Since 1971, NC-HCAP has served thousands of students, administrators, practitioners, health professionals, advisors, health professions programs, community health agencies and local Area Health Education Centers (AHEC). Today, NC-HCAP continues to develop innovative ways to serve our students and to contribute to the overall health and well-being of North Carolina’s citizens.

The NC-HCAP Mission

To increase the number of underrepresented minorities or other individuals from educationally or economically disadvantaged backgrounds who are trained, educated and employed in the health professions.

NC-HCAP does this by:

- increasing awareness of career opportunities in the health professions
- cultivating interests in pursuit of health professions
- enhancing opportunities to gain access to formal training and education programs in health professions
- increasing the probability of success in completing formal training and education programs in the health professions

NC-HCAP envisions a society with equitable access to culturally competent health care across all racial and ethnic groups irrespective of geographic location (urban or rural) or socioeconomic status—in short, a society where no health disparities exist.
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Kindergarten - 12th Grade Programs

Alice Aycock Poe Center for Health Education
Poe Center for Health Education

Program Dates: Yearly

Description: The Poe Center provides year-round health education for preschool, school-age, and adult groups in North Carolina. The goal is to empower individuals to choose healthy lifestyles by recognizing that attitudes and choices are a strong influence in determining the course and quality of their futures. Planned, sequential programs are designed to complement and reinforce the health education efforts of schools and other community agencies. Innovative teaching, state-of-the-art exhibits and unique learning theaters create an ideal health education environment. In addition to the permanent exhibits, hand-held models and other teaching materials are used to promote understanding. Each of the five learning theaters is specially designed for teaching either dental health, drug education, family life, general health or nutrition education. The curriculum meets the requirements of the NC Standard Course of Study for Healthful Living. Programs vary in length according to the grade level, age or needs of the group, and range from approximately 30 minutes for preschool children to 90 minutes for high school students. During a visit to the Poe Center, teachers are given supplemental materials designed to expand student comprehension of the Poe Center experience. The Poe Center also hosts the Cranium Connection and PlayWELL Park. The Cranium Connection is a state-of-the-art, interactive walk-in brain exhibit that gives participants the opportunity to explore and learn about the wonders of the human brain from the inside out. PlayWELL park, the world's first and only health education playground, is a one-of-a-kind, interactive park where children and their families can be physically active while learning to make healthy choices. There are a variety of unique and fun activities designed to teach important lessons on physical activity, fitness, safety and nutrition.

Information: The Program Guide provides comprehensive descriptions of available programs and includes complete information on reservations, fees, tours, scheduling and additional programs. To obtain a copy, call (919) 231-4006 or go to www.poehealth.org.

Biological Enrichment Academy for Minority Students (BEAMS)
Coastal AHEC

Program Dates: Summer

Description: Middle School students from New Hanover, Duplin, Pender, Brunswick, and Columbus counties are eligible to participate in this one-week residential program at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington. This program is designed to introduce health careers and the numerous opportunities through specialized instruction.

Eligibility: Middle school students in the areas served by Coastal AHEC
Camp Med
Northwest AHEC

Program Dates: Call for dates.

Description: Camp Med is a non-residential one-week day camp for high school students in Surry, Alexander and Watauga Counties. This program is cosponsored by Northwest Area Health Education Center (AHEC) and with the following organizations: Surry Community College, Northern Hospital of Surry County and Surry County Schools, Davis Regional Medical Center and Alexander County Schools, and Watauga Medical Center and Watauga High School. Students interested in pursuing health careers participate in observation tours of the hospitals/medical centers in the partnership.

Eligibility: Students in grades 9-12 enrolled in Surry County, Alexander County, or Watauga County School Systems

Call for dates.

Benefits: Students are exposed to a variety of health professions and learn the academic skills required to successfully pursue those professions.

Camp Preparing Underserved Students for Careers in Health (PUSH)
Area L AHEC

Program Dates: June

Description: Camp PUSH is a one-week residential camp for rising 6th-8th graders. The curriculum is designed to provide problem-based learning to increase the math and science skills of the students while providing greater insight to their physical and mental health. During this time, students are encouraged to engage in conversations with health care professionals when they visit the camp and are given a tour of various local health care facilities.

Eligibility: Rising 6th-8th graders in the region served by Area L AHEC

Application Deadline: Call for dates.

Benefits: Students are provided with instructional materials and given the opportunity to gain a competitive edge as a pre-health professional student.
Carolina Visions Health Careers Summer Camp
Wake AHEC

Contact Information:
Director of Health Careers and Workforce Diversity
Wake AHEC
3024 New Bern Ave., Suite G-03
Raleigh, NC 27610
Phone: (919) 350-8547
FAX: (919) 350-7963
www.wakeahec.org

Program Dates: Mid-July, Sunday afternoon-Friday afternoon

Description: During their five-night stay on the UNC-Chapel Hill campus, students in this program interact with university faculty and students to become acquainted with pathways that lead to fulfilling career goals. Participants learn about health careers, academic requirements for health professional schools, financial aid resources and participate in team building and leadership development activities. Students interact with the Schools of Medicine, Pharmacy, Dentistry, Nursing, Allied Health and Public Health.

