

A photograph of surgeons in an operating room, wearing masks and scrubs, focused on a procedure. The scene is lit by overhead surgical lamps. The text is overlaid on the image.

M | MICHIGAN MEDICINE

**DEPARTMENT
OF SURGERY**

**Advancing Surgeon Excellence.
Training the next generation
of leaders.**

medicine.umich.edu/dept/surgery

GENERAL SURGERY TRAINING

MEDICAL STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Department of Surgery's clinical electives and programs will help prepare medical students as they apply for residency. These opportunities build your surgical expertise and your leadership skills as you prepare for the next step in your training:

- **Visiting Students (VSAS):** We offer clinical electives to visiting fourth year medical students to rotate on the University of Michigan Medical School's fourth-year surgery electives. We coordinate electives in general, vascular, plastic, and cardiac surgery. Please apply through the AAMC VSAS process.
- **Surgery Leadership Weekend:** This program, held in May each year, teaches surgical leadership skills and reviews what you need to know about the surgical residency application process. All U-M medical students going into surgery and select external students are eligible to attend. External student applications are solicited in February and March through emails to clerkship directors and medical school deans.



RESIDENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Department of Surgery is nationally recognized for the excellence of its surgical training programs and consistently attracts outstanding candidates for trainee positions at the house officer and fellowship levels. As a surgery resident or fellow at the University of Michigan, you'll join a department committed to your success. Our residency and fellowship programs emphasize:

- **Mentorship and Multidisciplinary Cross-Training:** You will learn from more than 100 full-time faculty across 20 specialties, including experts in biochemistry, immunology, bioengineering, and physiology. Our residents establish strong mentoring relationships with faculty who are at the top of their field.
- **Michigan Center for Global Surgery:** You will have the opportunity to incorporate global surgery projects into your training experience through the Michigan Center for Global Surgery. Global outreach initiatives across 4 continents focus on long-term, sustainable programs to advance world health policy and research, global health education, and international surgical care.
- **Complex Cases:** Our clinical facilities contain nearly 1,000 beds, and we have more than 16,000 annual operative cases. U-M's status as a state referral center brings patients with unique cases to Michigan Medicine, and patients often travel out of state to be treated here. This means that you'll manage more clinical cases and see more diverse and unusual cases than at other institutions. Additionally, trainees can hone their skills in the advanced Clinical Simulation Center, an American College of Surgeons-certified Level 1 training center that provides adult, pediatric, procedural, and surgical simulators.
- **Academic Development:** Residents conduct clinical, basic science, translational, and outcomes research throughout their training at our research facilities, which span more than 50,000 square feet across the medical campus. In 2017, we ranked #1 for National Institutes of Health funding, with a total of more than \$35 million in extramural support, and we publish more than 900 papers annually. Our residents have unparalleled participation in national conferences. This work is celebrated across the entire Department of Surgery at our annual Moses Gunn Research Conference.



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WHY TRAIN AT MICHIGAN

At the Michigan Medicine Department of Surgery, we're known nationally for excellence in guiding the next generation of surgeons. You'll join a team of more than 100 full-time physicians and scientists who will challenge and support you while you advance to independence in the OR and beyond.

- **Stronger Together:** As a Michigan surgery resident, you'll join a cohort of trainees from the top institutions across the country.
- **Great Cases Come to You:** The size and scope of UM's clinical facilities mean that you'll see more diverse and challenging cases than at other institutions.
- **World-Class Education:** We combine opportunities to learn from world-class leaders with a setting that thrives on collaboration.
- **Inclusive Environment:** You will benefit from a diverse population of patients, faculty and fellow trainees. We are committed to an inclusive environment that recognizes strengths in different backgrounds, skills and abilities.
- **Facilities:** With 3 hospitals, 6 specialty centers, and more than 4.6 million square feet of space supporting research and education, Michigan Medicine facilities offer comprehensive and technologically advanced resources for patients, investigators, and trainees.
- **Life in Ann Arbor:** Ann Arbor combines big-city culture with the natural beauty of Michigan's beaches, forests, and rivers. From mid-summer's Ann Arbor Art Fair to fall football games to skiing in winter, Ann Arbor offers four-season charm with plenty to do.

