1. Where do most residents live?

The vast majority of residents live in the Orange/Anaheim area or in Long Beach. In the past, however, we've had residents commute from as far north as LA and the surrounding cities, and as far south as Irvine and Mission Viejo. While there are no restrictions on where you can live, when on backup call, you are expected to be able to arrive to work within one hour.

2. What are my options if I want to live in Orange?

Most residents who live near Orange usually rent apartments in one of the several large complexes nearby. All of these are fairly similar in terms of rent and amenities, and within walking distance of the Medical Center. While there are other complexes farther out that may be a bit cheaper, it usually becomes too far of a walk. Additionally, the safety of the neighborhoods in the surrounding areas is less predictable.

- Gateway Apartments
- Allure Apartments
- Renaissance at Uptown Orange
- The Terrace Apartments
- AMLI Uptown Orange
- Anavia Apartments

3. What are the pros and cons of living near Orange?

Pros:
- Many options for comfortable, luxury apartment complexes to choose from
- Walking distance to UCI Medical Center, so usually don’t have to pay for parking
- Minimal traffic when driving to/from Long Beach during usual resident working hours
- Quiet, safe surrounding neighborhoods and areas for leisure
  - The Block – Large, outdoor outlet mall with shopping, restaurants, movie theatre, gym
  - Downtown Orange - Small, quiet college town (borders Chapman University) with restaurants, shops
  - Angels Stadium, Honda Center, Disneyland – All <10-15min drive minimal traffic

Cons:
- Apartment complexes can be expensive and rent usually increases each year
- Suburban area with fewer bars/clubs/nightlife around

4. What are my options if I want to live in Long Beach?

Long Beach (and the surrounding areas) have a mix of larger apartment buildings and smaller, 2-10 unit complexes. There tends to be fewer online postings and, if possible, your best bet may be to drive around
areas you're interested in. Popular neighborhoods include Belmont Shore, Belmont Heights, Downtown Long Beach, Bluff Park, and Naples (see areas marked in blue box).

5. What are the pros and cons of living near Long Beach?

Pros:
- Many rental options (apartments, duplexes, homes, etc.), with a traditional landlord, making rent more predictable from year to year
- Cooler temperatures, especially during the summer
- More things to do!
  - Second St. – Located in Belmont Shores, has many bars, restaurants, nightlife
  - Queen Mary – A retired British ocean liner now permanently moored in Long Beach, holds events throughout the year
  - Beach! – Undoubtedly one of the best parts of living in Long Beach, usually a pretty short walk/drive to the water for most people

Cons:
- Few housing options within walking distance, so you'll usually need to drive
- Limited parking options in certain neighborhoods, especially in the evenings (make sure to get a parking spot as part of your rental agreement, if possible!)
- Safety of area varies widely from block to block
6. Are there any other options for where to live?

While most residents live in these two areas, some choose to live elsewhere due to family reasons, cheaper rent, etc. Other areas to consider include Seal Beach, Huntington Beach, Newport Beach, Irvine, Tustin, and Fullerton. There are also nice options in the Anaheim Hills, Garden Grove and Westminster. All of these are farther away from our training sites, and will entail a drive, so traffic will be a factor.

7. What is the parking situation at our training sites?

It’s a good idea to keep parking in the back of your mind when thinking about where you ultimately want to live. Parking is **free** while rotating at both of our Long Beach sites (VA, Memorial). Parking at UCI is around $70/mo (though you can also buy daily or weekly passes depending on how long you need to be here). While there is a large outlet mall and some neighborhoods around UCI, parking there is **at your own risk** – you’re likely to get fined or towed (which usually ends up being a lot more than whatever it would cost to pay for parking!)

For residents choosing to live in Orange, several of the apartment complexes are a short walk (5-10min) from the Medical Center, obviating the need to pay for parking. For those who do walk or commute to work, the Parking Office will provide 48 daily parking permits/year for **free** for days you need to drive.

8. Does the residency provide a housing stipend?

Yes! As part of the contract that was negotiated with UCI last year, all residents are eligible for a yearly housing stipend of $2900. **To be eligible**, your address **must** fall within 10mi of one of our training sites (UCI Medical Center, UCI School of Medicine, Long Beach VA Medical Center, Long Beach Memorial Medical Center). The GME office strictly adheres to the distance requirement, so keep that in mind!

9. I have no idea how to go about this and I’m already panicking. Help?!

Moving to a new, unfamiliar area definitely adds an additional level of anxiety to the whole process of starting residency. But no sweat – that’s what we’re here for! If you’re not really sure what you’re looking for or how to begin the process, feel free to reach out to any of us. We’re happy to give you some suggestions and can even connect you to current residents who may have some additional insight.

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