Eligibility: Carolina Visions is open to minority and/or disadvantaged high school students who have an interest in health careers and reside in one of the nine counties served by Wake AHEC (Durham, Franklin, Johnston, Granville, Lee, Person, Vance, Wake and Warren). Students who have been active participants in the Health Careers Saturday Academy throughout the academic school year are given priority acceptance.

Application Deadline: April 15

Program Costs and Benefits: $225. Room and board, instructional materials and meals are provided.

CERTL Research Program
CERTL

Contact Information:
CERTL Office
Wake Forest University School of Medicine
Medical Center Boulevard
Winston-Salem, NC 27157-1037
Phone: (336) 713-7723
FAX: (336) 713-7701
www1.wfubmc.edu/certl

Program Dates: Six weeks: June–July

Description: This program’s objectives are to encourage high school students to pursue careers in scientific or mathematical research. Students are paired with Wake Forest University School of Medicine investigators involved in health-related research. Investigators strive to develop student understanding in research by teaching laboratory skills and research techniques. A final presentation at the end of the experience is required.

Eligibility: Underrepresented minority high school students from Winston-Salem

Application Deadline: March 1

Program Benefits: Students receive a stipend for participating in the program.

Drew Academy
Northwest AHEC

Contact Information:
Director of Health Careers and Workforce Diversity
Northwest AHEC
Wake Forest University School of Medicine
Medical Center Blvd.
Winston-Salem, NC 27157-1060
Phone: (336) 713-7714
FAX: (336) 713-7027
www.northwestahec.wfubmc.edu

Program Dates: Call for dates.

Description: Drew Academy is a Saturday science and math enrichment program for underrepresented minority male students in grades 3 - 5. The program is sponsored by Northwest AHEC and is held in two locations for ten Saturdays during the academic year: Rowan Regional Medical Center in Salisbury and Wake Forest University School of Medicine in Winston-Salem. Students learn to apply science and math concepts to real-world situations through a process called problem-based learning. Students also learn teamwork and how to resist negative peer pressure.

Eligibility: Underrepresented minority males enrolled in grades 3-5

Application Deadline: August

Benefits: Students acquire skills which can be used throughout life and also receive materials about health professions.
Health Careers Awareness Program  
Coastal AHEC

**Program Dates:** Call for dates

**Description:** A six-week series for students in Pender, Brunswick, and New Hanover counties, the program is designed to introduce current 8th graders to health careers with an emphasis on the allied health professions and nursing.

**Eligibility:** Eighth-graders in the areas listed above

**Application Deadline:** None given

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Health Careers Enrichment Program and Summer Camps  
Duke AHEC

**Program Dates:** Year-round

**Description:** This program works intensively with high school students to prepare them for college and a future as a health care professional. Students are selected into the program as rising 9th grade students and must reside in the Duke AHEC area. Throughout the four years of high school, students participate in activities that expose them to a variety of health professions, learn basic health information and skills (e.g. CPR, first aid, screenings, etc.), shadow health professionals and participate in college preparation activities.

**Summer Camps:** Two week-long camps for rising 8th and 9th grade students. Past activities included exploring disease processes, touring hospital departments, identifying blood types using laboratory techniques, learning basic suturing skills, understanding forensics, learning anatomy through skeleton reconstruction and participating in discussions with health care professionals.

**Eligibility:** 8th-11th graders in the Duke AHEC area

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Health Careers Exploration Day Camp  
Wake AHEC

**Program Dates:** June: Monday–Friday

**Description:** Middle school students spend one week learning about health careers as they tour various hospital departments at WakeMed. Students interact with health care professionals in medicine, nursing, and allied health specialties and participate in hands on activities to learn more about the roles of these health care professionals.

**Eligibility:** Minority and/or disadvantaged middle school students who have an interest in health careers and reside in one of the nine counties served by Wake AHEC (Durham, Franklin, Johnston, Granville, Lee, Person, Vance, Wake and Warren)

**Application Deadline:** April 15
Contact Information:
Director of Health Careers and Workforce Diversity
Coastal AHEC
PO Box 9025
Wilmington, NC  28402
Phone: (910) 343-0161 x314
FAX: (910) 343-9823
www.coastalahec.org

Program Dates: Call for dates

Description: An eight session series for students in Pender, Brunswick and New Hanover counties. The program is designed to introduce current 9th and 10th graders to health careers with an emphasis on the allied health professions and college preparation.

