

East Carolina University, Greenville, NC

East Carolina University
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The surgical residency at East Carolina University is sponsored by Vidant Medical Center. Vidant Medical Center meets the extensive health care needs of coastal North Carolina, serving more than 100,000 local citizens in addition to being the only tertiary referral center in eastern North Carolina. The East Carolina University School of Medicine has grown rapidly in size and stature under joint-sustained public, private, and governmental support. The residency produces “toti-potential” general surgeons. The graduates are competitively prepared for fellowships, academic positions, and private practice. There are five categorical residents in each year of the residency. One year of the residency is devoted to research.

The residency program includes a required one-month rural surgery rotation in PGY-4. This rotation occurs in Edenton, NC, which is about two hours from Greenville and about one hour from the coast. Edenton is a small community on the Pamlico Sound, which is supported by a Vidant Medical system hospital. This hospital has surgical capabilities with three operating rooms, a small four-bed ICU, and a 10-bed emergency department. Residents stay in a local apartment when rotating and join a busy three-member general surgical practice. They participate in clinical hospital and office care, operative management, and consultations. The experience enhances understanding of “bread-and-butter” general surgery, private practice setting, and global patient care as well as the limited resources of non-tertiary referral centers. The residents value and enjoy the experience; some choose to return for elective time.

Provided by: American College of Surgeons Advisory Council for Rural Surgery, 2013.