















## Area Health Education Center

AHECs are resources for students and other career seekers interested in health careers, and for communities and providers who want to improve the health of their communities.

## Goal

Recognizing the unique challenges faced by rural and underserved areas, AHECs focus on strengthening healthcare access in these communities.







## **Our Mission**

To address the healthcare provider shortage and improve healthcare access in the top 20 counties of the Texas Panhandle through education and development of the healthcare workforce.

## What We Do

Panhandle AHEC works closely with high schools, community colleges and universities, community-based healthcare professionals, and community leaders who share the same interests in addressing the healthcare provider shortage.





## AHEC Scholars











The AHEC Scholars
program was
developed as a
national program
grant funded
through the Health
Resource and
Service
Administration
(HRSA).

The AHEC Scholars
program selects
students from eligible
certificate,
undergraduate, and
graduate health
professions programs
who are interested in
enhancing their
education and
experiences beyond
the classroom.

Scholars gain
knowledge and
experiences in
patient-centered
team-based care and
learn about unique
challenges that face
underserved rural
and/or urban
communities.

Interested
applicants should
have a current
interest in rural or
underserved
healthcare, and be
currently enrolled in
an eligible health
professions degree
or certificate
program.

Program duration is one year for certificate programs and two years for undergraduate and graduate programs, with some exceptions.





# Each year of the AHEC \* Scholars program includes

**Clinical Training** 

**Online Learning** 

40 hours of community-based, experiential, or clinical training in rural and/or underserved areas.

The clinical training used to meet your academic requirements may count for your AHEC Scholar clinical requirement.

40 hours self-paced online education focusing on the following core topic areas

- Interprofessional Education
- Behavioral Health Integration
- Social Determinants of Health
- Cultural Competency
- Practice Transformation
- Current and Emerging Health Issues

**Financial Assistance** 

Panhandle AHEC Scholars will earn an \$800 stipend upon completion of each year of the AHEC Scholars program to be paid as soon as that year's requirements are completed.







## Other Requirements

Panhandle AHEC

Mental Health First
Aid Certificate

AHEC Scholar year two requirement, optional for one-year Scholars, certification good for three years

**Online Surveys** 

- Pre-survey
- Post-survey
- 3<sup>rd</sup> year follow up survey

**Rotation Logs** 

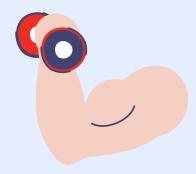
Texas, rural and/or medically underserved population sites

**Scholar Events** 

September - AHEC Scholar Orientation April - End of Year Celebration Fall & Spring Scholar Study Sessions - optional



## Other Benefits



### **Interprofessionalism**

**Connection with** Scholars from other institutions and health professions programs, opportunties to connect with students across the country and present to national audiences



#### Resources

Snacks, workroom space and supplies, study space; assistance with other academic, social, and emotional needs



#### Fun!

Encouragement, events, meals, messages, visits, photos, recognition!





# Approved Healthcare Disciplines





Dental Professions -Dentist, Dental Assistant, Dental Hygienist



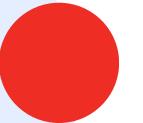
Nursing Professions -Licensed Vocational Nurse, Registered Nurse, Nurse Practitioner



Medicine - Physician Assistant, Medical Doctor, Doctor of Osteopathy



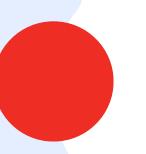
Therapy Professions Respiratory Therapy, Speech Pathology



Allied Health - Radiology Technologist



Behavioral Health -Social Work, Public Health



Pharmacy





# Next Steps



Review eligibility, program requirements and benefits

Letters of acceptance sent the week of September 15, 2025

- Click here to apply online!

  Applications due
  September 9, 2025
- AHEC Scholars program begins with orientations in late September 2025

If needed, paste this address into your web browser: https://texastechuniversityhealthsciencesc.my.site.com/AHECScholarApplication/s/

Please complete the application in a Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge, or Mozilla Firefox web browser, on a Microsoft Windows based desktop or laptop computer only. Apple and/or mobile devices are not currently supported.

The AHEC Scholars program is competitive! Please fill out the application with as much detail as possible, so Panhandle AHEC has plenty of information about your skills, accomplishments, and goals!



## Panhandle Area Health Education Center

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