Eligibility: 9th and 10th grade students with at least a “B” average, recommendation from school

Application Deadline: September 15

Contact Information:
Director of Health Careers and Workforce Diversity
Wake AHEC
3024 New Bern Ave., Suite G-03
Raleigh, NC  27610
Phone: (919) 350-8547
FAX: (919) 350-7963
www.wakeahec.org

Program Dates: Selected Saturdays; call for a calendar of dates.

Description: Middle and high school students participate in exciting workshops related to health careers that provide academic and professional growth. Activities include: hands-on health and science workshops, interactions with health care professionals, SAT Prep Course, CPR certification, resume writing and interviewing skills seminars, college recruitment fair and health careers enrichment workshops.

Eligibility: Acceptance into the Health Careers Saturday Academy, call for details.

Contact Information:
Director of Health Careers and Workforce Diversity
Mountain AHEC
501 Biltmore Avenue
Asheville, NC  28801
Phone: (828) 257-4479
FAX: (828) 258-2097
www.mtn.ncahec.org

Program Dates: Summers

Description: This internship is designed to offer health career awareness information and enrichment to high school students. The Intern participates in mentoring and shadowing activities in a health science environment based on input from preliminary written or oral assessments or other specific requirements from the Department of Public Instruction.

Eligibility: Call for details.
Health Careers Symposium Day  
Coastal AHEC

**Contact Information:**
Director of Health Careers and Workforce Diversity  
Coastal AHEC  
PO Box 9025  
Wilmington, NC 28402  
Phone: (910) 343-0161 x314  
FAX: (910) 343-9823  
www.coastalahec.org

**Program Dates:** March and October

**Description:** Coastal AHEC representatives provide students from high schools in southeastern North Carolina with an overview of the future of health careers and how best to choose a career in the health professions. Participants visit four different health care professionals on the campus of UNC Wilmington for demonstrations and group discussions.

**Eligibility:** High school students (9th–12th grade) who are interested in pursuing a health career may participate; minority students, in particular, are encouraged to attend.

**Application Deadline:** None; teachers are notified of upcoming dates.

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Health Science Academy  
Southern Regional AHEC

**Contact Information:**
Director of Health Careers and Workforce Diversity  
Southern Regional AHEC  
1601 Owen Drive  
Fayetteville, NC 28304  
Phone: (910) 678-7299  
FAX: (910) 678-0126  
www.southernregionalahec.org

**Program Dates:** Year round, four years; call for dates.

**Description:** Health Science Academy is a four-year program for high school students interested in health professions. This is a preparatory program characterized by academic rigor, intensive career planning and advising, required clinical and/or mentoring experiences, and continuous involvement of health care professionals in a community-based program of job-like activities.

**Health Academy Summer Experience:** This is a one-week summer program for Health Science Academy students. Students receive college-level training in Power Point and the Internet. After receiving training, students research information on health careers, financial aid, and options for undergraduate and graduate school.

**Eligibility:** Call for details.

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HCOP Summer Enrichment Program  
UNC Pembroke

**Contact Information:**
Director  
Health Careers Opportunity Program  
University of North Carolina at Pembroke  
P.O. Box 1510  
Pembroke, NC 28372  
Phone: (910) 521-6590  
FAX: (910) 521-6496  
www.uncp.edu

**Program Dates:** Six weeks: June - July

**Description:** The HCOP Summer Enrichment Program provides special assistance to rising high school seniors or college freshmen from economically and/or disadvantaged backgrounds who wish to pursue a health science career. Selected students spend six weeks on the UNCP campus and take enrichment courses taught by UNCP faculty. Students interact with local health professionals and representatives from health professions schools through nightly seminars. Trips are taken to medical facilities and health professions forums.

**Eligibility:** Students are selected based on the following criteria: 1) economically and/or educationally disadvantaged background, 2) high school senior or incoming freshman enrolled at a college or university, 3) U.S. citizen, 4) minimum grade point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale, 5) SAT composite scores that meet University admissions requirements, 6) minimum of three years of high school math (Algebra I, II, Geometry), 7) minimum of two years high school science (Physical and Biological sciences), 8) minimum of three years of high school English, and 9) letters of recommendation from counselors and teachers.

**Application Deadline:** April
Contact Information:
Director of Health Careers and Workforce Diversity
Charlotte AHEC
PO Box 32861
Charlotte, NC 28232
Phone: (704) 697-6530
FAX: (704) 697-6568
www.charlotteahec.org

Program Dates: Varies; call for dates.

Description: The Charlotte AHEC HEROES program is designed to educate pre-college youth about health careers. The programs are for all students with an emphasis on underrepresented minorities and economically/educationally disadvantaged populations, grades kindergarten through 12. The goal of this program is to have 90% of the youth demonstrate increased awareness and knowledge about health careers and the personal skill sets required to become a health professional.

Saturday Academy: This fun and educational program targets middle and high school students. It meets on selected Saturday mornings and includes hospital and college tours, interactive workshops, speakers and field trips.

