

1. Program name and location:

Unleashed Veterinary Dermatology Residency Program
47 Nichols Avenue, Stratford, CT 06614

2. Is the program currently on ACVD Probation?

This is a newly established Provisional Residency Program submitted in accordance with the Education Guidelines of the American College of Veterinary Dermatology. The program has not previously been on ACVD probation.

3. Mentor(s):

a. Name: Elizabeth Falk, DVM, DACVD (Primary Mentor)

Years in the ACVD: 8 (board certified 2017)

Years as Mentor: 0

b. Name: Emily Davis, DVM, DACVD (Co-Mentor)

Years in the ACVD: 0 (board certified 2025)

Years as Mentor: 0

c. Name: Elizabeth Layne, DVM, DACVD (Co-Mentor)

Years in the ACVD: 8 (board certified 2017)

Years as Mentor: 0

4. Specific requirements for applying to the program:

Applicants must hold a DVM or equivalent degree from an AVMA-accredited veterinary school, have completed a one-year rotating internship or equivalent private practice experience, be eligible for veterinary licensure in the State of Connecticut, and meet all ACVD residency and credentialing requirements.

5. Length of residency in years:

3 years

6. Is a Master's degree or PhD required?

No.

7. When was the residency first offered?

This is a newly established residency program submitted for provisional approval.

Has it been continuous since inception? N/A

8. How many residents have been accepted into the program since inception?

0

How many of these have become board certified dermatologists? N/A

9. What is the average annual dermatology caseload for the institution over the past 5 years?

Approximately 2,250 dermatology cases annually.

10. What is the average total caseload seen over the entire residency?

Approximately 6,750 cases over the three-year residency period. Includes cases seen by the primary and co-mentors. The resident will personally manage a minimum of 2,500 cases by the end of the residency.

11. On average, how many new patients, rechecks, and consults does the program see per year?

Rechecks: 68%

Consults/New referrals: 32%

12. On average, what percentage of the program's cases are dogs and cats?

Dogs: 87%

Cats: 13%

13. On average, how many exotic, equine, and farm animal cases does the program see per year?

Exotics: 0

Equine: 0

Farm animals: 0

The resident has the opportunity for out-rotations with relevant specialists for non-companion animal case management.

14. What percentage of time is the mentor in clinics with the resident while the resident is seeing cases?

This includes direct participation or availability for consultation within one hour.

First year: ≥90%

Second year: 50%, minimum, depending on resident's knowledge and clinical skills as assessed by the mentors

Third year: 50%, minimum, depending on resident's knowledge and clinical skills as assessed by the mentors

15. Does the program have access to other specialists?

Yes. The program utilizes external specialty consultants and board-certified dermatopathology services as part of comprehensive case management and resident education.

16. Please describe your library access:

Residents have access to a curated dermatology reference library, the ACVD online library, peer-reviewed journals, and digital clinical resources routinely used in specialty dermatology practice. Additional reference materials may be obtained as needed.

17. Does the program have statistical support for residents' research projects?

Yes. Statistical support is available through external collaboration as appropriate to the resident's project.

18. Does the program have direct access to any basic science or clinical science laboratories that the resident can use for research purposes?

No on-site laboratories. External diagnostic laboratories and consultants are utilized for clinical research and case-based scholarly activity.

19. How often do the residents and mentors have the following rounds?

a. Case rounds: Case rounds are held informally throughout the day as the resident sees cases. First year residents will discuss every case with the mentor supervising in hospital, while second and third year residents will have case independence concordant with their knowledge and clinical skills as assessed by the mentor(s). Additionally, one hour per week will be allotted to discuss particularly challenging or complex cases as a group, followed by either journal club or histopathology training. Any knowledge gaps identified through both formal and informal case rounds will prompt additional study recommendations (texts, journal articles, etc.) tailored to the individual. If no challenging cases are identified for formal case rounds, the resident will present one case seen the previous week and identify differential diagnoses, diagnostic and treatment recommendations, and a verbalization of their rationale. These rounds will total approximately 4 hours monthly.

b. Journal club: Bi-weekly, 1-2 hours per session. The resident will be assigned 2-6 journal articles from recent publications in Veterinary Dermatology, as well as relevant publications from related journals such as JVIM, JAVMA, JAAHA, Veterinary Parasitology, and human publications as deemed relevant to Allergy and Immunology. Review articles will be assigned as parts of dermatology and basic science rounds. Approximately 4 hours per month will be spent on journal club review. Preparation time occurs outside of protected non-clinical hours and is not counted toward ACVD minimums.

c. Histopathology training: Histopathology training is conducted on a bi-weekly basis for 1–2 hours per session and is a joint effort between Dr. Karen Trainor, DVM, DACVP, and the primary and co-mentors. Twice monthly, Dr. Trainor will review biopsy cases obtained by the resident, with emphasis on pathophysiology of disease, dermatopathologic abnormalities, and development of skills in morphologic description and clinicopathologic correlation, including formulation of differential diagnoses when applicable. During the third year of training, the resident will be provided with a series of unknown histopathology slides for self-assessment and mentored review to support board preparation. These exercises are intended to reinforce the resident's ability to identify patient species, recognize histologic abnormalities, formulate morphologic and pathologic diagnoses, develop differential diagnoses, and consider appropriate special stains. As part of basic science and dermatology rounds, additional instruction will be provided on biopsy site selection, interpretation of histologic findings, and correlation of histopathology with clinical disease to support accurate diagnosis and case management.

d. Basic science learning rounds: Weekly for 1 hour. A syllabus of basic science and applied dermatology topics will be provided to the resident for a once weekly review with the mentor for a minimum of 4 hours monthly. The resident will be expected to create a study guide based on these provided resources prior to rounds to review with the mentor(s) to ensure any knowledge

gaps are identified and addressed promptly. These resources will have a variety of formats and cover a wide range of topics to ensure mastery of basic science and dermatology skills necessary to be a veterinary dermatologist.

