

2021-2022

# Orthopaedic Surgery Residency Program

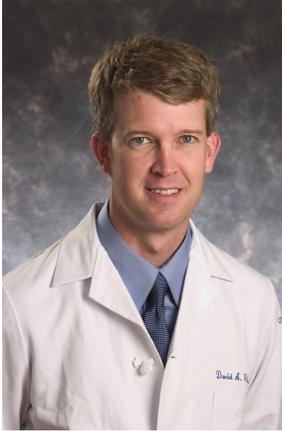


**Our mission:**  
To Serve. To Heal.  
To Educate.

 **Cooper**  
University Health Care

 **Cooper Medical School**  
of Rowan University

# Welcome



**David A. Fuller, MD**  
Program Director



**Mark A. Pollard, MD**  
Associate  
Program Director

The Orthopaedic Surgery Residency Program at Cooper University Health Care, the dominant tertiary referral hospital in southern New Jersey, prepares physicians for excellence in providing compassionate and excellent musculoskeletal care to orthopaedic patients.

For more than 30 years, orthopaedic surgery residents have received top-level training at Cooper in areas such as trauma, sports medicine, spine, adult reconstruction, tumor, hand, and microvascular surgery. In 2013, the ACGME approved Cooper University Health Care to start an independent orthopaedic surgery residency program with two residents per year.

Cooper's Orthopaedic Surgery Residency is a rigorous, five-year training program that will prepare residents to be leaders in the orthopaedic community. We follow the requirements of the ACGME. Upon completion of this program, residents will have the knowledge and skills necessary to go directly into practice as well-trained orthopaedic surgeons.

The Orthopaedic Surgery Residency is primarily concentrated within Cooper University Hospital. The only time residents will be off-site is for their pediatric orthopaedic surgery rotation. This rotation is during the third year of training and is four months in length. It takes place at Shriner's Hospital for Children in Philadelphia.

Residents rotate through all subspecialties during the five-year program, obtaining adequate exposure to all disciplines of orthopaedic surgery. Residents are given increasing responsibilities as their surgical skills allow; and, a high volume of cases ensures that residents will have the opportunity to hone their surgical skills while being exposed to a diverse case load.

Additionally, our residents have the opportunity to attend conferences such as orthopaedic Grand Rounds, daily fracture conference, tumor conference, bimonthly journal club, and more. There are opportunities for clinical research and each resident will be encouraged to complete at least one project during the five-year program. At the annual Research Day, all residents have the opportunity to present their research to the department and invited guests.

to serve

## Curriculum



The educational program and core curriculum are intended to equip the orthopaedic resident with the knowledge and skills to provide compassionate and excellent musculoskeletal care to orthopaedic patients. The program consists of protected education time of no less than four hours per week.

- Daily Fracture Conference and Morning Report (30 minutes)
- Tuesday Morning Grand Rounds: 7 a.m. to 8 a.m.
- Tuesday Morning Resident Conference: 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. (Core Curriculum)
- Wednesday Morning Tumor Conference: 7am-9am

### Core Curriculum

Core curriculum lectures are protected educational time and are scheduled 3 hours in length. The residents will meet from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and attendance is mandatory, excluding residents on away rotations (pediatrics). Residents on Tumor/Spine rotation are given discretion regarding their participation in this or Tumor conference on a weekly basis.

The subject matter covered in the core curriculum is based upon the content of the Orthopaedic In-Training Examination (OITE), review books, and over 130 online textbooks as well as library access to online literature through PubMed and other databases. Each section of the core curriculum will be under the direction of the one member of the orthopaedic faculty, identified below as the section leader. The core curriculum time will include invited faculty lectures, case presentation and discussion, review of textbook material, and review of in-training questions with discussion.