Summer Camp: This week-long adventure for middle and high school students provides an opportunity for students to tour a health care facility, develop science critical thinking skills, and explore health technology equipment and procedures used in the health professions.

College Scholarship and How to Study: This course was designed by Dr. Joseph Aicher, Jr., Professor of Political Science at NCCU, to give families a head start on scholarship searches and teach effective study skills to students.

Community/School Classroom Workshops: Student workshops promote careers in health care and offer seminars on topics including: Health Careers 101; Diversity 101: Understanding Diversity as it Relates to Patient Care; Professionalism in the Workplace and Video Discussion Sessions (for career events).

Other HEROES programs include a video discussion series, health careers puppet brunch, and future leaders in health care conference.

Eligibility: Varies by program; call for details.

Application Deadline: Varies by program

Health Careers Course for Educators and Students
Area L AHEC

Contact Information:
Director of Health Careers and Workforce Diversity
Area L AHEC
PO Drawer 7368
Rocky Mount, NC 27804
Phone: (252) 972-6958
FAX: (252) 972-0419
www.arealahec.dst.nc.us/

Program Dates: June

Description: A one-week intensive course that exposes students to health careers. Each day of the program is hosted at the local hospital of a different county in the Area L region. Call for details.

Benefits: Students are provided instructional materials and given an opportunity to gain a competitive edge as a pre-health professional student.
Contact Information:
Coordinator
The Science House at NCSU
Box 8211
Raleigh, NC 27695-8211
Phone: (919) 515-5570
FAX: (919) 515-7545
www.science-house.org

Program Dates: Seven Saturdays during Fall and Spring semesters; two summer sessions, one week each

Description: Imhotep Academy introduces underrepresented middle grades students (African-Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, and Women) to science, mathematics and technology at The Science House on NC State University Centennial Campus, 909 Capability Drive, Raleigh, NC. Program objectives include: strengthening academic abilities, promoting career awareness, providing multicultural experiences and enrichment activities, teaching about scientists and inventors, and building self-confidence and self-esteem.

Eligibility: Students in sixth, seventh, and eighth grades

Application Deadline: Pre-registration online at any time for sessions until spaces are filled.

Program Costs: $100 for Fall and Spring, $125 for each summer session.

Contact Information:
Director of Health Careers and Workforce Diversity
Duke AHEC
Roxboro Rd.
DUMC Box 3880
Durham, NC 27704
Phone: (919) 477-2644 ext. 4019
http://dukeahec.mc.duke.edu/

Program Dates: Summer

Description: Each summer, Duke AHEC offers two one-week Health Careers Exploration camps. The Health Careers Exploration camps incorporate hands-on activities, personal development, health careers awareness, tours of various departments at Duke and Durham Regional Hospitals to provide students with a unique exposure to health careers. The Latino Medical Interpreter camp incorporates hands-on activities, shadowing experiences, developing interpreting skills and techniques, and career options to provide Latino youth with a unique experience.

Eligibility: All minority students in 8th or 9th grade in Durham Public Schools are eligible for the Health Careers Camp. Latino youth attending Durham Public Schools are eligible for the Latino Medical Interpreter Camp.

Application Deadline: Call for dates.

Contact Information:
Director of Health Careers and Workforce Diversity
Mountain AHEC
501 Biltmore Avenue
Asheville, NC 28801
Phone: (828) 257-4479
FAX: (828) 258-2097
www.mtn.ncahec.org

Program Dates: June

Description: Designed as an early intervention tool to aid in the development of a diverse and culturally competent health professions workforce, the camp encourages and informs minority and disadvantaged students about educational and career opportunities in health care. The curriculum includes observation of health professionals in the workplace and opportunities to interact with first responder professionals and technicians. Information is provided about the academic preparation required in middle and high school as well as team-building, personal development, and self-awareness activities. The camp fosters optimism about the value, rewards and accessibility of health care careers. Students begin camp with a tour of the Mission Hospitals and Clinics in Asheville. Classes and presentations cover a variety of topics including nutrition, diversity, health information management, physical therapy, healthy lifestyles and peer influence, nursing, emergency medical services, and an experience with the Pisgah Astronomical Research Institute (PARI). A ropes course assists with team-building and group dynamics.

Eligibility: Rising 7th and 8th graders; while inclusive, the camp targets economically disadvantaged and underrepresented minority students.

Application Deadline: April 1

Program Costs: $75 with $20 application fee
**NC-MSEN Pre-College Program**

**NC Math and Science Education Network**

**Contact Information:**
NC-MSEN Pre-College Program  
UNC Center for School Leadership Development  
140 Friday Center Drive, PO Box 4440  
Chapel Hill, NC 27515-4440  
Phone: (919) 966-3256  
FAX: (919) 962-1316  
www.unc.edu/depts/msen

**Program Dates:** Yearly (on-going)

**Description:** The goal of the NC-MSEN Pre-College Program is to broaden the pool of students pursuing mathematics and science-based majors and careers. The Pre-College Program actively recruits and prepares students in grades 6-12 who have not been sufficiently exposed to mathematics and science courses. Students participate in academic enrichment activities and associated teachers receive intensive in-service training.

