

University of Oklahoma-Tulsa Community School of Medicine

<http://ou.edu/content/tulsa/residency/child-abuse-pediatric-fellowship.html>

The OU-TU School of Community Medicine is accredited by the American Board of Pediatrics to offer a Child Abuse Pediatric fellowship. The fellowship program can take up to two physicians who wish to receive training in this subspecialty. The Child Abuse Medical Exam and Fostering Hope of Tulsa programs are vital learning components of the fellowship. The Child Abuse Pediatrics Fellowship will allow the Tulsa campus to train future physicians to become leaders in this field at local, state and national levels.

As previously mentioned, the two fellowship-trained child abuse pediatricians with the Center are currently the only physicians in northeastern Oklahoma with this level of expertise. Due to a small number of physicians in this field, the two School of Community Medicine physicians are on call 24 hours a day, ready to assist children needing their services. Not only is there a need for additional physicians in this area to assist with services provided to abused and neglected children, but more subspecialty physicians in this field will help alleviate physician “burnout”.

Beginning in 2009, the American Board of Pediatrics (ABP) offered a subspecialty certification exam for pediatricians in the United States to become board certified in Child Abuse Pediatrics. This shift has changed the training landscape for future pediatricians who wish to sub-specialize in the evaluation of abused and neglected children. For physicians to specialize in this area, they must complete medical school, a residency in general pediatrics and a three-year fellowship in child abuse pediatrics.

The American Council on Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) evaluates and accredits fellowship training programs to assure standardized training for physicians in each type of program. The OU-TU School of Community Medicine received notification that the Department of Pediatrics in Tulsa has been approved to take up to two child abuse pediatric fellows a year beginning July 1, 2015.

Tulsa is situated on the Arkansas River at the foothills of the Ozark Mountains in northeast Oklahoma, a region of the state known as Green Country. Once heavily dependent on the oil industry, Tulsa's subsequent diversification efforts created an economic base in a number of other industries including aerospace, technology and finance. Considered to be the cultural and arts center of Oklahoma, Tulsa houses two world-renowned art museums, a full-time professional opera and ballet companies, and one of the nation's largest concentrations of art deco architecture.