



## Student/Resident Experiences And Rotations in Community Health (SEARCH) Program Summary

<b>SEARCH Program</b>	West Virginia
<b>Contractor Organization Type</b>	West Virginia University
<b>Project Contact</b>	Sandra Y. Pope, MSW
<b>Address</b>	3110 MacCorkle Avenue, SE, Suite 102, Charleston, WV 25304
<b>Phone</b>	304-347-1216
<b>Fax</b>	304-347-1265
<b>Email</b>	<a href="mailto:spope@hsc.wvu.edu">spope@hsc.wvu.edu</a>
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.wvrhepahec.org">http://www.wvrhepahec.org</a>
<b>Project Service Focus</b>	Rural, for the most part, however, we support urban/metropolitan locations that serve underserved populations (i.e., free clinics, FQHCs.)
<b>Length of Rotation</b>	WV SEARCH rotations are a minimum of 20 days and a maximum of 100 days.
<b>Disciplines eligible for rotation</b>	Students/Residents must demonstrate an interest in Primary Care. Primary Care includes: Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, OB/GYN, and Pediatrics. Eligible disciplines included are: Medical Students and Residents (DO and MD Programs), Nurse Practitioners, Physician Assistants, Nurse Mid-Wives, Dental, Dental Hygiene, and graduate students in the following disciplines: Clinical Social Work, Marriage and Family Therapy, Clinical Psychology, Clinical Nurse Specialist, and Clinical Nurse Psychiatry.
<b>Project Infrastructure Focus</b>	<p>Training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A total of 841 field faculty serving as student/resident preceptors include:</li> <li>• Each geographic region has physical offices located in areas convenient to health careers campuses and training sites. Each region is staffed by an WVRHEP site coordinator, site secretary, and in some regions a community services worker. AHEC Centers have a Center Director, a secretary, and in some cases an associate director or other field worker.</li> <li>• All RHEP regions also maintain housing resources for students and residents, primarily through lease and rental agreements.</li> </ul>

<b>Stipend/Living Cost</b>	Yes (\$75/day for everyone except residents. They receive \$100/day.)
<b>General Description of Your Program</b>	<p>The WV SEARCH program builds upon the well established infrastructure of the West Virginia Rural Health Education Partnership (WVRHEP) and Area Health Education Center (AHEC) Programs. West Virginia has mandated (by State Code) rural rotations by health careers students since 1991.</p> <p>The Federal and State collaboration of WVRHEP and AHEC provides rural training opportunities for health sciences students/residents and numerous other health professions trainees.</p> <p>The WVRHEP/AHEC Programs include:</p> <p>8 geographic regional WVRHEP Consortia and 5 regional AHECs, each with its own local Board and serving all of WV's 55 counties.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A total of 533 partnership training sites; 390 of these training sites are located in communities with a federal designation as a Health Professions Shortage Area (HPSA) or a Medically Underserved Area (MUA) (130 sites are both) and serve primarily underserved populations.</li> <li>• These training sites include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 54 community health centers (CHCs)</li> <li>○ 56 federally qualified health centers (FQHCs)</li> <li>○ 23 rural health clinics (RHCs)</li> <li>○ 33 small rural hospitals</li> <li>○ 37 dental offices</li> <li>○ 19 county health departments</li> <li>○ 12 healthcare for the homeless facilities</li> <li>○ 18 school based health centers</li> <li>○ 4 VA Hospitals or CBOCs</li> <li>○ 4 free clinics</li> <li>○ 1 migrant health center</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<p><b>Activities undertaken by Students/Residents in Program</b></p>	<p>WV SEARCH recipients have and will continue to provide a wide variety of service learning activities which include: blood pressure screenings, senior exercise classes, health screenings, tobacco cessation counseling, scientific research, etc.</p>
<p><b>List of Sites Students can/will be rotating through</b></p>	<p>West Virginia is comprised of 55 counties containing 5 AHEC centers and 9 rural health consortia. Within these are 533 training sites as partners; 165 of these training sites are located in communities with a federal designation as a HPSA and 357 are located within a MUA or serve primarily under-served populations. These include community health centers, federally qualified health centers, rural health clinics, small rural hospitals, dental offices, pharmacies, county health departments, physical therapy agencies, county boards of education and school systems to give some examples.</p>