Activities include: a daily elective class at select middle schools participating in the program; activities to guide students toward educational and career objectives; role model speakers and field trips; independent study groups; academic enrichment tutoring; a Summer Scholars Program (three weeks of math/science projects, computer training, problem solving exercises and accelerated English courses); Pre-College Research Experience Program (six weeks of summer research experience under the guidance and direction of a research scientist); student leadership skills development; the MSEN Saturday Academy (a 10–16 week period) to further develop skills in mathematics, science and communication skills, recognition awards, mathematics and science competitions, and parent involvement.

Teacher activities include: intensive in-service training programs that encourage students traditionally underrepresented in mathematics and science fields to enroll in mathematics and science courses and pursue careers in these fields.

**Eligibility:** Middle and high school students with a C or higher GPA from economically or educationally disadvantaged backgrounds

**Application Deadline:** Contact program.

**Program Costs:** No cost to participants, but activity fees are charged at some sites.

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**Minority Rural Health Scholars Internship**

**Eastern AHEC**

**Contact Information:**
Director of Health Careers and Workforce Diversity  
Eastern AHEC  
PO Box 7224  
Greenville, NC 27835-7224  
Phone: (252) 744-5231  
Fax: (252) 744-5229  
http://eahec.ecu.edu

**Program Dates:** 6 Weeks

**Description:** A partnership between Eastern AHEC, Office of Interdisciplinary Health Sciences Education, Interdisciplinary Rural Health Training Program, and Bertie, Hertford and Gates County Schools. The internship is a six-week intensive internship with local community health agencies. Students complete an application form, an interest essay and provide references and transcripts. Students are placed in rural health care facilities to rotate with a variety of health care professionals.

**Application Deadline:** Spring
Nursing Academy
Coastal AHEC

Contact Information:
Director of Health Careers and Workforce Diversity
Coastal AHEC
PO Box 9025
Wilmington, NC 28402
Phone: (910) 343-0161 x314
FAX: (910) 343-9823
www.coastalahec.org

Program Dates: June

Description: The Nursing Academy is a two-week Institute which exposes rising 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students from southeastern North Carolina schools to nursing careers through didactic, participatory, and shadowing experiences.

Eligibility: Applicants must be rising 10th, 11th, or 12th graders. The program seeks highly motivated minority or disadvantaged students who are strongly interested in pursuing a nursing career.

Application Deadline: May 1

Program Benefits: Students receive instructional materials for their participation.

Nursing Exploration Week
UNC School of Nursing

Contact Information:
Program Coordinator
Office of Admissions & Student Services
School of Nursing, CB# 7460
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-7460
Phone: (919) 966-4260
FAX: (919) 966-3540
http://nursing.unc.edu

Program Dates: Six days in June

Description: Students considering nursing as a possible career are given experiences: 1) in area hospitals—tours include the emergency room, operating rooms, newborn nursery, wellness center, and clinics; paired sessions with nurses as they work with patients; and learning sessions with high-tech equipment used to monitor patient status; 2) in area schools of nursing—laboratory experiences including blood pressure monitoring and injection preparation; and discussions with nursing students and faculty; 3) in the community—tours to interact with nurses in a variety of settings; and visits to points of interest in Durham and Chapel Hill; and 4) on university campuses—a chance to live in a dorm and eat in campus dining halls; and opportunities to tour campus areas.

Eligibility: High school students possessing a GPA of 3.0 or better (on a 4.0 scale) who are entering the 11th or 12th grade and considering nursing as a possible career may participate.

Application Deadline: April 30

Program Costs & Benefits: A $250 per person fee includes all instructional materials, lodging, and meals. A limited number of scholarships are available.

Pathways to Health Careers
Eastern AHEC

Contact Information:
Director of Health Careers and Workforce Diversity
Eastern AHEC
PO Box 7224
Greenville, NC 27835-7224
Phone: (252) 744-5231
Fax: (252) 744-5229
http://eahec.ecu.edu

Program Dates: Year-round program offerings in Bertie, Hertford and Gates counties

Description: Pathways to Health Careers is designed to motivate minority youth to explore careers in the health professions and to begin preparation for that pursuit while they are still in high school. This program strives to take a holistic approach to the personal and academic development of young people.

The program is designed to support the local school system and respond to their requests to provide health careers activities in their local regions.

Eligibility: 9th graders in the Eastern AHEC area

Application Deadline: No deadline - year-round activities
Pharmacy Orientation Program
Eastern AHEC

Contact Information:
Director of Health Careers and Workforce Diversity
Eastern AHEC
2000 Venture Tower Dr.
PO Box 7224
Greenville, NC  27835-7224
Phone: (252) 744-2587
http://eahec.ecu.edu

Program Dates: One year (flexible)

Description: The Pharmacy Orientation Program is sponsored by the UNC School of Pharmacy through the Eastern Area Health Education Center Program and provides orientation to community, hospital, clinical and industrial pharmacy practice. Research opportunities are available.

