities offer medical training



Medical schools affiliated with VA



Rural VAMCs added 174 VACAA positions

The Medical and Dental Education Program brings together 97% of America's medical schools and VA medical centers (VAMCs) to provide Graduate Medical Education (GME).

MARK UPTON
ACTING ADUSH FOR
COMMUNITY CARE



- Mark Upton, MD**
- Acting Assistant Under Secretary for Health for Community Care
 - Veterans Health Administration

“ I'm proud to have effectuated large-scale change within VA by involving residents and trainees in VA's High Reliability Organization (HRO) culture and improving patient safety and related organizational processes.

AMBER FISHER
ASSOCIATE CHIEF OF STAFF
FOR EDUCATION



- Amber Fisher, PharmD, BCACP**
- Designated Education Officer
 - Boise VA Medical Center

“ As a DEO, I believe VA's standard of world-class care begins with trainees learning to work side by side in collaboration with other professionals. VA offers the best team-based training you can get!

ELIZABETH ROTEN
CHIEF OF ORGANIZATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT & EDUCATION



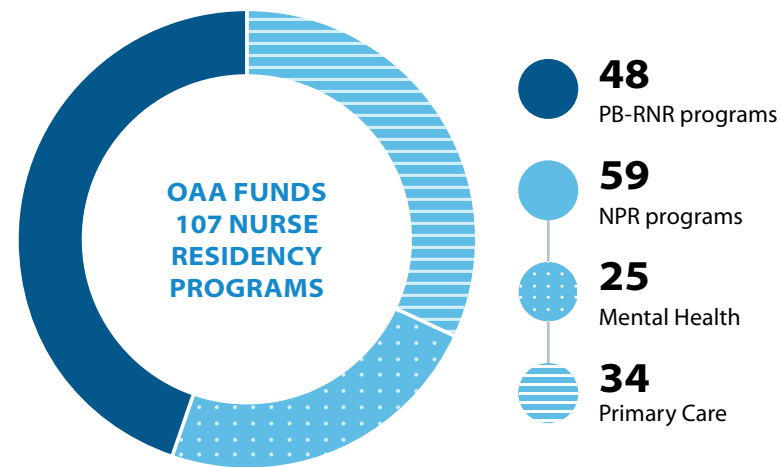
- Elizabeth Roten, RN, MSN**
- Chief of OD&E, Designated Learning Officer, Designated Education Officer
 - Grand Junction VA Medical Center

“ As a DEO and educator at VA, I see students transition into graduates, experts and teachers. Knowing the direct effect this progression has on positive Veteran care outcomes makes every day worthwhile.

NURSING EDUCATION

OVERVIEW

OAA recognizes that nurses need advanced skills to treat complex health needs, especially during a national nursing shortage. The Post-Baccalaureate Registered Nurse Residency is a robust competency-based curriculum aligned with the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) accreditation standards. The Nurse Practitioner Residency program focuses on primary care and mental health, the areas most affected by the current shortage of qualified providers. Full-year residencies are delivered in collaboration with VA-affiliated schools of nursing.



Date: As of July 2021

OAA will add 28 new nurse residency programs, providing one year of intensive training to prepare 550 highly skilled Nurse Practitioners and Post-Baccalaureate Registered Nurses, in Academic Year 2021–2022.

The programs, designed for bachelor's, master's, or doctoral prepared RN and NP graduates, include 14 new Post-Baccalaureate Registered Nurse Residency (PB-RNR) programs, 10 Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Residency (NPR) programs and four Mental Health NPR programs. Since 2018, VA has expanded nurse residency programs from 17 to 107 programs.

With 11.1% of VA's 73,000 RNs and 15.1% of VA NPs currently eligible for retirement, nursing residencies are critical to fully preparing recent graduates for their roles in primary care, mental health and specialty areas. Over 90% of VA nurse residents go on to permanent VA employment.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Current programs include: VA Nursing Academic Partnership Undergraduate and Graduate Education, Post-Baccalaureate Nurse Residency (PBNR), Nurse Practitioner Residency (NPR), Advanced Fellowships in Nursing and numerous Nursing pre-degree training programs.