20. Resident's benefits:

Compensation

- For salary information, applicants may contact careers@unleashedvetderm.com

Health & Financial Benefits

- Health insurance with 100% company-paid premiums
- Dental insurance
- Vision insurance
- Health Savings Account (HSA)
- 401(k) retirement plan with 5% company matching
- Employee discount

Paid Time Off & Leave

- Three (3) weeks of paid time off (PTO) annually
- Six (6) paid holidays annually
- Paid parental leave in accordance with company policy

Professional Expenses

- Payment of required professional license fees, including state veterinary licensure, state VMA membership, and DEA registration
- Expenses paid for annual attendance at the North American Veterinary Dermatology Forum (NAVDF)

Final benefit details will be provided in the resident's employment agreement.

21. Does the program allow the resident to attend the NAVDF meeting annually?

Yes.

22. Does the program pay for the resident to attend the NAVDF meeting annually?

Yes.

23. Average number of days a resident will spend on clinics per month:

16 days per month

24. Average number of days a resident will spend on non-clinical pursuits per month:

4-5

25. Does the resident have to take general medicine emergency duty?

No

26. Does the resident take dermatology emergency duty?

No

27. Is time allotted for externships in other subspecialties or at other dermatology practices?

Yes. Limited externship time may be granted on a case-by-case basis based on the resident's educational needs and interests, with mentor approval and in accordance with ACVD guidelines.

28. How much time is allotted off clinics for board preparation?

Protected non-clinical time is incorporated throughout the residency to support board preparation and credentialing requirements. Clinical training is completed several months prior to the board examination to allow focused preparation.

29. How much time is allotted to carry out a research project during the residency?

Research activities are supported through protected non-clinical time integrated throughout the residency program. The non-clinical days are intended to be used at the resident's discretion to carry out their research project and other credentialing requirements.

30. What are the other responsibilities/duties of the resident?

The resident serves as the primary clinician on dermatology cases with graduated supervision and is responsible for all aspects of case management, including history taking, physical examination, formulation of problem lists and differential diagnoses, diagnostic planning, interpretation of results, and development of treatment plans. The goal of this training program is to build the skills necessary for clinical competency. The resident is expected to discuss all cases with the mentor(s) at the beginning of training with increasing independence as recommended by the mentor(s) based on their assessment. The resident will be expected to continue to communicate about cases with the mentor(s) throughout their training, although direct supervision will be reduced. The resident will be expected to perform dermatologic procedures with supervision and then independently as appropriate, including cytology, biopsies, otoscopy/video-otoscopy, allergy diagnostics, and formulation and management of allergen-specific immunotherapy.

Additionally, the resident will develop skills in dermatohistopathology including relevant pathologic features of disease, use of special stains, and interpretation of morphologic descriptions and pathologic diagnoses, as outlined above.

The resident is responsible for maintaining complete and accurate medical records in the electronic medical record system (ezyVet) and maintaining an ACVD-compliant case log. This case log will include case number, patient name, signalment, applicable diagnoses, and follow up information. This case log will be reviewed by the mentors at formal evaluations to ensure

that the resident is meeting program benchmarks, but will be electronically shared with the mentor and available for mentor access at all times.

The resident communicates directly with clients and referring veterinarians, including written reports, follow-up communications, and telephone consultations as appropriate. Continuity of care and long-term case follow-up are emphasized throughout the residency.

The resident participates in case rounds, journal club, histopathology training, and basic science learning rounds, and completes assigned readings, presentations, and educational activities in accordance with ACVD guidelines, as outlined above. The resident engages in scholarly activity appropriate to a private specialty practice setting, including preparation of all credentialing materials. The resident will be expected to create and present two to four 30-60 minute didactic presentations given either to mentor(s), students, staff, and/or referring veterinarians during the course of their residency.

The resident is expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the ethical and professional standards of the American College of Veterinary Dermatology and to meet all ACVD requirements for progression and credentialing.

31. How many residents has the program had over the past 10 years?

0

32. How many / what percentage of the above residents (question 31) passed credentials on the:

- a. First submission: NA
- b. Second submission: NA
- c. Third submission or more: NA
- d. Never passed credentials: NA

33. How many / what percentage of the above residents (question 31) sat boards for the first time:

- a. The year they finished their residency: NA
- b. One year after finishing their residency: NA
- c. Two or more years after finishing: NA
- d. They never took boards: NA

34. How many / what percentage of the above residents (question 31) passed the board exam on their:

- a. First time taking the exam: NA
- b. Second time taking the exam: NA
- c. Third time or more taking the exam: NA
- d. Never passed: NA

35. Is your residency program reviewed by an outside committee at your institution?

Yes / No

If yes, please describe frequency: NA

36. Please list the papers published by your last 5 residents.

NA

37. Names of your last 5 residents and whether they are willing to be contacted by potential residents:

NA