Eligibility: Participants must be Greenville area high school students with a minimum GPA of 3.0.

Application Deadline: None given

Program Costs: Participants pay for travel.

Pharmacy Technician Training and Research Initiative
Greensboro AHEC

Contact Information:
Director of Health Careers and Workforce Diversity
Greensboro AHEC
1200 N. Elm Street
Greensboro, NC  27401-1020
Phone: (336) 832-8025
FAX: (336) 832-2851
www.gahec.org

Program Dates: Semester-long

Description: This program focuses on preparing high school seniors to become certified pharmacy technicians and/or pharmacists. Each student takes classes daily along with clinical rotations through retail and hospital pharmacies. Students take the national PTCB Examination to become certified pharmacy technicians in the summer.

Eligibility: High-school seniors

Project REACH
Southern Regional AHEC

Contact Information:
Director of Health Careers and Workforce Diversity
Southern Regional AHEC
1601 Owen Drive
Fayetteville, NC  28304
Phone: (910) 678-7299
FAX: (910) 678-0126
www.southernregionalahec.org

Program Dates: Year-round; call for dates.

Description: Project REACH (Reaching & Educating Adolescents in Careers in Health) is a year-long after school program focusing on health careers awareness for middle school students. Students are introduced to health careers through guest speakers, field trips, and health career fairs.

Eligibility: Call for details.
**Project SEARCH Academy**
*Northwest AHEC*

**Contact Information:**
Director of Health Careers and Workforce Diversity
Northwest AHEC
Wake Forest University School of Medicine
Medical Center Blvd.
Winston-Salem, NC 27157-1060
Phone: (336) 713-7714
FAX: (336) 713-7027
www.northwestahec.wfubmc.edu

**Program Dates:** June and July, call for specific dates.

**Description:** Project SEARCH (Student Education, Awareness, Recruitment for Careers in Health) Academy, serves high school students and teachers from Northwest AHEC’s seventeen county region (Alexander, Allegheny, Ashe, Avery, Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Davidson, Davie, Forsyth, Iredell, Rowan, Stokes, Surry, Watauga, Wilkes, and Yadkin).

Project SEARCH Academy accommodates twenty high school students from the region who are interested in pursuing a health career, with an emphasis on recruiting minority students who live in health workforce shortage areas. Students spend one week in residence on the campus of Wake Forest University, and visit the Wake Forest University School of Medicine for health careers presentations and tours. A one-day Outdoor Challenge Adventure is also conducted. During the second week of the Academy, students are involved in a mentoring experience with a health professional in their home community.

**Eligibility:** Project SEARCH Academy is open to high school students residing in the seventeen county region of Northwest AHEC. Students must be recommended by school personnel, possess a 2.5 or better GPA and two letters of recommendation, and demonstrate an interest in pursuing a health career.

**Application Deadline:** April

**Program Benefits:** Students are extensively exposed to a wide variety of health professions and the academic requirements necessary to successfully pursue those professions. Additionally, students learn life skills while living on a college campus.

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**Project Uplift**
*UNC Office for Diversity and Multicultural Affairs*

**Contact Information:**
Director of Minority Recruitment
Office for Diversity and Multicultural Affairs
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
CB# 9125, South Building
Chapel Hill, NC 27599
Phone: (919) 962-6962
FAX: (919) 962-5063
www.unc.edu/minaff

**Program Dates:** Two and one half days in May and June

**Description:** Project Uplift is designed to increase the diversity of the University’s first-year undergraduate applicant pool. Participants interact with faculty, staff, and students to become familiar with the academic mission of the University and to learn about and experience the diverse communities within the University. Participants are mentored by peer counselors who share their perspectives on university life and how they can contribute to and share in enhancing the overall experience of all students.

Information sessions provide participants with general information about admissions processes and deadlines, scholarship and student aid opportunities, and academic degree programs offered at the undergraduate and graduate level, including the health professions programs. Students arrive on campus on Thursdays and depart on Saturdays. Social and cultural interactions with university students provide participants with invaluable insights about the University. Participants are encouraged to ask questions and become familiar with the campus community and the educational opportunities offered by the University.

**Eligibility:** Rising high school seniors are nominated by high school guidance officials and teachers to attend the program. Project Uplift is open to all students but targets students who contribute to the diversity of the University’s undergraduate applicant pool (i.e. African American, Hispanic, Native American, low income, and those from disadvantaged backgrounds). Counselors are asked to nominate students who rank in the top 25% of their class and exhibit the academic potential to be successful at the University.

