



## **About the Mountain Area Health Education Center's (MAHEC) NC AHEC Scholars Program**

Would you like to be a part of a group of progressive health professionals committed to community service, health parity, academic excellence and the transformation of health care in Western North Carolina?

The NC AHEC Scholars Program at MAHEC recruits, trains and supports a diverse group of college students from Western North Carolina, creating a multidisciplinary team of future health professionals committed to both community service and the transformation of health care in our region.

With an emphasis on students from underrepresented minorities, disadvantaged and rural backgrounds, and first-generation college students, the NC AHEC Scholars Program aims to improve the diversity and distribution of all health professions and to support health systems transformation across the state. Each class of AHEC Scholars at MAHEC represents a variety of health professions and institutions across Western North Carolina.

MAHEC is the largest Area Health Education Center (AHEC) in North Carolina, which evolved to address national and state concerns with the supply, retention and quality of health professionals. This program is a partnership with AHECs across the state of North Carolina.

Selected applicants will participate in a two-year educational program and will receive a stipend to assist with travel and miscellaneous expenses. At the end of Year 2, each AHEC Scholar will receive a NC AHEC Scholars Certificate, setting them apart from other students in an increasingly competitive environment. Selected scholars will also have the chance to meet leaders in health care and make connections with other participants across the state, creating an invaluable network for your future career in health care.

### **The NC AHEC Scholars Experience**

This experience is co-created and co-taught by faculty and staff from across the state. There is a two-year commitment that provides 40 hours of didactics and 40 hours of clinical work each year, including exposure to real-life clinical situations in MAHEC's Simulation Center. The Simulation Center provides the opportunity for students to use interactive, life-like mannequins and task trainers in a structured, risk-free, learning environment. Experience in community clinical settings is also a foundational component of the program. Scholars develop new skills, experiences and strategies to improve both access and delivery of health care.

The program will begin in August and run through May each year. The curriculum will offer learning opportunities in collaborative care, written and oral communication, cultural competency, professionalism, medical ethics, and critical thinking, and will address current health care topics such as:

- Wellness and Disease Prevention (Obesity, Tobacco, Domestic Violence, etc.)
- Social Determinates of Health
- Behavioral Health and Substance Use
- Community Health and Advocacy
- HIV
- Chronic Conditions (Diabetes, Cardiovascular Disease, Hypertension, Autoimmune, etc.)
- End of Life Issues

### **PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY**

#### **NC AHEC Scholars must:**

- Be enrolled in a college-level health professions education training program in North Carolina by August 31, 2020 – see list of accepted programs
- Have reliable access to Wi-Fi
- Have reliable transportation
- Be eligible to work inside the United States

### **REQUIREMENTS**

#### **Each NC AHEC Scholar must:**

- Be committed to the program for a total of two years
- Complete 40 hours of didactic training each year of the program
- Complete 40 hours of experiential training each year of the program

Your certification as an AHEC Scholar will signify that you have additional knowledge, skills, and experiences beyond your discipline that will give you an advantage in moving forward in your chosen health profession.

If you have questions or need additional information contact  
Jacquelyn Hallum, MBA, MHA, Director Health Careers and Diversity Education  
828.257.4479 [jacquelyn.hallum@mahec.net](mailto:jacquelyn.hallum@mahec.net) or  
Tracy Ashby-Wagner, Program Coordinator at 828.257.4733  
[tracy.ashby.wagner@mahec.net](mailto:tracy.ashby.wagner@mahec.net)

**Application Deadline is Friday, June 12, 2020 by 5:00 p.m.**

## List of Accepted Programs

### Clinical Laboratory Science

Blood Bank Technology Specialist  
Clinical Laboratory Scientist  
Cytotechnologist  
Histologic Technologist/Technician  
Medical Laboratory Technician  
Pathologist  
Phlebotomist

### Complementary Medicine

Acupuncturist  
Massage Therapist

### Dentistry

Dental Assistant  
Dental Hygienist  
Dental Laboratory Technologist  
Dentist

### Dietetics and Nutrition

Dietetic Technician  
Dietitian  
Nutritionist

### Health Information & Communication

Biomedical Photographer  
Health Information Administrator  
Health Information Technician  
Health Science Librarian  
Health Services Administration  
Health Services Administration  
Medical Coding Specialist  
Medical Illustrator  
Medical, Science, and Technical Writer  
Nursing Home Administration

