

Subspecialty Residency Training in Forensic Pathology

The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner of Alberta (OCME) investigates all sudden and unexpected or suspicious deaths in the province under the jurisdiction of the Fatalities Inquiries Act (FIA). More than 20,000 cases per year are called in to the OCME, and we assume jurisdiction of around 6,000 cases. We also handle coroner cases from Nunavut and the Northwest Territories.

Medical Examiners in Alberta have a diverse and busy practice. We offer Subspecialty Residency Training in Forensic Pathology (FP) with the ability to accommodate up to two trainees. FP trainees can expect a comprehensive forensic pathology training experience and to graduate with competency and confidence in their skill set.

The successful applicant will:

- Have completed residency training in an RCPSC-accredited program in Anatomical Pathology (Diagnostic and Molecular Pathology) or General Pathology (Diagnostic and Clinical Pathology).
- Have successfully passed the Royal College Examination (or equivalent) for Anatomical Pathology or General Pathology.
- Meet the requirements for registration with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta (CPSA).

General details of training

- Perform autopsy examinations, order and interpret ancillary testing, and complete the Medical Examiner documents including Autopsy Report.
- Academic Half Day: Participate in the National Curriculum lecture series for Forensic Pathology trainees across Canada.
- Other specialized training such as Expert Witness Testimony course.
- Funding to attend a Forensic Pathology conference.

Our program is accredited by the Royal College of Canada. Further details of the training structure can be found on the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons website: <https://www.royalcollege.ca/content/dam/documents/ibd/forensic-pathology/forensic-pathology-rte-training-experiences-e.pdf>

How to apply

- Applicants must submit the following:
 - Current curriculum vitae
 - Personal statement of interest to the program
 - Medical school transcripts
 - A copy of specialty certification in either Anatomical or General Pathology. A letter of good standing from your program director with your expected date of completion may be accepted in lieu.
 - Two or three letters of reference sent directly to the Program Director and Program Administrator (tara.dixon@gov.ab.ca and forenph@ualberta.ca).

Dates and deadlines

- Application deadline: July 1 of postgraduate year 4 (PGY4).
- Interview dates: TBD.

Note: Positions may still be available beyond the stated application deadline. To inquire about availability please contact Dr. Dixon at tara.dixon@gov.ab.ca.

For further information please contact (email preferred):

Tara Dixon MD FRCP
Program Director of Subspecialty Residency Training in Forensic Pathology
Deputy Chief Medical Examiner
Office of the Chief Medical Examiner – Alberta
tara.dixon@gov.ab.ca

Or
Anita Simmons
Program Assistant
forenpth@ualberta.ca