



# National AHEC Organization

## 2023-2024 Health Workforce Program Highlights

**685,095**

AHEC Participants

The Area Health Education Centers' (AHEC) mission is to enhance access to quality healthcare, particularly primary and preventive care, by improving the supply and distribution of healthcare professionals through community/academic educational partnerships.

### Pathway Programs

Pathway Programs (also known as Pipeline Programs) expose students to health careers and develop intent to pursue postsecondary education in primary healthcare professions.

**270,088**

Health Career Participants

*Background - Percentage of Pathway Completers*

**21%**

From  
Disadvantaged  
Background

**23%**

From Rural  
Background

**16%**

From Under-  
represented  
Minority



### Clinical Training

Clinical Training improves readiness, willingness, and ability of health professions trainees to serve in primary care, rural, and medically underserved community settings.

**30,947**

Facilitated Rotations

*Location - Percentage of Health Professions Students*

**44%**

Rural Areas

**59%**

Primary Care  
Settings

**85%**

Medically  
Underserved  
Communities



### AHEC Scholars

AHEC Scholars is a program designed to prepare future health professionals with the leadership skills necessary to better serve vulnerable populations in rural and medically underserved communities.

**7,738**

Disciplines of AHEC Scholar Students in the 2024 interprofessional cohort:

- Medicine
- Dentistry
- Pharmacy
- Behavioral Health
- Physician Assistant
- Advanced Practice Nurse, Nurse Practitioner
- Registered Nurse
- Physical Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Public Health
- Community Health Worker
- Allied Health

**81%**

*% of AHEC Scholars who can confidently describe how social determinants affect the health of a community after completion.*

**13,409**

Total AHEC Scholars Program Completers (2019-2024)



### Continuing Education

Continuing Education provides health professionals with access to resources to improve the quality of care for medically underserved communities and populations with health disparities.

**376,322**

Continuing Education  
Participants Nationwide



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at <https://www.nationalahec.org/>

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## In their words, the impact of participating in the AHEC Scholars Program on future health professionals:



*"Being a part of AHEC scholars has allowed me to see the caring and human side of healthcare, empowering me to become the provider I've always aspired to be. AHEC serves as a true pioneering force in health equity, and I could not be more honored to be a part of it."*

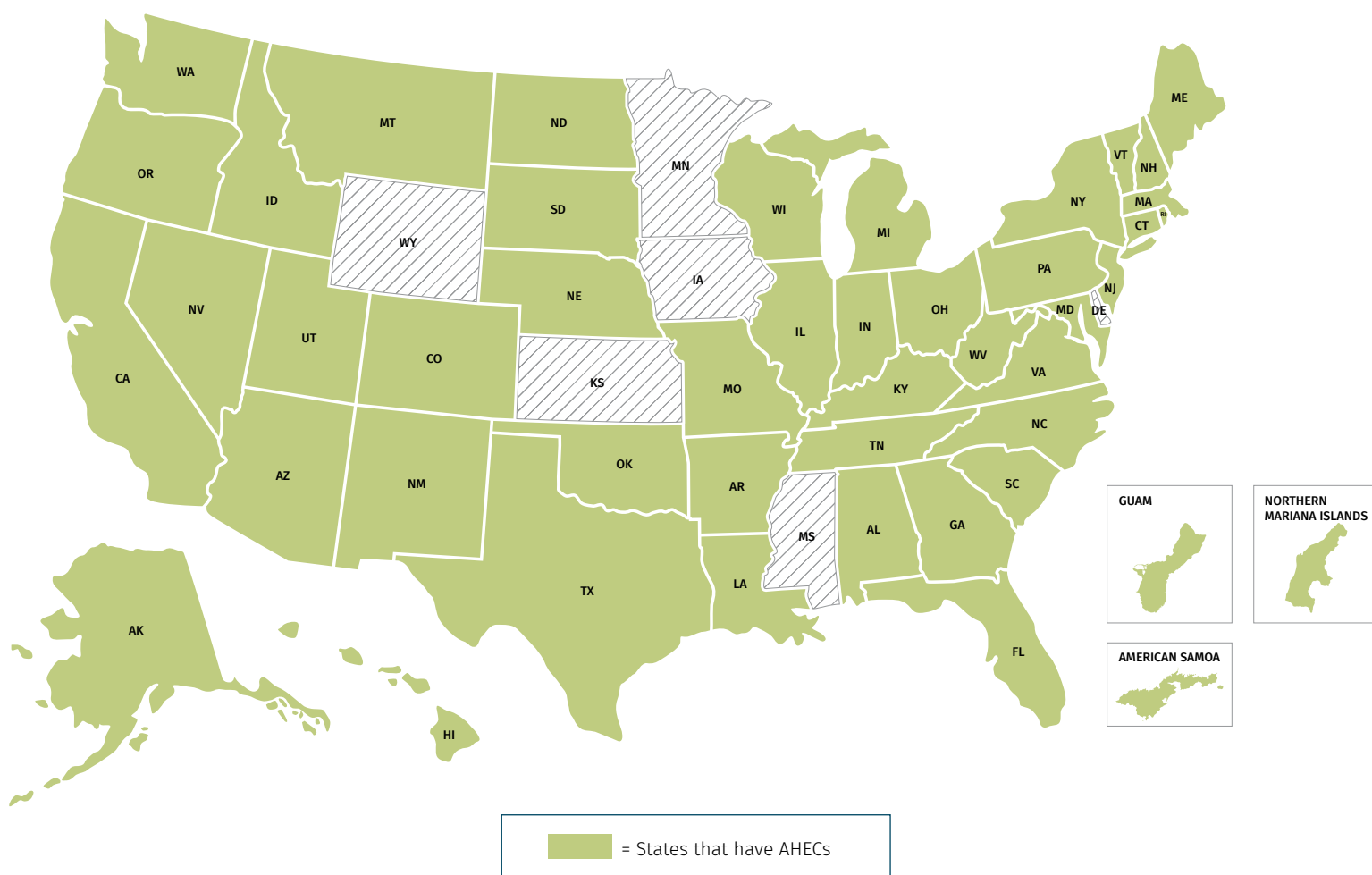
- Symone Crowder, PharmD, AHEC Scholar



*"Growing up in a rural community, one of the challenges is finding career exploration experiences. The AHEC Scholars program exposed me to various inpatient volunteer and shadowing opportunities. Through that, I observed the nuances of bedside manner, factoring in a patient's socioeconomic status to their care, and how to deeply empathize with each individual's unique struggles and upbringings."*

- Duke Escobar, M.D. Candidate, AHEC Scholar

The map below highlights the states and territories that have AHECs



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