25,000+

Nursing trainees at VA each year

74

Nurse residency expansions since 2018

100%

Protected learning time during program

VA's Nursing Education programs help trainees develop into competent, confident, practice-ready Registered Nurses (RN) and Nurse Practitioners (NP).

JESSICA RICHARDSON
PROGRAM DIRECTOR



Jessica Richardson, DNP, CRNP, PMHNP-BC

- Program Director, Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Residency Program
- Birmingham Veterans Affairs Health Care System

“ I believe most NP residency graduates will agree that completing a post-graduate residency program with VA was instrumental to both their personal and professional development.

SYMONE EVERETT-DAY
NURSING TRAINEE



Symone Everett-Day, BSN, RN, DNP

- Trainee, Johns Hopkins School of Nursing

“ Throughout my training with OAA, I have learned that VA not only impacts Veterans' health through health care innovation but leads research initiatives that can potentially effect individuals' health worldwide.

MARIANA BLOCK
STAFF NURSE



Mariana Block, BSN, RN

- Outpatient Clinic Staff Nurse
- Bruce W. Carter VA Medical Center

“ As a recent graduate, OAA's RN residency program provided an intensive and effective transition into my role. New graduates should apply to this outstanding VA program so similar opportunities can be extended to them.

ASSOCIATED HEALTH EDUCATION

OVERVIEW

Associated Health Education (AHE) aims to provide a wide range of opportunities to trainees in clinical services, such as psychology, pharmacy, podiatry and optometry. The focus is on creating interprofessional teams to provide accessible, high-quality care.

Who Participated in VA Training Prior to VA Employment? (By health profession)



Source: VA All Employee Survey, 2020

Due to the evolving nature of Veterans' health needs, associated health professionals are often at the nexus of change. OAA programs accelerate change within emerging professions by preparing trainees to treat patients in VA and other clinical settings.

OAA, in partnership with the [Office of Mental Health and Suicide Prevention](#), has engaged in an expansion of mental health training positions, creating over 750 positions since 2012. Professions include psychology (354), social work (112), pharmacy (82), licensed professional mental health counselors (41) and marriage and family therapists (14).

Since 2013, OAA has expanded chiropractic residency positions by 50%. VA chiropractic residency programs are accredited by the Council on Chiropractic Education. Chiropractic residents, who work with interprofessional clinical teams, train in alignment with national initiatives in evidence-based, non-pharmacological treatment of musculoskeletal conditions.

Future expansion of the physical therapy and occupational therapy residency programs will allow 58 additional PT and 43 additional OT residency positions by 2024. OAA is also dedicated to developing and ensuring best practice models for trainee supervision to meet the demands of patient care and support trainee growth and development.

ACHIEVEMENTS

VA offers 20% of the nation's psychology internships and 50% of the nation's accredited psychology postdoctoral residency programs.

21,215

AHE trainees in most recent academic year

40+

Areas of associated health fields

658

New positions filled, including 354 in psychology

Associated health professionals expand VA's ability to offer interdisciplinary care and services to Veterans.

CHRISTOPHER MEACHEM
DIRECTOR, PHYSICAL THERAPY



Christopher Meachem, PT
• Director, Physical Therapy
• Jesse Brown VA Medical Center

“ The responsibility to teach students the skills they need to become change agents rests on my shoulders, VA and on our academic partners.

SUSAN E. DREVO
ORGANIZATION DEVELOPMENT
PSYCHOLOGIST



Susan E. Drevo, PhD
• Organization Development Psychologist, Executive Coach
• VHA National Center for Organization Development

“ I knew without a doubt I would intern at VA. The mission and values of VA service strongly align with my own to serve those that serve(d) others, and from a whole person and compassionate perspective.