Each month a new section leader will be assigned and is responsible for both direct instruction and oversight. The section leader or an outside lecturer of his or her choice can provide the didactic leadership. Section leaders, with the help of the program director, are responsible for confirming speakers. Speakers will lecture for no more than one hour (the first hour) at the discretion of the section leader, with the remaining time allotted for active group learning including discussion, case presentation and question review. Each month of the year will rotate to a new topic:

- July/August: Trauma
- September: Sports Medicine
- October: Basic Science
- November: Orthopaedic Oncology
- December: Foot & Ankle
- January: Joint Reconstruction
- February: Hand
- March: Shoulder/Elbow
- April: Spine
- May: Pediatrics
- June: Knee

### Clinical Rotations

Adult Orthopaedic Surgery, Including Joint Reconstruction • Pediatric Orthopaedic Surgery • Hand Surgery  
Trauma, Including Multisystem Trauma • Athletic Injuries, Including Arthroscopy • Metastatic Disease  
Surgery of the Spine, Including Disk Surgery, Spinal Trauma and Spinal Deformities  
Foot Surgery in Adults and Children • Orthopaedic Rehabilitation Including Amputations

**For in-depth curriculum details, please visit [cooperhealth.edu/residencies/orthopaedics](http://cooperhealth.edu/residencies/orthopaedics)**



# Education Goals and Objectives

## Overall Goal

The overall goal of the orthopaedic training program is to identify, educate and equip physicians to treat with compassion, wisdom and expertise the musculoskeletal needs of others through direct care, research, education and leadership.

## Patient Care

The orthopaedic resident must be able to provide patient care that is compassionate, appropriate and effective for the treatment of health problems and the promotion of health.

- Demonstrate competence in the pre-admission care, hospital care, operative care and follow-up care (including rehabilitation) of patients.
- Demonstrate competence in the ability to gather essential and accurate information about their patients
- Demonstrate competence in the ability to make informed decisions about diagnostic and therapeutic interventions based on patient information and preferences, up-to-date orthopaedic scientific evidence and clinical judgment.
- Demonstrate competence in the ability to develop and carry out patient management plans
- Demonstrate competence in the ability to provide health care services aimed at preventing health problems or maintaining health.
- Demonstrate competence in the diagnosis and management of adult and pediatric orthopaedic disorders

## Medical Knowledge

The orthopaedic resident must gain medical knowledge of established and evolving biomedical, clinical, epidemiological and social-behavioral sciences, as well as apply this knowledge to patient care.

- Demonstrate expertise in the knowledge of those areas appropriate for an orthopaedic surgeon
- Demonstrate investigatory and analytical thinking approach to clinical situations

## Practice-based Learning and Improvement

The orthopaedic resident must demonstrate the ability to investigate and evaluate his/her care of orthopaedic patients, to appraise and assimilate scientific evidence, and to continuously improve patient care based on constant self-evaluation and life-long learning.

- Identify strengths, deficiencies and limits in one's knowledge and expertise
- Set learning and improvement goals
- Identify and perform appropriate learning activities
- Systematically analyze practice using quality improvement methods, and implement changes with the goal of practice improvement
- Locate, appraise and assimilate evidence from scientific studies related to their patients' health problems.
- Use information technology to optimize learning
- Participate in the education of patients, families, students, residents and other health professionals
- Apply knowledge of study designs and statistical methods to the appraisal of clinical studies and other information on diagnostic and therapeutic effectiveness

to heal



## Education Goals and Objectives, *continued*

### Interpersonal and Communication Skills

The orthopaedic resident must demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills that result in the effective exchange of information and collaboration with patients, their families and other health professionals.

- Communicate effectively with patients, families and the public, as appropriate, across a broad range of socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds
- Communicate effectively with physicians, other health professionals and health-related agencies
- Act in a consultative role to other physicians and health professionals
- Maintain comprehensive, timely and legible medical records
- Use effective listening skills and elicit and provide information using effective nonverbal, explanatory, questioning and writing skills, if applicable.

### Professionalism

The orthopaedic resident must demonstrate a commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities and an adherence to ethical principles.

