



REASONS TO BECOME AN ND RESIDENT

One of the most important aspects of naturopathic medical training is the opportunity to work with patients in hands-on, clinical settings. AANMC member schools offer clinical experiences throughout the four-year course of study. However, in the interest of furthering their education and area of focus, many naturopathic doctors also choose to complete residencies upon graduation.

Why Complete an ND Residency?



Mentorship

A residency provides one on one supervision and mentoring that manifests results in all areas of growth: clinical, business and future professional opportunities.



Clinical

Accredited residencies provide an expanded patient population and increased patient/clinical exposure. More patient experiences results in a rapid learning curve and sharpened clinical acumen earlier in your career.



Confidence

92% of respondents from a 2023 AANMC Resident Satisfaction Survey reported increased clinical confidence after completing an ND residency. Residencies can open up multiple career paths: clinical practice, academic medicine, writing, speaking, consulting, and employment in the healthcare world at large.



Competency

Residency fosters greater competency and clinical exposure. Choose residency training to deepen your learning as a primary care or specialty/focused ND provider.



Professional Growth

80% of respondents from a 2023 AANMC Resident Satisfaction Survey shared that residency positively supported their professional growth



Networking

Through the guidance and support of the clinic and mentor, a residency will introduce you to organizations, institutions, clinicians and opportunities that will make a difference for the rest of your career.

Thinking of Applying?

It's never too soon to begin fostering mentorship and educational relationships. Here are some steps successful future residents take.

1 Create an account on the AANMC Residency Portal

Do this early on in your student experience to begin to understand the process and requirements.

2 Review existing and prior residency sites on the AANMC Portal

Contact residency locations you may be interested in and see if they accept preceptors.

3 Seek out your own opportunities

Do you have a specific area of care you are interested in? A geographic location you are set on moving to? If so, look up conventional and naturopathic doctors who meet your needs. If they are not yet a participating site, they can apply to become a new site.

Connect them to residency@aanmc.org to start the process.

4 Foster academic and clinical relationships for references

You will need at least three recommendations when applying.

5 Start your application early

Remember, soliciting references, writing personal statements and gathering some of the background materials takes time. The deadline is sharp. Know all deadlines and plan accordingly.

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*Residencies are not required for licensure and practice (except in Utah), however many NDs elect to complete residencies for one to three years before striking out on their own. New NDs find the mentorship and patient interactions available in a residency setting invaluable in furthering their clinical expertise.

*Each sponsor school must meet stringent requirements, which can be reviewed in the Handbook on CNME Postdoctoral Naturopathic Medical Education Sponsor Recognition Process and Standards Licensed medical professionals and graduates of AANMC member schools are eligible and welcome to apply to host naturopathic medical residencies.

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