



DSME – Joy Elliott, DO (right)  
Site Coordinator – Kimberly Wilson (left)



## Hospital Information

The original Eastern Shore hospital has a storied history and is a cherished institution on the there. It opened in 1928 in Nassawadox with money raised by a group called the Auxilians who raised money and borrowed personal loans to buy the construction materials. For more than 100 years, the Auxilians have been leadership supporters in every major hospital project. A second hospital replaced the original in 1971 and was purchased by Riverside Health System in 2009. In 2017, the hospital moved to a new, modern 60-acre parcel of land in Onancock. The campus includes the hospital, Shore Cancer Center, the Medical Office Building, and a helipad.



The hospital totals 139,100 square feet spread over two floors, has 52 private inpatient rooms (10 of which are critical care and 6 are Mother/Baby). The Emergency Department holds two private triage rooms, plus 13 private treatment rooms—including a trauma room. A pneumatic tube delivery system whisks items to a designated department, allowing team members to stay at the patient's bedside. Shore Memorial has received national recognition for patient safety and excellence as a rural hospital.

Students at this site may also complete rotations within the Sentara, TPMG, and Bon Secours healthcare systems, as well as smaller and independent practices. Preceptors outside of Riverside are chosen for their eagerness to work with students and dedication to instruction.

## Available Third-Year Rotations

We offer all the specialties for the required core curriculum: family medicine, underserved primary care, internal medicine, OB/GYN, pediatrics, psychiatry, and surgery. Currently, the psychiatry rotation is fulfilled at the Riverside Mental Health and Recovery Center in Hampton, VA. The choice of a student's medical or surgical selective depends on availability and, while fourth-year students are given priority, there are still plenty of options. Most rotations are in or near Onancock, but others are available throughout the region, including in Cape Charles and Tangier Island. You may also request rotations in Hampton Roads.



## Available Fourth-Year Rotations

We offer the following rotations to fourth years on the Eastern Shore (as of the 2026/2027 academic year): cardiology, emergency medicine, family medicine, gastroenterology, general surgery, hospitalist medicine, medical oncology, OB/GYN, pediatrics, pulmonology, urology. The following are available in Hampton Roads: allergy/immunology, anesthesiology, cardiology, colorectal surgery, dermatology, emergency medicine, endocrinology, family medicine, gastroenterology, general surgery, gynecologic oncology, hematology/oncology, hospitalist medicine, internal medicine (inpatient

Interactive Map of Practices  
in Eastern VA

and outpatient), neonatology/NICU, nephrology, neurology, neurosurgery, orthopedic sports medicine, orthopedic surgery, otolaryngology, pharmacology, radiation/oncology, rheumatology, sports medicine, and urology. Audition rotations are also available with Riverside's emergency medicine, family medicine, internal medicine, and OB/GYN residencies. Former Eastern Virginia core students are not permitted to audition with the family medicine residency, though they are welcome to interview. Rotations can be requested through a [form on the VCOM website](#). Students begin to submit requests for the following academic year in January; placements begin in March and continue into June.

## Residency Programs

*Click on the icons below to access the social media resources for the residency programs.*

Riverside Regional Medical Center houses emergency medicine, family medicine, internal medicine, OB/GYN, and transitional-year residencies.



The **Emergency Medicine Residency** at Riverside Regional Medical Center is a three-year program and is affiliated with Virginia Commonwealth University. There are over 40 private rooms in the Emergency and Trauma Center for ill or injured emergency patients and two state-of-the-art trauma bays. The residency is ACGME accredited and accepts applications through ERAS. The program welcomed its inaugural class of residents in July 2023. Residents will rotate primarily through the hospital's main campus, with additional opportunities and rotations at community hospitals, the Children's Hospital of Richmond at VCU Health, and the Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters in Norfolk, Virginia.



Riverside **Family Medicine Residency**—accredited on January 23, 1971—is one of the oldest family medicine programs in the country. Its emphasis on information technology allows it to provide the highest quality care for its patients, and the greatest access to evidence-based knowledge for its residents. A high faculty-to-resident ratio allows residents independence to manage their own patients and creates a great teaching environment to learn patient care. Its strong collegial atmosphere is a trademark of the Riverside Family Medicine Residency Program. It was approved for 14 incoming positions beginning with the 2018/2019 year. It has 11 family medicine faculty members, with four holding CAQs in OB, sports medicine, or hospice and palliative care. One is the Director of Medical Informatics for the health system. There is also an onsite behaviorist. It is a Level III, Patient-Centered Medical Home certified practice. It benefits from a diverse patient population—including active OB and pediatrics. The residency also has Sports Medicine affiliations with The College of William & Mary and Christopher Newport University.



