

Immediate Release

Media Contact: Cathy Moss C: 917-301-6773 E: cmoss@willseye.org

Wills Eye Hospital's Training in Ophthalmology Voted #1 Top Eye Residency Program in Nation

MDs across the USA choose Wills Eye for best reputation and most desired training program in Ophthalmology

PHILADELPHIA – The Wills Eye at Jefferson Residency Program has been voted the #1 medical education training program in ophthalmology in the nation according to Doximity.com. The Wills Eye Hospital faculty serve as the department of Ophthalmology at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital and the Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University. The residency program consists of three years of training in all subspecialties of ophthalmology, following a post-medical school internship year. More than 500 medical students are competing this year for the 8 residency slots available for the Class of 2023. Doximity is an online professional network for healthcare professionals and is also a partner of U.S. News & World Report in its well-known annual Best Hospital Rankings where Wills Eye also receives a top ranking in the nation.

When asked what are the top five best features of the Wills Eye Residency Program, residents cite: the breadth and depth of ocular conditions treated at Wills Eye Hospital, the hands-on training experience with world-renowned faculty who staff clinics and surgery directly, the unique 24/7 eye-only Wills Eye Emergency Room, global involvement including the Wills International Resident Experience, and the special culture and family feeling of Wills Eye Hospital.

"We are so very proud of our residents, and prioritize our residency education program so highly here at Wills. In 1839, the first physician to be specialty trained as an eye physician and surgeon came to Wills, so we have 180 years of experience to build on and that makes a huge difference!

We are proud to have been the first program not only in U.S. history, but also in looking to the future - we have again and again been the first to introduce cutting edge technologies and opportunities into our training, including femtosecond laser cataract surgery, refractive surgery, and international academic global ophthalmology rotations. We draw the very top, most well-rounded residents from a huge volume of yearly applications in our highly competitive field. Our program trains tomorrow's ophthalmologists to challenge themselves as curious and caring surgeon-scientists and physician leaders. Wills-trained ophthalmologists embody our long-held motto 'Skill with Compassion.' It is so gratifying, and humbling, to have the deliberate strategic planning and hard work our faculty and staff put into our residency recognized with this #1 distinction from across the nation," said **Julia A. Haller, MD**, Ophthalmologist-in-Chief, Wills Eye Hospital.

Wills Eye Hospital is a global leader in ophthalmology, established in 1832 as the nation's first hospital specializing in eye care. *U.S. News & World Report* consistently ranks Wills Eye as one of America's top ophthalmology centers since the survey began and has the most nationally ranked ophthalmologists in the country. Wills Eye is a premier training site for all levels of medical education. Its resident and post-graduate training programs are among the most competitive in the country. One of the core strengths of Wills is the close connection between innovative research and advanced patient care. Wills, which includes the Vickie and Jack Farber Vision Research Center, provides the full range of primary and subspecialty eye care for improving and preserving sight, including cataract, cornea, retina, emergency care, glaucoma, neuro-ophthalmology, ocular oncology, oculoplastics, pathology, pediatric ophthalmology and ocular genetics, and refractive surgery. Ocular Services include the Wills Laser Correction Center, Low Vision Service, and Diagnostic Center. Its 24/7 Emergency Service is the only one of its kind in the region. Wills Eye also has a network of nine multi-specialty, ambulatory surgery centers throughout the tri-state area. To learn more, please visit www.willseye.org