HANNAH GRAVRAND
CHIROPRACTOR



Hannah Gravrand, DC
• Chiropractor
• Sierra Nevada Healthcare System

“ My VA training was built on evidence-based practice which prepared me to work in a hospital. I was able to receive acupuncture clinical training and work alongside great minds on cutting-edge research projects.

ADVANCED FELLOWSHIPS

OVERVIEW

For over 40 years, Advanced Fellowships have helped VA fill workforce needs in critical emerging healthcare disciplines. VA Advanced Fellowships were first offered in 1978. The Geriatrics Advanced Fellowship Program and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars Program were some of the earliest fellowships offered. While initially only offered to physicians, these programs were expanded in 2005 to include health professionals from other disciplines. They now represent 21 professions.

Selection of 21 Advanced Fellowships Disciplines



Advanced Fellows train for two years at VA and affiliated institutions. Advanced fellowship specialties include Quality and Patient Safety, Clinical Informatics and Spinal Cord Injury.

Most Advanced Fellowships have Coordinating Centers to link programs across separate VA facilities and ensure a standardized curriculum.

Working with VA's [Office of Research and Development \(ORD\)](#) and Academy Health, OAA will collaborate on the development of a curriculum in Learning Health Systems for the Health Services Research (HSR) Advanced Fellowship Program.

Advanced Fellowships prepare future leaders for interprofessional practice. Alumni hold significant roles in VA, other government agencies and the private sector.

ACHIEVEMENTS

In a recent post-fellowship employment survey, 56% of Advanced Fellows were employed with VA or other government agencies after training.

 **468**

Active Advanced Fellows

 **58**

Sites supporting Advanced Fellowships in 21 professions

 **3,582**

Advanced Fellowship graduates since 1992

PATRICIA SWEENEY
DIRECTOR, PEER SUPPORT SERVICES



Patricia Sweeney, PsyD

- National Director, Peer Support Services
- VA Central Office, Office of Mental Health and Suicide Prevention

“ The PSR fellowship experience led me to choose a career as a VA psychologist—I valued that VA offered both needed services to Veterans and opportunities to help me develop professionally.

BLESSEN EAPEN
CHIEF, PHYSICAL MEDICINE AND REHABILITATION



Blessen Eapen, MD

- Chief, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
- VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System

“ My VA Advanced Fellowship experience was so rewarding that I decided to share my passion for education with the next generation of brain injury physiatrists by offering the mentorship that I was afforded.

MYLA MARSHALL
CLINICAL RESEARCH FELLOW



Myla Marshall, PharmD

- VA Quality Scholars Clinical Research Fellow
- Birmingham VA Medical Center

“ I chose VA's Quality Scholars fellowship because it is a unique opportunity for graduates to gain experience in a number of specialized areas such as clinical research, quality improvement and project management.

**BEHIND
THE SCENES**



Oversight and Compliance supports VA's fourth statutory mission by identifying and mitigating risks.

Oversight and Compliance develops control tools, assures adherence to policies and disseminates information to both OAA and field offices. The team reviews the fiscal and allocation processes in health professions education throughout the four service lines: Medical and Dental Education, Nursing Education, Associated Health Education and Advanced Fellowships.

Oversight and Compliance oversees two important processes. Educational Activity Records (EARs) are used to track trainee leave and attendance, reconcile invoices and ensure trainee payment calculations are accurate. Additionally, the Resident Disbursement Review Process (ReDPro) Checklist is

used as an audit tool to review the EARs processes. Oversight and Compliance trains personnel on EARs and ReDPro methods and provides guidance to Designated Education Officers (DEOs) on the management of facility education services. It also conducts mandatory reviews of trainee supervision in compliance with [VHA Handbook 1400.01](#) and administers surveys to facility Designated Education Officers to gather feedback to strengthen collaboration and identify areas of improvement.