**Application Deadline:** May 1

**Program Costs & Benefits:** Participants pay transportation to and from the program. Room, board, and instructional materials are provided.
**Research Apprenticeship Program**  
**UNC School of Medicine**

**Contact Information:**
Program Coordinator  
Office of Educational Development  
Special Programs  
UNC School of Medicine  
CB# 7530, 322 MacNider Building  
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-7530  
Phone: (919) 966-7673  
www.med.unc.edu/oed/rap

**Program Dates:** June-July

**Description:** RAP was developed by the UNC School of Medicine to increase the number of disadvantaged rising junior and senior high school students who pursue careers in the science fields. The program exposes students to basic and/or clinical research through an apprenticeship experience, allowing them to work on a scientific project under the guidance of a research scientist for seven weeks. They will conduct science in creative ways, expand their appreciation of the investigative process, and explore career prospects. The program components include: full-time research, structured SAT prep sessions, field trips to research institutions, college tours, science seminars, and special topic discussions.

**Eligibility:** A minimum 3.0 GPA (science and overall), quality of essay, telephone interview, disadvantaged status, and North Carolina residence is required of all participants.

**Application Deadline:** March 1

**Program Benefits:** Students gain research experience and are assigned a research science mentor. On-campus housing is subsidized by the program and a meal stipend is offered.

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**Research Apprenticeship Program**  
**Shaw University**

**Contact Information:**
Director  
Department of Environmental Science  
Shaw University  
118 E. South Street  
Raleigh, NC 27601  
Phone: (919) 546-8204  
FAX: (919) 546-8258

**Program Dates:** Summer program: June and July; Fall/Spring Program: every Saturday, year round

**Description:** Shaw University and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency have entered a cooperative training agreement to conduct a Research Apprenticeship Program for culturally diverse high school students. The program is designed to enhance academic performance and cultivate an interest in science, mathematics, and engineering. Participating students begin training at Shaw University as rising 9th graders in the summer and continue training during the academic year and summer through the 11th grade. Upon completing the 11th grade, students receive summer training at the U.S. EPA Research Center in the Research Triangle Park and continue until completing the 12th grade.

**Eligibility:** The program is open to all students currently in the 8th grade in the Wake County Public School system. A minimum GPA of 3.5 is required.

**Application Deadline:** March 22

**Program Benefits:** A stipend, board and instructional materials are provided.

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**Summer Enrichment in Mathematics and Science**  
**Greensboro AHEC**

**Contact Information:**
Director of Health Careers and Workforce Diversity  
Greensboro AHEC  
1200 N. Elm Street  
Greensboro, NC 27401-1020  
Phone: (336) 832-8025  
FAX: (336) 832-2851  
www.gahec.org

**Program Dates:** Six Weeks: June-July

**Description:** The Summer Enrichment in Mathematics and Science (SEMS) Program is a six-week, residential, honors-level enrichment program developed for rising high-school juniors and seniors interested in pursuing a health career. Students take rigorous academic courses in Calculus, AP Chemistry, and Advanced Biology, and students must write and present a research paper on a minority public health dilemma. The program is conducted by the Greensboro Area Health Education Center (AHEC) on the campus of North Carolina A & T University in Greensboro. Additionally, students will participate in clinical observations and experiences covering medicine, nursing, dentistry, pharmacy, public health and allied health disciplines, cultural diversity seminars, scholarship workshops, and leadership/team-building exercises.

**Eligibility:** Minority or economically disadvantaged rising junior and senior high school students with an overall GPA of 2.8 or better. Prospective students must have taken and passed Chemistry, Algebra II, and Biology with a grade C or better by the start of the program. All applicants should be interested in pursuing a career in the health professions.

**Application Deadline:** March

**Program Benefits:** Students receive a stipend, room and board, and instructional materials.
**Summer Enrichment Internship**

**Contact Information:**
Director of Health Careers and Workforce Diversity
Wake AHEC
3024 New Bern Ave., Suite G-03
Raleigh, NC 27610
Phone: (919) 350-8547
FAX: (919) 350-7963
www.wakeahec.org

**Program Dates:** June-July (Four-six week period)

**Description:** The Summer Enrichment Internship is designed to expose minority high school students to health careers by placing them in community-based health agencies, hospitals, and private practices for a shadowing experience. Students observe a health care professional in the work environment, participate in special projects and complete several health-related assignments.

**Eligibility:** Minority high school students who demonstrate an interest in health care and have attended at least 20 hours of Health Careers Saturday Academy workshops throughout the academic year are eligible for the program. Selection is based on the application materials submitted and student interviews.

**Application Deadlines:** April 15

**Program Benefits:** Students receive first-hand experience shadowing a health professional.

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**Summer Sizzle 4-H Program**

4-H Orange County Center

**Contact Information:**
Cooperative Extension
4-H Orange County Center
306E Revere Rd.
Hillsborough, NC 27278
Phone: (919) 245-2057
FAX: (919) 644-3067
www.ccs.ncsu.edu.orange/

**Program Dates:** June–July

**Description:** Summer Sizzle is an action-packed program for rising 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students. Youth participate in enrichment activities in art, healthy lifestyles, and science and in recreational activities such as swimming, bowling and skating.