The **Internal Medicine Residency** began its first class with the 2024/2026 academic year. It is a fully ACGME accredited, categorical residency and accepts applications through ERAS. Residents will be exposed to a wide variety of complex patient pathology, both on their inpatient and outpatient rotations. The residency operates on a 6+2 block schedule with exposure to inpatient medicine on the wards, ICU, and inpatient consultation services, as well as outpatient rotations in continuity and subspecialty clinics. Each resident will be assigned patients in their continuity clinic for whom they are the primary care physician over the course of their residency. Residents will also have protected didactic time, where their attendings hold the pagers. Didactics will include attending and resident-led lectures, M&M, Journal Club, Grand Rounds, wellness, use of our state-of-the-art Simulation Center, and online learning modules. First-year residents are also provided with the most recent electronic version of MKSAP for their board preparation study during their three-year residency.



The **OB/GYN Residency** is a traditional, community-hospital based, four-year program. The hospital has 39, all-private, post-partum and ante-partum rooms, and 12 labor and delivery rooms. There are two dedicated obstetric OR rooms in the L&D suite. The neonatal intensive care nursery is currently licensed for 24 beds. The residency is currently structured with three residents at each of the four years. It also has residents on service from the family medicine program. In addition to VCOM, there are VCU medical students who rotate there on a six-week basis. It has five approved, full-time generalist faculty positions, and an actively involved private practice faculty. There is also an active maternal-fetal medicine practice that manages the high-risk clinic and is contracted full time to provide teaching and supervision for the residents. It has in-house rotations for formal training in



gynecologic oncology. There are also full-time neonatologists and/or neonatal nurse practitioners in house at all times.

The **Transitional Year Residency** is sponsored by the family medicine residency and Eastern Virginia Medical School's pediatric residency. It is fully accredited by the ACGME for thirteen positions and has filled every year. The core requirements consist of seven months of fundamental clinical skill rotations in internal medicine, emergency medicine, family medicine, and pediatric emergency medicine. The remaining five rotations can be set up in elective rotations that will satisfy the incoming TY resident's educational needs and eventual residency/board certification requirements. During the rotations on all services, the TY resident is treated the same as a categorical resident on that service. They actively participate in the evaluation and treatment decisions for all patients on the service.



## Lectures and Seminars

We hold OMM workshops each month, and third-year students must attend at least nine to be promoted to fourth year. Additionally, some preceptors provide didactics.

## Room & Board

We will assist students in finding housing for away students. A local bed-and-breakfast provides student housing for a fee. Local VCOM students and alums may also make their homes available for a fee.

A meal allowance is provided for all students completing rotations at Riverside hospitals. It may be used in the hospital cafeteria, coffee shop, or bistro. Students should identify themselves as medical students and have the cashier debit the total from their account.

## Site Orientation

An orientation for the incoming third-year students will occur in July. They will attend an orientation at the Riverside Behavioral Health Center in Hampton Roads, where the psychiatry rotation takes place. The afternoon session will begin with lunch at Riverside Regional Medical Center, followed by a tour of the hospital with a resident. The students will then go to Riverside Brentwood Medical Center, where they will review the academic expectations for the year. Students will also be required to attend an orientation for the Eastern Shore Rural Health System around the start date of the pediatrics rotation.

Fourth years will receive orientation at the facilities where they complete their rotations.

## Community Information

Onancock is a town in Accomack County on Virginia's Eastern Shore. It is a historic harbor town founded in 1680 and is known as the "Gem of the Eastern Shore" for its blend of historic architecture, thriving arts scene, and waterfront access to the Chesapeake Bay. Historic sites include Kerr Place, a downtown with galleries and restaurants, and outdoor activities such as kayaking and ferry trips to Tangier Island. The Pony Swim is an annual event held in Chincoteague, Virginia held by the local Fire Department, which consists of a pony swim on Wednesday and a pony auction on Thursday. Onancock has a population of just under 1,200, giving it a small-town feel, but it is known for its lively arts and cultural scene.



## Helpful Links

- Riverside Shore Memorial Hospital: <https://www.riversideonline.com/en/locations/hospitals/riverside-shore-memorial-hospital>
- City of Onancock: <https://onancock.com/>
- Eastern Shore: <https://visitesva.com/>

## Quotes from Former Students

*"I really enjoyed the site and the ample opportunities for OMM workshops, and the OMM day while on family medicine."*

*"I loved my time at Riverside! Overall, a great experience with great physicians!"*

*"The Riverside site as a whole was wonderful. They provided free hospital food whenever your rotation was in the hospital. Most students lived in apartments 5 minutes from the hospital. I know they have VCOM housing for 4th years rotating through. There are lots of great running trails in Newport News. One trail is within walking distance of the hospital. Lots of places to grab food quickly during lunch. The faculty and staff are all really friendly and there to help. I would recommend this site to everyone!"*

*"Perfect site. Excellent leadership. Dr. Elliott and Kim are assets to VCOM. Newport News is an excellent place to live."*



Third-year medical students volunteering at the Career Day at a local middle school.