### Medical Careers

Chiropractor  
Physician (All Specialties)  
Physician Assistant  
Podiatrist

### Medical Office Personnel

Medical Assistant

### Mental Health

Hospital Chaplain  
Mental Health Tech/Aide  
Psychiatrist

Psychologist  
Psychologist Associate  
Social Worker  
Substance Abuse Counselor

### Nursing

Certified Nursing Assistant  
Certified Nurse Midwife  
Clinical Nurse Specialist  
Licensed Practical Nurse  
Nurse Anesthetist  
Nurse Anesthetist  
Nurse Practitioner  
Nurse Practitioner  
Public Health Nurse  
Public Health Nurse  
Registered Nurse

### Pharmacy

Pharmacist  
Pharmacy Technician

### Public Health

Biostatistician  
Environmental Health Specialist  
Epidemiologist  
Health Educator

### Radiology

Diagnostic Medical Sonographer  
Nuclear Medicine Technologist  
Radiation Technologist  
Radiation therapist  
Radiologist  
Radiologist Assistant

### Science & Engineering

Biomedical Engineer  
Biomedical Equipment Technician  
Health Physicist  
Medical Research Scientist  
Occupational Health & Safety Specialist

### Special Technologies & Services

Electroneurodiagnostic Technologist  
Emergency Medical Technician  
Funeral Services  
Genetic Counselor  
Medical Interpreter/Translator  
Perfusionist

Cardiovascular Technologist  
Prosthetist/Orthotist  
Surgical Technologist

### Therapy

Audiologist  
Certified Athletic Trainer  
Creative Arts Therapist  
Occupational Therapist  
Occupational Therapy Asst.  
Physical Therapist  
Physical Therapy Assistant  
Recreational Therapist  
Rehabilitation Counselor  
Respiratory Care Practitioner  
Speech/Language Pathologist  
Speech/Language Pathology Asst.

### Veterinary Medicine

Veterinarian  
Veterinary Technician

### Vision Care

Ophthalmic Medical Asst.  
Ophthalmologist  
Optician  
Optometrist



**AHEC**  
SCHOLARS



**2020 NC AHEC SCHOLARS APPLICATION** **Deadline: Friday, June 12, 2020 at 5 pm**

**Part 1: APPLICANT INFORMATION**

_____	_____	_____
Last Name	First Name	Middle Name
_____	_____	_____
Date of Birth MM/DD/YYYY	Gender	Last 4 Digits of Social Security Number

**PERMANENT/HOME ADDRESS**

_____		_____
Street Address		Apartment #
_____	_____	_____
City	State	Zip Code

**CURRENT/LOCAL ADDRESS**

_____		_____
Street Address		Apartment #
_____	_____	_____
City	State	Zip Code

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

_____	_____	_____
Cell Phone	Home or Alternative Phone	Email Address*

\*This will be the primary address for contacting you during the application process. Please use a personal email address and *NOT* a school email address. We want to keep in touch with you after the program, and you may lose access to your school email.

**RACE (select all that apply)**

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian/Alaskan Native | <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino        | <input type="checkbox"/> Asian           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hawaiian/Pacific Islander      | <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American | <input type="checkbox"/> White/Caucasian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____   |  |  |

**ETHNICITY**       Hispanic/Latino       Non-Hispanic

**LANGUAGES:**

Do you speak any languages other than English?       Yes       No

If YES, what language(s)? \_\_\_\_\_

**Part 2: ACADEMIC INFORMATION**

**HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of High School

\_\_\_\_\_  
Graduation Year

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State

\_\_\_\_\_  
County

**COLLEGE EDUCATION**

\_\_\_\_\_  
College/University/Community College you are currently attending

\_\_\_\_\_  
Anticipated Graduation Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State

\_\_\_\_\_  
County

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Allied Health           | <input type="checkbox"/> Nutrition/Dietician        | <input type="checkbox"/> Rec Therapy             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Athletic Training       | <input type="checkbox"/> OT Assistant               | <input type="checkbox"/> Respiratory Therapist   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dental Hygiene          | <input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy Tech              | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Worker           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Med/Paramedic | <input type="checkbox"/> Physical Therapy Assistant | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Assistant       | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Health              | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nursing                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Radiography                | _____  |

Specific Specialty, if applicable: \_\_\_\_\_

**HONORS/SCHOLORSHIPS/EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITES**

What academic honors and/or scholarships have you received?

