

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

SEARCH Program	Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers
Organization Type	Primary Care Association
Project Contact	Alexis Powell
Address	40 Court Street, 10 th Floor
Phone	617-988-2239
Fax	617-426-0097
Email	apowell@massleague.org
Website	www.massleague.org/SEARCH
Project Service Focus	Urban/Central City, Rural
Length of Rotation	4 -6 weeks
Disciplines eligible for rotation	Allopathic and Osteopathic Physicians in Family Medicine, General Internal Medicine, General Pediatrics, Obstetrics/Gynecology, Psychiatry; Dentists and Dental Hygienists; Clinical Psychologists; Clinical Social Workers; Psychiatric Nurse Specialists; and Marriage and Family Therapists; Family/Primary Care Nurse Practitioners; Primary Care Physician Assistants; and Certified Nurse-Midwives
Project Infrastructure Focus	Training
Stipend/Living Cost	SEARCH participants will receive a \$1,350 stipend for participating in the SEARCH program. Participants will only receive stipends for extra rotations. Specifically, if rotations are for academic credit, they will not receive a stipend.

SEARCH students/residents participating in the rural Massachusetts programs will be eligible to receive a housing allowance up to \$1,500 to support their housing needs during the SEARCH experience.

**General Description
of Your Program**

Greater Boston Urban experience:

This rotation is designed so that students/residents can begin and end as needed according to their academic schedule. This may mean some students have a 4 or a 6 week rotation on average, and may start at the beginning or mid-month. It is expected that groups of students will participate simultaneously, representing different disciplines. No more than 10 students will participate at any time. We estimate approximately 20-26 students annually.

For students in their pre-clinical years: each week will consist of:

- 2-3 days clinical learning experience at a community health center
- 2 days hands-on community health project

For students and residents in their clinical years, the clinical opportunity will be increased to 4 days, with community health experienced through hands-on patient care, service learning and the preceptorships.

Western MA – A Rural Health Experience-The program is planned as a six week summer-only experience. A weekly schedule for 3-6 students/residents will support:

- 2 days of clinical learning at a federally qualified community health center (Community Health Program/Great Barrington, Hilltown Community Health Centers in Worthington and Huntington, Community Health Center of Franklin County in Turners Fall and Orange and Greater Gardner Community Health Center),
- 1 and ½ days for a hands-on community health project,
- ½ day of skills building (team work, cultural competency, health literacy/clear language communication),
- ½ day of learning about other health care providers in rural communities (critical access hospitals/shadow in OR, ER, home health, public hospital, EMS) and one day to be determined based on interest such as migrant health, oral health, or substance abuse and ½ day of small town life (visit a farm, white water rafting, Tanglewood or other summer concert, hike on the Appalachian Mountain Trail).

**Activities undertaken
by
Students/Residents
in Program**

Clinical Learning Experience:

Each student will spend a minimum of two days each week at their community health center (residents, 4 days).

Community Service Learning Project:

The clinical learning experience will link with a community service learning project. This will be individualized to reflect the needs and interests of the student, the community health center, and the patients served. Each project will be developed with goals and objectives, activities and expected deliverables.

**List of Sites Students
can/will be rotating
through**

Hilltown Community Health Centers
Brockton Community Health Center
Geiger Gibson Community Health Center
Greater Lawrence Family Health Center
Family Health Center of Worcester
Mid-Upper Cape Community Health Center
Neponset Community Health Center
Harvard Street Neighborhood Health Center
Caring Health Center
The Dimock Center
CHP Health Center
Community Health Center of Franklin County
Edward Kennedy Community Health Center
(formerly Great Brook Valley Community Health
Center)
Lowell Community Health Center

