

New York State Area Health Education Center System

AHEC Scholars Program Syllabus

Year 1



Program Overview

The NYS AHEC Scholars Program is a state-wide, two-year long academic program designed to provide current health professional students with community-learning opportunities in underserved and medically disadvantaged areas. You, along with a team of other multidisciplinary health professions students, will identify the root causes of select clinical and social complexities. In this first half of the two year program, the online modules will provide more an overview of critical topics, including social determinants of health, cultural competency, mental health and primary care integration, and interprofessional practice/education.

Online Module Organization

The didactic portion of the NYS AHEC Scholars program is available completely online in asynchronous format (meaning that there is not a set time that you must log in each week). Each module can be completed on your time and at your own pace. *With the exception of the first four modules, you do not need to complete the modules in the order they are listed.*

Objectives of the Online Modules

Participants of the NYS AHEC Scholars Program will:

1. Increase knowledge and comprehension of barriers (medical and non-medical) to quality healthcare;
2. Identify and connect patients to available community resources to best support patient needs;
3. Increase awareness and comprehension of the value that interdisciplinary collaboration has on providing quality healthcare; and
4. Explain and apply the use of data to support healthcare interventions.

Prerequisites

Current enrollment or matriculation in an approved health-professions degree or certificate program.

Mode of Instruction

This course utilizes embedded videos and links to documents or external sources, including articles, websites, etc. There is no required textbook for this course. All reading assignments will be posted directly in each module.

Computer Requirements

Reliable access to the internet on a computer capable of accessing the online modules is required. Smart phones and tablets may also be used to complete these activities.

Course Navigation

At the top of our webpage (<http://nysahec.org>), hover over the “Our Programs” tab. Within that menu, hover over the “NYS AHEC Scholars” drop down selection. The separate “AHEC Scholars Login” selection will bring you to the course access page. Please use the log-in credentials provided to you to gain access to the course content.

To enter each module, click on the link provided in the table found on the course home page. Within each module, you will find a series of topics. Please refer to the directions within each topic and review all content, including embedded videos and links to documents or external sources, including articles, websites, etc. After reviewing the content within each module and topic, please click on the “Mark Complete” button found at the bottom of each page. This will help track your progression through the course. Please note that certain topics require uploaded assignments. ***You will not be able to mark these topics complete until you have uploaded your assignment.***

You may also flip between modules and topics by using the sidebar navigation found on each module and topic page. If, at any time, you wish to return to this home page, you may click on the link “Return to AHEC Scholars” found at the bottom of the sidebar on each module and topic page.

Documenting Experiential Training

As an AHEC Scholar, you are required to complete a minimum of 40 hours per year of eligible experiential training. Over the course of the program, you will be participating in community-based or clinical learning experiences to further enhance your didactic lessons. To ensure that you are meeting your minimum hour requirement, you will be required to keep a log of all activity hours, including but not limited to placement hours, scholarly/research related work, and any hours dedicated to community-based projects. After you complete your log, you will be asked to write a one-page critical reflection on an event or experience encountered during that time frame. Activity logs, along with critical reflections, should be monthly submissions. Additional directions and writing prompts can be found in the “Documenting Experiential Training” module.

External/Supplemental Training (Optional)

As an AHEC Scholar, you are also required to complete a minimum of 40 hours per year of didactic education. Although completing the online modules and routine case conferences (or other assigned supplemental activities at the discretion of your AHEC center) will provide you with the hours you need to meet this requirement, you may choose to supplement this training with additional educational activities, such as:

- Conference presentations

- Discussion Panels
- Informational videos (i.e. TED or instructional)
- Keynote Speeches/Lectures/Seminars (outside required courses)
- On-line Learning Modules (outside required courses)
- Training Workshops/Retreats

In order for any additional educational activities to count towards your 40 hour didactic requirement, you must submit documentation verifying proof of attendance and/or completion. Examples of such documentation include: an event agenda, signed attendance form, or certificate of completion.

Additional directions, including a list of acceptable external training topics and copy of a blank attendance verification form, can be found in the “External or Supplemental Training” module.

[AHEC Scholars Discussion Board](#)

On the course home page, you will find a link on the right sidebar to the NYS AHEC Scholars Discussion Board. You can use this forum to post questions about the program and to talk with members of other AHEC Scholars Teams across the state about your experiences. Feel free to share best practices, as well as learning moments. Just be sure to use de-identify any patient information.

[Optional Note Taking Templates](#)

On the course home page, you will find a link on the right sidebar to a separate page containing a study template for each of the online modules. These guides outline key points and provide ample space for you to highlight details as you progress through the course. *Please note that these guides are an optional resource for you, and are not a mandatory component of the program.*

[Online Module Outline](#)

The table on the following page details the course modules, topics, activities, assignments, and estimated completion time.

[Course Completion](#)

All modules, topics, activities, and assignments must be completed by **August 31 of the program year at 11:59pm EST**, unless other arrangements have been made in coordination with your AHEC Center and the NYS AHEC System Statewide Office.

[Need Help?](#)

If you have questions about the course or issues navigating within the modules, please reach out to your specific AHEC Center contact.

Online Module Outline:

Module	Name	Topics Covered	Activities	Assignments	Estimated Completion Time
1	Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Overview • Introduction to Hot-Spotting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video • Assigned Readings 		1.0 hour
2	Background Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the Triple Aim? • Super-Utilizers • Patient Complexity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video • Assigned Readings 		0.75 hour
3	Program Logistics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Importance of Participatory Healthcare • Patient Engagement • Connection to Community Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video • Assigned Readings • Supplemental Services Activity 	• Supplemental Services Look Up Assignment	1.5 hours
4	Tools and Safety Procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HIPAA • Safety Procedures for Patient Visits • Visiting Patients in their Home 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video • Assigned Readings • Quiz 		0.5 hour
5	Communication Techniques	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COACH Model • SBAR Method 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video • Assigned Readings 		1.5 hours
6	Social Determinants of Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Determinants of Health • Health Literacy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video • Assigned Readings 	• Upload copy of Course Completion	4.0 hours
7	Cross Cultural Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross Cultural Communication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video • Assigned Readings 	• Upload copy of Course Completion	2.5 hours
8	Primary Care and Behavioral Health Integration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trauma Informed Care • Harm Reduction • Motivational Interviewing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video • Assigned Readings 	• Upload copy of Course Completion	7.0 hours
9	Drug-Related Stigma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drug-Related Stigma 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey • Video • Assigned Readings 	• Upload copy of Course Completion	3.0 hours
10	Cultural Competency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Culturally Competent Care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video • Assigned Readings 	• Upload copy of Course Completion	9.5 hours
11	Interprofessional Collaboration and Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interprofessional Collaboration and Teamwork • Roles and Responsibilities for Collaborative Practice • Interprofessional Communication • Values and Ethics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video • Assigned Readings 	• Upload copy of Course Completion	3.25 hours
12	Documenting Experiential Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recording Experiential Training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patient Interactions 	• Monthly Activity Log and Reflection	Not Counted in Didactic Hour Requirement
13	External or Supplemental Training (OPTIONAL)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acceptable External Training 		• Upload Verification of Attendance or Document of Completion	Not Counted in Didactic Hour Requirement

***The remaining 5 hours of the 40-hour didactic requirement will be achieved via a 1 hour statewide program orientation and through 4 hours of case conferencing. ***