The general surgery program has four categorical positions each year. The Department of Surgery’s educational mission is to prepare young surgeons for leadership positions in both community and academic practice.

The rural experience includes a one-month elective at the PGY-3 level in a rural or international setting and a three-month rotation at the PGY-4 level in a rural hospital.

Rotations at the university include a one-month gynecology experience and experience managing fractures, dislocations, hand injuries, and other nonoperative orthopedic and neurosurgical problems because there is a Level-1 trauma center but no residency programs in orthopedics or neurosurgery.

Over the past 15 years, 55 residents have graduated from the program and 23 are practicing in a rural setting.