

Synergy Medical Education Alliance General Surgery Program Facts

- We are a fully accredited five year surgical residency program with two graduating residents per year.
- Residents complete between 900 and 1200 major cases by the time of graduation.
- Fellowship training:
 - While the majority of our graduates choose to go into private practice after graduation, a significant number of graduates have completed fellowships in Critical Care and Trauma, Cardiothoracic, Vascular, Colorectal, and Plastic surgery.
- General Surgery Boards:
 - Our graduates have maintained an acceptable pass rate on the General Surgery Boards.
- As a chief resident you are given the opportunity to attend a week long “Specialty Review in General Surgery” course (Osler Course). Residents are not required to use vacation or conference time days to attend the course and Synergy pays for all travel, lodging, registration and meal expenses.
- Synergy Medical provides free ongoing training and certification to residents in ultrasound, ACLS, ATLS and FLS.
- We have a certified Level 2 Trauma Center and an active Bariatric Center.
- Residents and staff are actively involved in teaching medical students in their training. Synergy Medical has an active 7-10 day international medical experience available to residents which is funded by Synergy and accredited to helping underprivileged nations in:
 - Guatemala
 - Belize
 - Others

Program Structure

- Preceptor based – The residency program is structured in a preceptor format. Each resident in years one through four is assigned to a specific attending physician during each rotation. During the rotation, residents are expected to spend their time working with their assigned attending in all aspects of their practice. Call is scheduled separately. We have found the preceptor based format to be very effective at allowing residents to gain experience in how a private practice functions as well as providing extensive operative experience.
- Our Surgery Office is a “chief run” service incorporating a chief resident plus junior resident, off-service residents and medical students.

Resident Information

- There are two categorical positions available for each year of residency with two graduating residents per year. We do not currently offer any preliminary positions.
- There are no other surgical residencies or fellowship programs to compete with.

Research

- Saginaw has outstanding research and publication opportunities. Synergy Medical has a supportive Research Department dedicated to helping residents and faculty in their research endeavors.

- Residents are expected to conduct one research project each academic year. The research project is to be presented at the annual J.E. Manning research day. Many residents are able to have their research published or presented at additional conferences with all expenses paid for up to 3 days.
- The Knowledge Services Department provides extensive support for resident research including free access to OVID/PubMed and other medical data bases, free photocopying, inter-library loans and state of the art audiovisual equipment for presentations.
- The Knowledge Services Department is available to residents 24 hours a day.
- Residents are encouraged to present at national conferences. If chosen to present at a conference all conference, registration, travel and meal expenses are paid for by Synergy for up to three days.
- Residents have actively participated in “Surgical Jeopardy” at the American College of Surgeons annual conference and, if chosen, all expenses are paid for this conference.

Hospital System

Covenant Health Care and Saint Mary’s Hospital are the two principle hospitals in Saginaw that have affiliations with the residency program.

- Combined 968 beds.
- Large patient referral base of over 800,000 which comes from the 14 surrounding counties which include much of the northern and central parts of the southern peninsula of Michigan.
- Two local Level 2 Trauma Centers.
- Pediatric Intensive Care Unit.
- Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.
- State of the art Neurosurgical Intensive Care Unit.
- Advanced cardiac and cardio thoracic services.
- Advanced neurosurgical services.
- New, state of the art surgical theaters.
- Advanced imaging and diagnostics capabilities.

Affiliations

- **Central Michigan University**
Synergy Medical is the East Campus of Central Michigan University College of Medicine. Benefits include: resources of a major university, resident academic appointments, opportunity to teach medical students.
- **University of Michigan**
Synergy Medical also shares close ties with the University of Michigan. Our residents spend one month in Ann Arbor for Transplant Surgery. In addition, University of Michigan faculty provided several guest lectures through out the year.
- **Bay Medical**
Synergy Medical does not have direct affiliations with Bay Medical Regional Hospital in Bay City, however, surgical residents are given privilege at these hospitals for select rotations.

Salaries and Benefits - effective July 1, 2011

Post Grad Year	Salary	Educational Expenses	Vacation
PGY-1	\$45,686	\$1,000	3 weeks

PGY-2	\$47,302	\$1,250	4 weeks
PGY-3	\$48,882	\$1,450	4 weeks
PGY-4	\$50,446	\$1,750	4 weeks
PGY-5	\$51,811	\$1,750	4 weeks

- **Health Insurance**

Blue Shield/Blue Cross of Michigan, \$40 co-pay, prescription coverage

- **Dental Insurance**

Includes annual care and orthodontia

- **Life Insurance**

2x annual salary, free to employee

- **Long-Term Disability**

\$2000 to \$2500 monthly benefit, no-cost

- **Vision Insurance**

Covers frames/lenses/contacts every 24 months

- **Malpractice Insurance**

Synergy Medical funded, \$100K/occurrence, \$300K aggregate

- **Membership Dues**

Provided to appropriate specialty associations & American College of Surgeons

- **Sick Leave**

12 days per year, maximum accrual of 60 days

- **Vacation Leave**

1st year - 3 weeks, 2nd & up - 4 weeks.

- **Travel & Conference Reimbursement**

Provided for educational and research related conferences

- **Educational License**

Expense reimbursed for all years of residency

- **Transitional Reimbursement** up to \$1,000 to include accreditation expenses (ie: limited educational license)

- **Employee Assistance Plan**

Counseling for staff and family provided at no cost

- **House Staff Computers**

Provided at no cost with free LAN and Internet access

- **Flexible Benefits Plan**

Pre-tax deduction for dependent or medical care

- **PDA Reimbursement**

Residents receive funds to purchase a PDA

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Free unlimited Internet access & e-mail

Additional Perks

- As a chief resident you are given the opportunity to attend a week-long "Specialty Review in General Surgery" (Osler course). Residents are not required to use vacation or conference time days to attend the course and Synergy pays for all travel, lodging, registration and meal expenses.
- Residents receive a stipend at the beginning of each academic year which covers meal allowance as well as lab coats.

- Synergy Medical provides free training to residents in ultrasound, ACLS, ATLS, & FLS.
- Traveling in and out of the area is facilitated by a very convenient Midland/Bay City/Saginaw (MBS) International Airport.
- Saginaw is a one and one-half hour drive or less to most metropolitan areas in Michigan (Lansing, Detroit, Ann Arbor, Flint). Lansing and Ann Arbor are home to Michigan State University and the University of Michigan respectively.
- Saginaw is a safe, family-oriented community with good schools and lots of local activities for the family.
- Mid-Michigan provides tremendous opportunities for outdoor activities, including hunting, fishing, boating, skiing, mountain biking, and golf.
- Birch Run, one of the largest outlet malls in the country is just a thirty minute drive from the hospitals.
- Saginaw has over two dozen affordable private/public golf courses. Michigan has been rated in the top five of states for golf courses per capita.
- Synergy Medical has an active 7-10 day international medical experience which is funded by Synergy and accredited to helping underprivileged nations in Guatemala, Belize, and other places.
- Residents who present at national or local conferences have all expenses paid for by Synergy for up to three days.
- Residents are given an opportunity to participate in “Surgical Jeopardy” at the American College of Surgeons annual conference with all expenses paid for by Synergy Medical.
- Residents are provided ongoing training and certification in ACLS, ATLS and FLS which is paid for by Synergy Medical.

How to Apply

- Synergy Medical Education Alliance participates with the Electronic Residency Application Service ([ERAS](#)) and the National Resident Matching Program ([NRMP](#)).
- Synergy Medical is also a proud participant in the NRMP [Couples Match](#).