

Alabama Statewide AHEC Program

The Alabama Statewide Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) Program's mission is to reduce health disparities by improving the quantity, diversity, distribution and quality of Alabama's healthcare workforce.

The Statewide AHEC Program is establishing five regional offices around the state that address the access goal by undertaking a number of initiatives to increase the number of students who enter healthcare programs, train in rural and underserved areas, and obtain healthcare jobs. Increasing the numbers of physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, dentists, therapists, and other health professionals, especially those coming from rural and underserved areas, has been shown to increase access and improve the overall health of communities.



GOALS OF THE ALABAMA AHEC

1. **Develop** a sustainable Alabama Statewide AHEC Program that covers all 67 counties of the state with five (5) community-based AHEC Centers.
2. **Implement** programs, services and activities that target underrepresented minority, rural, and other disadvantaged Alabamians for careers in the health professions.
3. **Influence** the training of health professions students/residents toward primary care through rotations with Alabama's medically needy populations.
4. **Improve** the health and quality of care provided to medically needy Alabamians by providing continuing education and support for targeted healthcare providers.

ALABAMA AHEC PARTNERS

The success of the Alabama Statewide AHEC Program depends on the participation of the many healthcare educational institutions around the state. The AHEC Program partners with both educators and providers who employ healthcare professionals. Among those already committed to work with AHEC include:

- Alabama A&M University
- Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Auburn University
- Jefferson Davis Community College
- Pike County Health Department
- Quality of Life Health Centers
- Samford University
- University of Alabama
- University of South Alabama
- Whatley Health Services, Inc.
- *And more!*

BENEFITS OF THE ALABAMA AHEC

For Middle and High School Students

- Work with schools to prepare disadvantaged and underrepresented students for health careers
- Introduce students to wide assortment of health careers
- Develop creative, hands-on, innovative learning opportunities

For Health Professions Students/Residents

- Place medical students and residents, NPs, PAs, nurses, dentists and others in clinical rotations serving rural and underserved populations
- Clinical placements in community health centers, health departments, rural hospitals, rural practices and more...

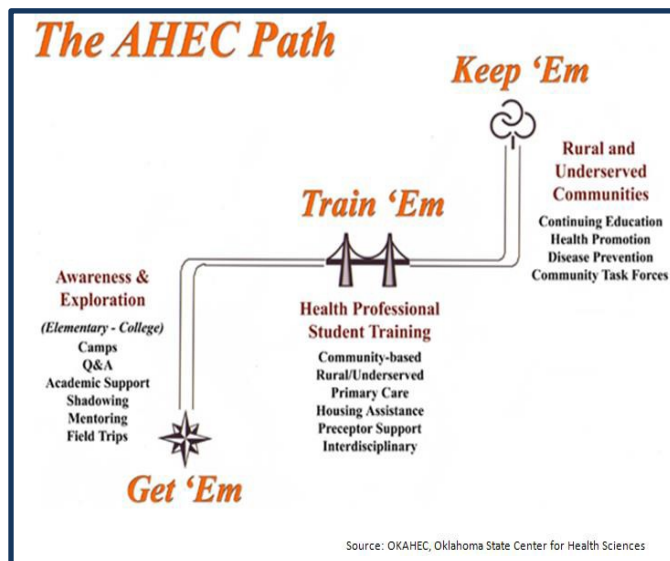
For Health Professionals Already Serving Alabama's Needy Populations

- Provide continuing professional education that meets identified needs and addresses Alabama's major health concerns
- Participate in the clinical training of Alabama's next generation of health providers
- Provide information and supportive services

For Alabamians

AHEC addresses Alabama's overall 2014 health ranking of 43rd by:

- ✓ Expanding the healthcare workforce
- ✓ Facilitating the distribution and diversity of the healthcare workforce
- ✓ Increasing access to healthcare
- ✓ Delivering vital patient care
- ✓ Reducing health disparities
- ✓ Improving health outcomes
- ✓ Increasing revenue through creating new jobs and services



HEALTH PROFESSIONS PROMOTED BY ALABAMA AHEC

- ✓ Physicians – M.D. and D.O.
- ✓ Nurse Practitioners
- ✓ Physician Assistants
- ✓ Nurses
- ✓ Pharmacists
- ✓ Dentists
- ✓ Public Health Professionals
- ✓ Dietitians and Nutritionists
- ✓ Physical Therapists
- ✓ Occupational Therapists
- ✓ Respiratory Therapists
- ✓ Radiological Technicians
- ✓ Healthcare Management
- ✓ *And more!*

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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