What extra-curricular activities have you participated in and/or what jobs have you had?

**Part 3: FAMILY/BACKGROUND**

Are you the first generation in your family to attend college?  Yes  No  
Will you be the first in your family to receive a degree?  Yes  No

If applicable, describe any family or personal hardships or unique circumstances you would like to share.

**Part 4: INTEREST INFORMATION**

How did you learn about the NC AHEC Scholars Program?

Have you participated in AHEC health careers programs  Yes  No

(For example: summer camps, conferences, internships, shadowing opportunities, academic enrichment programs)

If yes, which AHEC, the program name, and the dates attended:

Indicate other programs that you have participated in:

- Medical Education Development Program (MED)
- Science Enrichment Preparation Program (SEP)
- NCAHEC Health Careers Passport Program
- Other (please specify):

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## **Part 5: ESSAY**

Respond to **one** of the essay questions below in 300 to 500 words. Please be sure to answer all parts of the question.

### **ESSAY 1**

Describe your background and career goals. Explain any unusual aspects of your preparation and/or record. How do you feel the AHEC Scholars Program will be of benefit to you in accomplishing your academic and career goals?

### **ESSAY 2**

Tell us about your proudest achievement, a time where you built something meaningful or important or made a significant contribution in the health field or in community service.

### **ESSAY 3**

Why are you pursuing a health profession and what do you think is the most important aspect of a health care professional's career?

**Part 5: ESSAY (continued)**

Which essay prompt are you responding to?

Essay 1

Essay 2

Essay 3



## Part 6: LETTERS OF REFERENCE

Please attach two letters of reference from teachers/faculty, community leaders, mentors, etc., and provide your references' contact information below.

### Reference 1

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Relationship to you: \_\_\_\_\_

### Reference 2

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Relationship to you: \_\_\_\_\_

## Part 7: CITIZENSHIP

NOTICE: Federal law requires all employers to verify the identity and employment eligibility of all persons hired to work in the United States. This employer participates in E-Verify. Click [here](#) for more information.

AVISO: La Ley Federal le exige a todos los empleadores que verifiquen la identidad y elegibilidad de empleo de toda persona contratada para trabajar en los Estados Unidos. Haga [clic aquí](#) para obtener más información.

Keep this page for your reference.

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**Application Packet Includes:**

1. Complete application
2. Official transcript that includes weighted GPA/class rank
3. Two Recommendation Letters
4. Updated resume

**Mail or Deliver Completed Application Packet AHEC SCHOLARS PROGRAM**

MAHEC Health Careers  
Center for Health Professions Education  
125 Hendersonville Road  
Asheville, NC 28803

The application packet and recommendations must be received on or before **Friday June 12, 2020** before 5:00 p.m.

Possible Requirements after Acceptance into the Program

- Tetanus booster within the past ten years
- Measles vaccination (if participant was born after 1957)
- Rubella immunization (unless Participant provides serologic confirmation of immunity)
- Mumps immunization (unless Participant provides serologic confirmation of immunity)
- Intradermal, protein-derivative-type tuberculin skin test within the past twelve months (unless Participant is known to have an allergic or positive reaction to same, in which case a chest X-ray is required)
- Hepatitis B vaccination series (unless Participant signs an appropriate declination form)
- Varicella immunization (unless Participant provides serologic confirmation of immunity)
- Influenza vaccination(s)
- Prior to the **AHEC Scholars clinical experience**, students must complete and submit a urine drug screen (minimum drug screening requirements include testing completed at a CAP or SAMSHA certified lab using a nine panel test including marijuana, cocaine, methamphetamines, benzodiazepines, PCP (phencyclidine), opiates, methadone, barbiturates, and propoxyphene.)
- Copy of Photo ID

