RISING AHEC SCHOLARS

STUDENT MANUAL
2021-22
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WELCOME!

Congratulations on being selected to join the Alaska AHEC program as a Rising AHEC Scholar!

As a Rising AHEC Scholar you will have certain requirements that you must meet in order to successfully complete the program. This manual will help you navigate your time in this program and hopefully answer any questions that you may have.

As always, should you have any questions or concerns, reach out to your regional AHEC center or to the Alaska AHEC Program Office. Contact information on page 3.

- AHEC PROGRAM OFFICE
ABOUT ALASKA AHEC

The Alaska Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) program began at the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) in 2005. AHECs are academic and community-based partnerships engaged in primary care workforce engagement, training and recruiting, and retaining activities to improve the distribution, diversity, supply and quality of health care personnel. The Alaska AHEC program office (at UAA) contracts with six regional Centers to implement educational activities involving health professions and to expose students to primary care delivery in rural and/or underserved settings. In addition, AHECs work closely with state and local workforce investment boards to identify and address health care needs and shortages.

Our Centers:

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## 2 Year Track: Year 1

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Activities</th>
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<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>Semester begins; Applications open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>Applications due; Orientation to program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>Minimum of 1 certificate training to be completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>*Attend at least 1 interprofessional education seminars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>Attend a minimum of 1 rural-related health lecture</td>
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AHEC Scholar mentor pairing

Minimum of 2 workshops to attend; (Regional centers may host own workshops)

Optional job shadowing in rural/underserved community;
*Interprofessional education seminars

Contact partners for community-based project; Project prep for next year

Begin summer project; Finals!!

January
February
March
April
May

*Interprofessional education seminars correlate with AHEC Scholars Grand Rounds and may be made up at a later time as they occur twice a year.
2 Year Track: 
Year 2

August
- Semester begins;
- Applications open

September
- Applications due;
- Orientation

October
- Minimum of 2 certificate trainings
  offered to students

November
- *Interprofessional education seminars

December
- Minimum of 2 rural-related health
  lectures to attend

AHEC Scholar mentor pairing

January

February
- Minimum of 2 workshops to attend;
  (Centers may host workshops on
  volunteering/shadowing opportunities)

March
- Job shadowing in rural/underserved
  community;
- *Interprofessional education seminars

April
- Contact partners for community-based
  project; Project prep for summer

May
- Begin summer project;
- Finals!!

*Interprofessional education seminars correlate with AHEC
Scholars Grand Rounds and may be made up at a later time as
they occur twice a year.
Student Requirements for 2-Year Track

Students in the 2-year track **MUST** complete the following:

- Minimum of 2 industry-recognized certification trainings (can be done in October, when 2 different certification trainings will be offered each year)
- Attending at least 1 interprofessional education seminar each year (offered in both November and March)
- Attend a minimum of 1 rural-related health lecture each year (minimum of 2 lectures will be offered each December)
- Be paired with a current AHEC Scholar mentor
- Attend at least 2 workshops per academic year (1 of which must be the introduction to local and community partners for your community-based project and/or volunteering/shadowing opportunities), workshops will be offered throughout the month of February
- A community-based project that spans at least the duration of 1 academic term. *typically summer*
1 Year Track

August
Semester begins; Applications open

September
Applications due; Orientation

October
Minimum of 2 certificate trainings offered to students

November
*Interprofessional education seminars

December
Minimum of 2 rural-related health lectures to attend

AHEC Scholar mentor pairing

January
Minimum of 2 workshops to attend; (Centers may host workshops on volunteering/shadowing opportunities)
Job shadowing in rural/underserved community;
*Interprofessional education seminars

February
Contact partners for community-based project; Project prep for summer

March
Begin summer project; Finals!!

April

May

*Interprofessional education seminars correlate with AHEC Scholars Grand Rounds and may be made up at a later time as they occur twice a year.
Students in the 1-year track **MUST** complete the following:

- Minimum of 1 industry-recognized certification training (can be done in October, when 2 different certification trainings will be offered each year)
- Attending at least 1 interprofessional education seminar (offered in November and March)
- Attend a minimum of 1 rural-related health lecture (minimum of 2 lectures will be offered each December)
- Be paired with a current AHEC Scholar mentor
- Attend at least 2 workshops (1 of which must be the introduction to local and community partners for your community-based project and/or volunteering/shadowing opportunities), workshops will be offered throughout the month of February
- A community-based project *typically completed in summer. Please note that students directly admitted into the AHEC Scholars program following completion of all other requirements may be exempt from completing this project.*
Frequently Asked Questions

**Which track is right for me?**
Whichever track you will have enough time to complete. Please note that choosing the 1-year track to get through the program quicker might seem convenient, but life happens and the 2-year track might afford you more flexibility if needed.

**What certifications might be offered?**
Certification trainings vary by semester but will most likely be one of the following: CPR/First Aid, Mental Health First Aid, QPR, Blood-borne pathogen training, NARCAN Administration.

**What if I am already certified in the certification trainings being offered?**
You may be eligible to skip the required certification training if you are already certified and do not need to renew your certification. Please communicate with the Program Office regarding any modifications to your schedule.

**What if I change my major?**
Changing your major will not affect your standing or eligibility for the Rising AHEC Scholars program. However, you must still intend on entering healthcare.

**I do want to enter healthcare, but working in a non-clinical position, am I still eligible for this program?**
There are lots of different career options when it comes to the healthcare field. Pursuing a career within healthcare whether it works with patients directly or indirectly makes you a good candidate for this program, so we encourage you to apply!