Finance, Data Management Center and Oversight and Compliance work to maintain operational excellence, ensuring OAA meets fiscal obligations and fulfills its mission.

Finance and Data Management support VA's second statutory mission, to assist in providing an adequate supply of health personnel to the Nation.

Under [38 United States Code Section 7302](#), Finance and Data Management Center is responsible for formulating and executing OAA's over \$1 billion budget as well as the data management and reporting for all OAA operations.

OAA's health professions trainee budget supports GME physician residents, accounting for approximately 80% of its budget and non-GME trainees, approximately 20% of the budget. Non-GME trainees include nursing, dental, allied health and advanced fellowship trainees. VA's clinical trainee funding supports over 45,000 paid clinical trainee positions per year and more than 120,000 of both paid and unpaid clinical trainees.

By ensuring efficient administration and management of clinical training programs at VA medical centers, OAA has maintained minimal variance in utilization of allocated funds. This ensures that funding directly supports VA's academic mission, which brings more than 120,000 health professions trainees to VA each year to augment the health care workforce. VA's commitment to health professions education is critical to VA's patient care mission and developing future health professionals for VA and the nation.

Sources: 2020 OAA Fiscal Data Cube and VA All Employee Survey

94%

of VA trainees are very satisfied with VA clinical faculty and preceptors.

92%

of VA trainees are very satisfied with VA clinical learning environments.

91%

of VA trainees are very satisfied with their VA training experience.

Source: 2020 VA All Employee Survey

LOOKING FORWARD



As a leader in U.S. health care, VA strives to continue making a difference in communities and providing the very best clinical care. OAA commits to prioritizing these goals for VA:

- Increase the number of Health Professions Trainees in rural areas with a focus on increasing the health care workforce pipeline in those communities.
- Improve diversity, inclusion and representation by ensuring trainees reflect and understand the diverse Veteran population, which leads to improved cultural competency and enhanced health care experiences.
- Increase interdisciplinary training programs to provide interprofessional care and maximize Veterans health.
- Continue to create a talented pipeline of future health professionals by providing quality training and taking care of those who serve our country.

- [Website](#)
- [75th Anniversary video](#)
- [Passion to Learn, Power to Heal video](#)



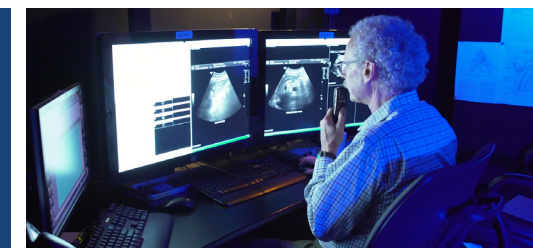
“Interprofessional health care is the wave of the future and VA is certainly at the forefront. With VA, trainees and residents experience true interprofessional, integrated care. They also experience an integrated electronic health care record system which allows us to communicate with providers across sites.”
— David Topor, PhD, MS-HPEd, Associate Director, Healthcare Professional Education, VA Boston Healthcare System



“VA diversity training is very important, and psychologists have been on the front line. We understand that when it comes to Veterans, no two Veterans are the same.”
— Jade Wolfman-Charles, PhD, Chief Psychologist, VA Maryland Health Care System



“The largest advantage to working in VA as a doctor is learning different pathologies that older patients with co-morbidities experience.”
— Jonathan N. Brantley, DPM, CWSP, CLT, Chief, Podiatry Section and Director, Podiatry Medicine and Surgery Residency Program



“VA maintains a high academic standard and incorporates teaching and evidence-based medicine into our day-to-day practice. That is just a great combination.”
— Kiran Motwani, MD, Chief Resident, Quality and Safety, VA Maryland Health Care System





OFFICE OF ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS
75TH ANNIVERSARY
PASSION TO LEARN. POWER TO HEAL.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Office of Academic Affiliations
810 Vermont Ave NW, Washington, D.C., 20420
<http://www.va.gov/oa/>