



**NYS AHEC SCHOLARS** is a HRSA funded state-wide 2-year internship program for current health profession students. AHEC Scholars aims to increase knowledge and understanding of barriers to quality healthcare in rural and underserved areas. Students work as in interdisciplinary team to complete a combination of 40 hours of online learning and 40 hours of real-world experiential learning in medically disadvantaged areas.

**PROGRAM GOALS** include identifying the social determinants of health and healthcare needs, creating solutions to avoidable inpatient care, improving patient centric clinical skills, and learning about available community resources.

**ONLINE MODULE TOPICS** include the social determinants of health, cultural competency, primary care and behavioral health integration, communication techniques, health care reform, working with vulnerable populations, substance abuse disorders and mental health.

**REQUIREMENTS** include enrollment in an accredited health professions program and in the last 2-years of study, commitment to 2 years of learning with 80 hours of learning each year, reflection papers, group projects and interest in improving healthcare quality for all individuals.

**EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING** must be completed in both rural and urban medically underserved areas. Requirements can be met in through school clinical requirements, a health profession workplace, volunteering, working with underserved populations like the elderly and group projects. Students can locate their own experiential sites or WNY RURAL AHEC can help refer a student to a site.

**WHY PARTICIPATE?** Receive up to \$1000 each year. Receive a free t-shirt after applying and \$50 sign on bonus. AHEC Scholars allows for professional networking opportunities, knowledge of current healthcare trends, real world experience and resume building.

Enroll at <http://nysahec.org/our-programs/new-nys-ahec-scholars-program>

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