A required six-week clinical clerkship in Pediatrics is given in the Departments of Pediatrics at four sites: the UCLA Center for Health Sciences/Olive View Medical Center, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Harbor-UCLA Medical Center, and King/Drew Medical Center. Students spend all of their time in one of the four programs. Although the teaching programs vary somewhat, essentially comparable material in pediatrics is presented at each of the institutions. Students spend time in both inpatient and outpatient settings as defined in the table below.

**The goals of the clerkship are to:**
1. Acquire a fund of knowledge about pediatrics necessary for any physician regardless of his or her future area of interest.
2. Gather, organize, and record health and illness data on pediatric patients in various age groups: newborn, infant, toddler, pre-school, school-age, and adolescent. This includes:
   a. The ability to take a thorough history
   b. The ability to perform out a thorough physical examination and developmental assessment
   c. The ability to record the above in conventional or problem-oriented format
   d. The ability to synthesize and analyze the information and to develop an approach to differential diagnoses
   e. The ability to formulate a plan of evaluation with critical use of the laboratory and other diagnostic studies with justification (medical and financial)
   f. The development of skills in concise case presentation
   g. The acquisition of knowledge about general approaches to patient management (rather than fine detail)
3. To review the pathophysiology and background information about disease entities encountered and the effects of disease on the developing child.

For all patients encountered in the clinic and on the ward, students are expected to take a thorough history, perform a thorough physical exam, assess development if indicated, formulate a differential diagnosis by synthesis and analysis of the information obtained, and develop diagnostic and management plans. Students are encouraged to be actively involved in the ongoing care and follow-up of their patients.

Teaching, supervision, and evaluation of students are primarily the responsibility of the faculty. Pediatric residents will also play an important role in teaching. Students are evaluated on their performance in the ambulatory setting, on the ward, in the nursery, and on the final written examination. The computer-based examination is given on the last day of the clerkship and is a combination of multiple choice exam. A more detailed description of the exam and information about who will be participating in evaluation of students’ clinical performance will be provided in the clerkship orientation.

**Breakdown of Pediatric Rotations at the UCLA Hospitals**

| Site     | Ward | # Weeks | Nursery | Clinic | Community Medicine | OVMC
|----------|------|---------|---------|--------|--------------------|------
| CHS      | 2    | 0.5     | 1.5     | 2**    |                    | q4th nite until 2300 |   |
| CS       | 3    | 1       | 1       | 1      |                    | q4th nite 'till 2200 | q4th nite 'till 2200 |
| HARBOR   | 3    | 1.5     | 1.5 Peds (ED) |        |                    | 1 nite/rotation until 2200 | 1 nite 'till 2300 |
| KAISER.SUN | TBA | TBA     | TBA     | TBA    |                    | TBA | TBA |

* Included in clinic 2 weeks
** Olive View-UCLA Medical Center - Acute Care Clinic
*** Includes 1 week in subspecialty and 1 week in walk-in clinic.

**Course Chair:** Abhay Dandekar, M.D.
Criteria for Letters of Distinction in Pediatrics

Students will be evaluated by housestaff and attending staff during the pediatric clerkship. At the conclusion of the rotation, a summative evaluation will be completed by the clerkship site director rotation and will include evaluations of your clinical work in all settings as well as your score on a written examination.

“Pass with Letter of Distinction” will be given to those students who achieve a score on the written examination above 75% the mean, whose evaluation is in the outstanding range for all assessed categories and who excel in ALL of the following areas:

1. Demonstrated ability to apply basic medical knowledge to clinical scenarios
2. Demonstrated skill in performing, presenting and documenting history and physical examinations
3. Demonstrated ability to critically evaluate and integrate data in seeking solutions to identified problems
4. Demonstration of interest and responsibility in participating in patient care
5. Demonstrated ability to work as a team and communicate effectively with other staff, including nursing, attending and house staff
6. Demonstrated ability to establish rapport with patients and families
7. Active and consistent participation in conferences and other teaching sessions
8. Evidence of general inquisitiveness, consistency and responsibility
9. Presence of a positive general attitude during the clerkship
10. Presence of a positive general attitude during the clerkship