- Demonstrate respect, integrity and compassion for others
- Demonstrate responsiveness to patient needs that supersedes self interest
- Demonstrate accountability to patients, society and the profession
- Demonstrate a commitment to ethical principles pertaining to provision or withholding of clinical care, confidentiality of patient information, informed consent and business practices.
- Demonstrate sensitivity and responsiveness to a diverse patient population, including but not limited to diversity in culture, age, gender, disabilities and sexual orientation
- Demonstrate commitment to ethical principles pertaining to provision or withholding of clinical care, confidentiality of patient information, informed consent and business practice

### Systems-based Practice

The orthopaedic resident must demonstrate an awareness of and responsiveness to the larger context and system of health care, as well as the ability to call effectively on other resources in the system to provide optimal health care.

- Work effectively in various health care delivery settings and systems relevant to orthopaedics
- Coordinate patient care within the health care system relevant to orthopaedics
- Practice cost-effective health care and resource allocation that does not compromise quality of care
- Advocate for quality patient care and optimal patient-care systems
- Work in interprofessional teams to enhance patient safety and improve patient care quality
- Participate in identifying system errors and implementing potential system solutions

## How to Apply



### Contact Information

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orthopaedics

*Research Coordinator:*

Pietro Gentile

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The Orthopaedic Surgery Residency Program at Cooper University Health Care is an ACGME accredited program. We participate in the Match via the Electronic Residency Application Service (ERAS). Information regarding the ERAS application process and timeline is available on the website listed below.

### Association of American Medical Colleges

[www.aamc.org/students/medstudents/eras](http://www.aamc.org/students/medstudents/eras)

ERAS applications must contain the following information in order for your application to be considered:

- Common application form
- Photo
- Curriculum vitae
- Medical school transcript
- Three original letters of recommendation, one of which must be from your current or most recent training director.
- Personal statement describing your training goals and future career plans.
- ECFMG certification (IMG only)
- USMLE reports (parts 1 and 2)

The program director and two additional faculty members will review applicant files. Invitation for interview will be based upon their recommendations. We generally hold two interview dates, one in December and one in January, by invitation only. There are two PGY1 positions each year.

### Program Eligibility

Applicants must be U.S. citizens, be classified as resident aliens or hold a J-1 Visa (for non-U.S. citizens, documentation is required). All applications are screened by the Selection Committee. Applicants must be eligible for graduation from a U.S. medical school before June 1 and be in good standing with the medical school.

Visiting medical student rotations are coordinated via VSAS. Please visit the following website for further information: [https://cmsru.rowan.edu/education/visiting\\_students](https://cmsru.rowan.edu/education/visiting_students). Questions can be directed to email [visitingstudents@rowan.edu](mailto:visitingstudents@rowan.edu)

to educate

# The Cooper GME Experience



Learn more about training  
at Cooper and hear from  
current residents at  
[CooperHealth.edu/GME](https://CooperHealth.edu/GME)  
and  
[CooperHealth.edu/Diversity](https://CooperHealth.edu/Diversity)



Cooper University Health Care takes pride in its ability to offer a comprehensive array of diagnostic and treatment services. Cooper University Hospital serves as southern New Jersey’s major tertiary care referral hospital for specialized services. Cooper Premier Institutes, Centers of Excellence, and programs include: MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper, Surgical Services Institute, Adult Health Institute, Cooper Heart Institute/Cardiac Partners at Cooper and Inspira, Cooper Bone and Joint Institute, Cooper Neurological Institute, Women’s and Children’s Health Institute, Urban Health Institute, Center for Population Health, Center for Critical Care Services, Center for Urgent and Emergent Services, and the Center for Trauma Services, which includes our Level I Trauma Center, Level II Pediatric Trauma Center, and active community trauma prevention education.

Cooper has been a cornerstone in Camden for more than 130 years and has expanded its facilities and services throughout South Jersey. Cooper has been nationally recognized for its leadership in patient safety, receiving the 2019 Patient Safety Excellence Award™ from Healthgrades, placing it among the top 5% of hospitals in the nation. Cooper was also recognized as a high-performing hospital for treating heart failure and COPD by U.S. News & World Report’s 2019-2020 Best Hospital Survey.

