





**MAINE
AREA HEALTH EDUCATION
CENTER**

Maine AHEC Network

AHEC'S MISSION

Maine AHEC Network's mission is to enhance *health equity* and reduce health disparities among *underserved populations* through team and community based experiential education and strategic partnerships.

MAINE AHEC NETWORK CENTER MAP

-  **Western Regional Center**
Maine Health
Franklin County, Somerset County,
Oxford County
-  **Northern Regional Center**
Northern Light Eastern Maine Center
Penobscot County, Aroostook County,
Piscataquis County
-  **Eastern Regional Center**
Healthy Acadia
Hancock County, Washington County,
Waldo County, Knox County
-  **ME AHEC Network Program Office**
University of New England



AHEC CORE ACTIVITIES

Pipeline

- engages youth in grades 9 – 12 and middle school in health related careers

Continuing Education

- provides training and educational opportunities focused on serving rural and underserved communities

CUP AHEC Scholars

- increases the number of health professions students who practice in rural and underserved communities
- Didactic and community based activities

Health Profession Student Learning

- Places students in rural and underserved populations for immersive and engaging clinical rotation
- Didactic and community based activities-focus on interprofessional

**PRIMARY CARE TRAINING AND
ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM
PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT RURAL
TRAINING PROGRAM**

PCTE PAR Program

PCTE Rural PA Training Grant – *HRSA-funded, July22 – Jun27*

- **Purpose:** Foster the development & recruitment of PA students into the rural primary care workforce of Maine & northern New England
- **Goals:**
 - 1) Improve knowledge, attitudes, behaviors & skills of PA students to better prepare them for practice in rural settings
 - 2) Encourage PA students to go into rural healthcare after graduation, by developing a workforce that is better prepared & more likely to meet the needs of Maine's rural communities
 - 3) *Improve knowledge, attitudes, behaviors & skills of our preceptors, better equipping them to provide a more successful educational experience for both themselves and the students, while minimizing the impacts on daily practice*

PCTE Rural PA Training Grant

- **Who:** 2nd year UNE PA Students
- **What:** TWO six-week primary care rotations
 - Family medicine, internal medicine (outpatient), pediatrics, women's health
- **Where:** Rural Maine
 - Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs)
 - FQHC look-alikes
 - Rural clinical sites part of a health care system
- Students receive stipend of \$4,306 for travel, housing, living expenses over two rotations
- Each agency/site will be given a financial stipend at a rate of \$2500 per student rotation.

Student Training Curriculum

In addition to clinical learning:

- Didactic and Reflective Learning: short readings, video, and written assignment
- PCTE Clinical Toolkit
- Peer Group Debriefings: during site visits with preceptors and PCTE-PAR grant team members and during PA Program call back weeks
- Community Health Challenge poster
- Clinical Precepting Learning Module
- Supplemental Webinars (live or recorded)

Site Expectations

- Designate a person to attend and participate in Rural PA Grant Advisory Committee (RPAC), including quarterly virtual meetings.
- Designate a Site Liaison to work with students on completing program requirements.
- Provide clinical oversight to PA students as directed by UNE PA Program for students to complete clinical skill development requirements and assist students with PCTE PAR requirements.
- Designate at least one clinician that fills the role of Preceptor for PA students for virtual learning collaborative (VLC) sessions.
- Participate in program evaluation activities

Partnering

Pipeline
Curriculum &
Activities

Enhanced
Rotation
Guidance

Support
Continuing
Education

Clinical Sites

Health
Profession
Student Training