

## **Arizona Area Health Education Centers Scholars Program (AHEC Scholars) Mentors Job Description**

### **Background**

The AHEC Scholars Program (ASP) is a new program supported by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and the Arizona Area Health Education Centers Program with financial support from HRSA and the Arizona Lottery. The goal of the Arizona ASP is for fellows to acquire deep knowledge about rural and underserved populations and communities specifically through interprofessional and collaborative practice educational innovations. Fellows learn about rural and medically underserved populations and communities from multiple disciplinary and community perspectives. Fellows also learn to contribute meaningfully as members of interprofessional teams collaborating with an assigned regional Arizona AHEC center.

The ASP is a two-year interprofessional program comprised of community-based experiential training conducted in rural and/or underserved settings within each of the Arizona AHEC five regional centers. The ASP builds from the Rural Health Professions Program (RHPP) and curriculum is a collaborative work from each participating RHPP program and each regional AHEC center. The collaborating RHPP programs include the following:

- University of Arizona College of Medicine, Tucson
- University of Arizona College of Medicine, Phoenix
- University of Arizona College of Nursing
- University of Arizona College of Pharmacy
- University of Arizona College of Public Health
- Arizona State University
- Northern Arizona University

To become an AHEC Scholar, Fellows must apply and be accepted into their participating college's RHPP program. The ASP enhances health profession Fellows' RHPP program by providing an advanced, interprofessional community-based experiential fellowship program of study.

### **Faculty Mentor Roles and Responsibilities**

AHEC Scholar Faculty Mentors will be academics who have a proven record of accomplishment in teaching students in rural and/or urban underserved communities or academics with a proven record of accomplishment conducting research or academic service with rural and/or underserved communities. The role of mentor involves the following:

- Providing direct mentoring support to a team of AHEC Scholar Fellows.
- Responsible for oversight of their AHEC Scholars individual and team projects as documented in the AHEC Scholars Handbook (see attachment).
- Work with the AzAHEC Program Director, Rural Health Professions Program Directors, and Regional AzAHEC Directors to document and track progress of AHEC Scholar teams.
- Responsible for evaluating successful completion of AHEC Scholar projects and assignments.
- Attending organizational and implementation meetings and events for the AHEC Scholars Program.
- At least once during the two-year appointment, each faculty mentor will prepare or develop a monthly seminar topic for AHEC Scholars based on one or more of the HRSA

core topics. This may be fulfilled by identifying and coordinating with an outside presenter or by faculty mentor's own presentation.

### **Qualifications**

AHEC Scholar Mentors must meet the following requirements to be qualified to participate as a faculty mentor.

- Current full-time, part-time or adjunct University of Arizona, Arizona State University and Northern Arizona University faculty member (research, teaching, clinical, or administrative) Hold a Master's degree or above.
- Have relevant expertise related to teaching, conducting research, or practicing with rural and/or urban underserved populations and/or communities.
- Have relevant academic credentials to the disciplines represented in the AHEC Scholars program specifically medical, nurse practitioner, pharmacy, physician assistant, and public health students.