Cooper’s commitment is to provide exceptional care to every patient, every day, in a patient-centered, family-focused environment. Every employee—including our residents and fellows—is a member of the care-giving team and has an important role in making the experience at Cooper a healing one for patients and their families.

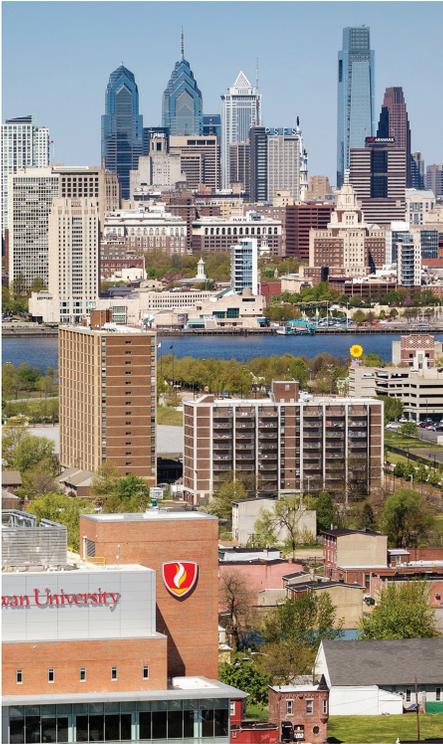
Your training at Cooper will be academically challenging, enhanced by our top-ranked faculty and state-of-the-art equipment and facilities. We welcome the opportunity to have you as part of our team, as we provide university-quality health care in southern New Jersey.

## Diversity Statement

The Graduate Medical Education programs of Cooper University Health Care is committed to providing a supportive environment that allows all members of its academic community to thrive and succeed. We work to recruit a diverse group of residents and fellows, and celebrate the multiple dimensions represented in our community, including, but not limited to race, creed, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, ability, or age. We recognize the importance of monitoring the outcomes of our diversity efforts so that we can better reflect the diversity of our patients and community. Through our GME Diversity Council, we promote on-going exploration of our own biases while also providing education on discrimination and anti-racism. We provide a safe space for residents to engage in dialogue, learn, and contribute to their fullest potential. We seek opportunities to enrich our community through volunteerism and to effect lasting change through engagement with local leaders.

We are proud. We are diverse. We are Cooper.

## Off Campus Highlights



Just across the bridge from bustling Philadelphia, and less than an hour from the tranquility of the Pine Barrens and activity of the Jersey shore, Cooper University Hospital is easy to access. The academic campus is located across the street from two commuter rail lines (PATCO and NJ Transit's River Line) and within walking distance of Rutgers University and Rowan University Camden campuses.

The Cooper Health Sciences Campus is located in the heart of Camden's business district. The academic medical center campus is easily accessible by car or public transportation via the commuter high-speed line and bus terminal adjacent to the hospital.

Cooper is a short walk or drive from the exciting Camden waterfront, which includes a magnificent waterfront park and marina; the Adventure Aquarium; and the BB&T amphitheater, which hosts nationally renowned entertainment throughout the year. Nearby are the Sixers Training Complex, L3 Communications complex, Lockheed Martin, Rutgers University Camden Campus, and Camden County College.

There are expected to be \$350M in transportation and infrastructure improvements within the next four to five years to handle the influx of thousands of new employees to the area and students at nearby growing academic campuses.

Cooper is conveniently close to Philadelphia. Just a mile-long drive over the Benjamin Franklin Bridge will put you at the doorstep of Philadelphia's cultural, culinary, and historic venues. South Jersey also offers a range of living and entertainment options. Quaint towns such as Haddonfield and Collingswood are just 10 minutes away. The lights and action of Atlantic City and popular beach towns such as Cape May and Ocean City are a one-hour drive from Cooper.

# Cooper Camden Campus Map



The most up-to-date directions to Cooper University Hospital are available at:  
[CooperHealth.org/Locations](http://CooperHealth.org/Locations)



One Cooper Plaza · Camden, NJ 08103-1489 · [CooperHealth.edu](http://CooperHealth.edu)

Hospital Main Number: **856.342.2000**

Graduate Medical Education: **856.342.2922**