GENERAL SURGERY TRAINING

MISSION

Our goal is that the values, skills, and commitment of Michigan Surgery will become the signature of American surgical leadership.

ADVANCED CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Our program emphasizes advancing to clinical independence while cementing key technical and didactic concepts through close guidance from faculty mentors. A typical pathway consists of 3 years of junior clinical training, 2 years of time for academic development including research, and a final 2 years of senior resident clinical training.

Highlights include:

- Residents learn all aspects of the discipline, including diseases of the abdomen, breast, skin and soft tissues, and endocrine systems, as well as management of trauma and burn patients.
- Through specialty services and elective rotations, trainees gain experience with U-M's excellent programs in solid organ transplantation, thoracic surgery, vascular surgery, pediatric surgery, and bariatric surgery.
- The high volume and complexity of cases we see at Michigan Medicine gives residents a unique level of clinical experience. Our program provides the structure and focus for residents to have the autonomy to continually advance their surgical skills.
- Your training facilities include the top-ranked Michigan Medicine academic medical center and the Ann Arbor VA Healthcare System.
- Residents can pursue additional specialty clinical training, such as surgical critical care, during academic development time.

RESEARCH

A unique attribute of our residency program is a protected span of 2 years called Academic Development Time (ADT) to pursue research across a range of interests, from basic science to health services and educational research, in addition to other professional development pursuits.

Highlights include:

- Residents demonstrate outstanding success in academic productivity. Our team of general surgery residents produce a collective total of approximately 70 papers and 130 presentations a year.
- During your ADT, you'll be paired with a primary mentor in your area of interest, who will provide regular feedback. You will also have access to dedicated statistical support for resident-driven projects.
- U-M residents have traveled extensively to present their work at academic conferences on both a local and national level. Residents are also encouraged to attend the Association for Academic Surgery's Surgical Research and Career Development Course.

RESOURCES

Michigan Medicine General Surgery
medicine.umich.edu/general-surgery

Office of Health Equity and Inclusion
ohei.med.umich.edu

University of Michigan Medical School
medicine.umich.edu/medschool/education

Diversity & Inclusion Ambassadors
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Contact Us

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Residency Program Director
Paul Gauger, MD

FACTS & STATS

- Our General Surgery Residency Program is ranked No. 1 in the nation for public institutions.
- We have a rich legacy of surgical innovation with faculty such as Charles de Nancrede, Hugh Cabot, John Alexander, Cameron Haight, Reed Nesbit, Frederick Collier, C. Gardner Child, Jeremiah Turcotte, Arnold Coran, Norman Thompson, Lazar Greenfield, Robert Bartlett, James Stanley, and many others.
- Our diverse team includes more than 100 full-time faculty. Four of our faculty are members of the National Academy of Medicine, and many hold leadership positions in national organizations.
- More than 90% of general surgery residents pursue advanced fellowship training, with a fellowship acceptance rate of 100%.
- Since 2000, 156 of our past trainees have become faculty at over 60 universities nationally.



MICHIGAN PROMISE ADVANCING SURGEON EXCELLENCE

The Michigan Promise is an unparalleled investment in the advancement of faculty in Michigan Medicine's Department of Surgery.

To ensure that this advancement is realized, the department has committed to:

- Preparing each surgeon to achieve the highest excellence in clinical care, research and education
- Building a diverse and inclusive culture
- Recruiting the best and brightest clinicians and scientists
- Creating innovative strategies for ongoing professional growth and scientific discovery
- Developing the most talented and progressive leaders in academic medicine
- Expanding outreach and service to local, regional, national and global partners

