



# The Philadelphia Hand Center

*Pennsylvania & New Jersey – Specialized Orthopaedics for Hands, Wrists, Arms, Elbows & Shoulders*

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## **The Philadelphia Hand Center/Thomas Jefferson University Hospital Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Division of Hand Surgery**

### **One Year ACGME Accredited Hand Surgery Fellowship**

Please direct inquiries regarding the Hand Fellowship Program to:

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The Philadelphia Hand Center

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The one-year Hand Surgery Fellowship at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital runs twelve consecutive months from August 1 through July 31. This is one of the oldest hand fellowship programs, having been founded in 1968, and has trained over 200 fellows. The fellowship is directed by The Philadelphia Hand Center, a prominent hand center with seventeen attending physicians.

Seven one-year ACGME approved Hand Surgery Fellowship positions are available. The stipend is \$66,072 per year plus paid malpractice insurance and medical benefits. Each fellow is entitled to four weeks vacation. There is one funded meeting or conference per year. Eligible candidates should have completed training requirements for their boards in orthopaedic, general, or plastic surgery and be seriously motivated to study the sub-specialty of hand surgery. Selection of fellows is mediated through the National Matching Program in Hand Surgery.

Hand surgery is conducted daily under the supervision of the attending physicians. Residents rotating through the departments of orthopaedic surgery and plastic surgery assist the fellows. Last year approximately 17,000 patients were evaluated including over 6,500 new patients. Seven thousand surgical procedures were performed in multiple operating suites. There is a reasonable balance between trauma and reconstruction, including congenital and arthritic cases. The hand fellows operate under the supervision of the attending physicians and participate as a major responsibility in the care of patients.

The Hand Center is associated with the Hand Rehabilitation Foundation that sponsors teaching and research. Currently we are the only hand center that has active occupational therapy hand fellows who spend 6 months at the center. The Foundation also sponsors an annual hand rehabilitation course in March that draws over a thousand participants to the concurrent physician and hand therapy meetings. Every fall, the hand alumni association meets and hosts the Dorothy Kaufmann Professorship Meeting.

The Fellowship is associated with the orthopedic residency program at Thomas Jefferson and opportunities are available for expanded upper extremity work on the shoulder.

The Fellowship continues to be popular as attested by the number of applications for the seven match fellowship positions available.

Pre-operative and post-operative evaluations and rehabilitation are carried out at The Philadelphia Hand Center at 834 Chestnut Street, Suite G114, in Center City Philadelphia as well as in our 18 satellite offices throughout the Philadelphia suburbs and South Jersey. Fellows participate in all phases of patient care including the initial work-up, surgery planning, post-operative follow-up, and rehabilitation. Fellows are expected to become knowledgeable in rehabilitation measures related to the hand and upper extremity.

**Additional duties and responsibilities of the Hand Surgery Fellows include:**

- 1) Organizing resident and student teaching conferences
- 2) Conducting the weekly Hand Service Conference and Journal Club
- 3) Attending and participating in scheduled Orthopaedic Journal Clubs and Grand Rounds Conferences
- 4) Seeking out and developing a clinical research project, completion of which is expected by the end of the one year training period
- 5) Developing a teaching Power Point collection for personal use in furthering the education of others after leaving the Hand Surgery Service

A microvascular laboratory is available for training with appropriate equipment and technical assistance. A small joint arthroscopy laboratory is now available and includes a surgical cadaver laboratory. It is expected that fellows will become proficient early in their training so that they may partake in microvascular cases. Basic research facilities and projects are also available.

Upon completion of the year of training, hand fellows will be able to develop and manage a Hand Surgery Service and carry out the care of traumatic and reconstructive procedures relating to the hand and upper extremity.

**REQUIREMENTS TO APPLY:**

- Thomas Jefferson University Hospital application
- (1) passport size color photo (please do not staple to application)
- Personal statement (one page minimum)
- Curriculum Vitae (with phone number and email listed)
- Medical school transcript
- Dean's letter (copy is fine)
- Four Letters of Recommendation (Dean's Letter counts as one letter. One letter must be from your current program director)
- USMLE scores, all three steps taken and passed (copies are fine)
- Provide evidence of a valid visa if non-U.S. citizen
- Copy of ECFMG certificate for all graduates of foreign medical schools