



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 healthcare 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 healthcare 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 healthcare and make connections with other participants across the state, creating an invaluable network for one's future career in healthcare.

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 healthcare.

Each cohort will begin the program in August and finish in May, 22 months later. 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 healthcare topics such as:

- Wellness and Disease Prevention (Obesity, Tobacco, Domestic Violence, etc.)
- Social Determinants 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, 2021 – 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 or
Tracy Ashby-Wagner, Program Coordinator at 828.257.4733
tracy.ashby.wagner@mahec.net

Application Deadline is Friday, June 11, 2021 by 5:00 pm.

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
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 Practitioner
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 Assistant
Physical Therapist
Physical Therapy Assistant
Recreational Therapist
Rehabilitation Counselor
Respiratory Care Practitioner
Speech/Language Pathologist
Speech/Language Pathology Assistant

Veterinary Medicine

Veterinarian
Veterinary Technician

Vision Care

Ophthalmic Medical Asst.
Ophthalmologist
Optician
Optometrist



2021 NC AHEC SCHOLARS APPLICATION **Deadline: Friday, June 11, 2021 by 5:00 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

Please list your declared major and minor or program: _____

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):

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 have two letters of reference from teachers/faculty, community leaders, mentors, etc., sent directly to us at HealthCareers@MAHEC.net. Also, please 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.

Email, Mail or Deliver Completed Application Materials for the AHEC SCHOLARS PROGRAM to;

HealthCareers@MAHEC.net
Jacquelyn.Hallum@MAHEC.net
Tracy.Ashby.Wagner@MAHEC.net

or

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

The application packet and recommendations must be received on or before
Friday June 11, 2021 before 5:00 pm.

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