Dear Residency Candidate,

Welcome to the Residency Program Director's letter of introduction to the Anesthesiology Residency at the Cedars Sinai Medical Center.

If you are visiting this website, you are most likely looking for a future in the specialty of Anesthesiology and the areas of sub-specialties associated with this exciting field. Thank you for your interest in the Anesthesiology Residency Program at Cedars Sinai Medical Center. I would like to share a few thoughts about our program.

Cedars-Sinai is a nonprofit academic healthcare organization serving the diverse Los Angeles community and beyond. With pioneering medical research achievements, education programs defining the future of healthcare, and wide-ranging community benefit activities, setting new standards for quality and innovation in patient care.

It is truly a privilege to hold the position of Program Director for the Cedars Sinai, Department of Anesthesiology. The program was created in 2007 and offers a 4-year categorical training program, approved by the American Board of Anesthesiology (ABA) and the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME).

We have 14 positions in the Clinical Base year and in each of the CA1-to CA-3 categorical years. As such our program is a mid-sized residency which has favorable conditions both educationally and temporally. The internship is a unique "hands on" experience. The rotations are constructed around the areas of General Surgery, surgical subspecialties (Acute Care, Trauma, Thoracic, Transplant), Medicine, Cardiology, Pulmonology, Neurology, Critical Care, Emergency Medicine, and Perioperative Surgical Home that help prepare the intern to become a very competent, well rounded Anesthesiologist. We are a residency program, which offers experience and training across the spectrum of anesthesiology specialties, including Cardiac, Thoracic, Vascular, Obstetrics, Pediatrics, Regional, Transplant, Neuro, Spine, Trauma, Critical Care, and Pain Management. More than 95% of our clinical years are situated at Cedars, 5% at Children’s Hospital LA. We have access to more than 90 operating locations on daily basis and state of the art operating rooms and medical
facilities. The core of our trainee educational experience is centered on the diverse patient population we serve. Our residents gain exposure to a large volume, wide variety of patients, with significant co-morbidities, undergoing a diverse range of procedures, which enables our residents to graduate from our residency program ready to 'hit the ground running'.

We believe that academic preparation is equally as important as clinical experience during residency training. Our residency program is committed to ensuring a structured didactic system that is built around the curriculum set by the ABA/ASA outline and our residents have protected time to attend these sessions. We maximize the academic potential of all our trainees by offering faculty lectures, regular problem-based learning discussions, morbidity and mortality conferences, journal clubs, and grand rounds. In addition, all our residents spend time in the Simulation Center on regular academic days going through task training, workshops and various simulated scenarios, specifically created for progressive learning. In addition to scheduled didactic and board review sessions, residents are provided with online access to leading textbooks and subscription to True Learn and Learnly. True Learn is an online question bank to give every resident an unparalleled testing experience that gets results. Learnly is a 10-month long online course that uses video podcasts and short knowledge assessments to prepare residents for the transition to anesthesia residency training. It features leading educators at Stanford, sharing their expertise during their anesthesiology lecture series. The Medical Center’s Library also has an excellent collection of electronic anesthesia textbooks and journals easily accessible by our residents.

The department and program provide strong support for research participation. Residents in our program are expected to demonstrate commitment to scholarly activities, that advances our specialty into the future. We offer the opportunity to participate in research projects, quality improvement/patient safety projects, and scholarly works. Our Department is committed to maintaining an academically focused environment inclusive of all members, and we emphasize the participation of our trainees in all aspects of our scholarly efforts including teaching. Residents interested in an advanced research career, can incline in clinical scholar track during their residency training. Every year our residents have multiple presentations at the national and international anesthesia meetings.
The department generously contributes towards housing stipends, meal fund, exams, and licensing fees incurred during residency. The residents are provided written board prep and given authentic oral and OSCE exam based on the ABA practical exam model. Our intent is not only to train superb anesthesiologists but to influence in them the responsibility of representation and leadership in our specialty's advocacy efforts through the California Society of Anesthesiologists and the ASA. Currently, there are 5 ACGME Accredited fellowships in Cardiothoracic, Obstetric, Regional/Acute Pain Anesthesiology, Critical Care Medicine, and Pain Medicine. There are also 2 ACGME non-Accredited members fellowship programs in Liver Transplant, Advanced Clinical and plans with for other fellowships.

Residents are also assigned a faculty mentor to ensure that they receive the individualized attention that they need to achieve success.

The Residency Program we have here is exceptional because of the faculty members, residents, internship/clinical anesthesiology curriculum, clinical experience, volume, diversity and complexity of cases, and subspecialty training experience.

We would like to add to this number with young physicians who want to train to be outstanding anesthesiologists and leaders in our field. The Education team aiding me includes two former residents of this Program – Dr. Robert Wong, Associate Program Director, Dr. Christy Slingwine, Assistant Program Director. The Program Manager is Derohanian, Jennifer, and our Coordinators for the Residency, Fellowship and Medical Students are Diaz, Leticia, Ranchhod, Mirna, Nann, Chamnan, Lloyd, Jeanne, Jurado, Patrick respectively.

During our interview process, candidates can meet our current residents, so they have firsthand experience of the camaraderie of the program. Our interviews are preceded by a presentation of the program, virtual touring of the medical center and Simulation Center. The interviews are conducted by the Program Directors, faculty members and Chief Residents with the hope that you may get to know more about us as we learn more about you. You will have an opportunity to connect to residents during the interview process too. As this year’s residency interviews have been mandated to be virtual by the AAMC, our program is actively pursuing all the possibilities for interviewees to see, hear and meet our residents, faculty and facilities. We
hope to be able to virtually present to you our program with its rich culture, incredible clinical and didactic experience, great mentorship and collegial atmosphere, located in the Mid-City West area of Los Angeles.

I hope these few words have given you a better understanding of our program. Thank you for taking the time to look at our program. We have quite a bit to offer to the student contemplating a career in anesthesiology and are committed to training the next generation of leaders in our specialty. I look forward receiving your application, hosting you for an interview and sharing with you the unique strengths of our program.