**Eligibility:** Middle school students are eligible and must be able to cooperate in a group of one adult to 15 youth.

**Application Deadlines:** None given

**Program Costs:** $50 nonrefundable registration, $100 per week

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**Student Science Enrichment Program**

CIMAS

**Contact Information:**
Carolina Institute for the Multicultural Approach to Science (CIMAS)
Lenoir-Rhyne College
Box 7420A
Hickory, NC 28603
Phone: (828) 328-7112
FAX: (828) 328-7368
http://www.lrc.edu/CIMAS/info.htm

**Program Dates:** July 9-28

**Description:** CIMAS is a summer program for 60 high school students designed to increase the number of minority students entering college degree programs in science and mathematics and ultimately pursuing careers in these disciplines. The program exposes talented and interested minority students to a wide range of hands-on exploratory science activities. The program is designed to provide role models for the CIMAS scholars by allowing them to interact with minority scientists and peers from other states.

**Eligibility:** The program is open to ethnic minority students who will be entering 9th or 10th grade in the fall.

**Application Deadline:** May 1

**Program Benefits:** Students receive free room and board, full access to the facilities of Lenoir-Rhyne College and a $25 per week stipend for incidental expenses.
**Summer Ventures in Science and Mathematics (SVSM)**

**Program Dates:** Four-week sessions: June–August

**Description:** Summer Ventures in Science and Mathematics (SVSM) provides experience in scientific inquiry and mathematical problem solving to academically talented high school students who may pursue careers based in science and mathematics. Students spend at least 60 percent of their academic time in a core curriculum covering experimental design, laboratory skills, instrumentation, problem-solving strategies, mathematical modeling, and exploratory data analysis. In addition, students learn about computer applications, careers in science and mathematics, social issues related to science, and communication skills needed for competitions. Participants live in dormitories under the supervision of trained residential advisors who provide guidance, enforce regulations, and arrange recreational activities.

**Eligibility:** Admission is limited to rising high school juniors and seniors whose parents or guardians established legal residency in North Carolina no later than December 1 of the application year. Selection is based on academic ability reflected in GPA, science/math grades and standardized test scores, demonstrated interest in science and math, and emotional maturity.

**Application Deadlines:** January 31

**Program Costs & Benefits:** Tuition, room and board are provided. Students’ families are responsible for a medical examination prior to enrollment, transportation to and from the site, pocket money, and payment of any medical charges incurred by the student during the program. Limited funds are available to help cover these expenses for students with severe financial need.

**Contact Information:**
State Coordinator
Summer Ventures in Science and Mathematics
P.O. Box 2976
Durham, NC 27715
Phone: (919) 416-2882
www.summerventures.org/video.html

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**Ventures into Health Careers Institute**

**Program Dates:** Last two weeks in June

**Description:** The program is designed to introduce highly motivated minority and disadvantaged youth from rural eastern North Carolina to the various careers and opportunities in the health professions. Students observe health professionals in the workplace and attend seminars and workshops about preparation for health careers with an emphasis on math, sciences, and communication skills. Personal development and self-awareness activities are included in the program. The supervised residential format provides the student with the opportunity to experience campus life outside the classroom.

**Eligibility:** Applicants must be in the 9th grade at time of application, and have a 3.0 or above GPA to be eligible. Applicants must also receive a recommendation from a school counselor or teacher, show a demonstrated interest in pursuing a health career, provide a school transcript, and complete an application and essay.

**Application Deadline:** March 1

**Program Benefits:** Room, board, and instructional materials are provided.

**Contact Information:**
Director of Health Careers and Workforce Diversity
Eastern AHEC
P.O. Box 7224
Greenville, NC 27835-7224
Phone: (252) 816-5231
FAX: (252) 816-5229
http://eahec.ecu.edu
Clinical Health Summer Program
North Carolina Health Careers Access Program

Contact Information:
North Carolina Health Careers Access Program
Elizabeth City State University
Phone: (252) 335-3270
North Carolina Central University
Phone: (919) 530-7128
University of North Carolina at Pembroke
Phone: (910) 521-6673

Program Dates: Seven weeks: May–July

Description: CHSP is a seven-week experiential learning opportunity held each year from May through July for underrepresented minority and disadvantaged students accepted to or enrolled in Elizabeth City State University, North Carolina Central University or the University of North Carolina at Pembroke. CHSP consists of both clinical experiences in health care agencies and academic enrichment experiences provided by the NC-HCAP Health Careers Centers.

Eligibility: Students enrolled in undergraduate pre-health programs at Elizabeth City State University, North Carolina Central University and the University of North Carolina at Pembroke are eligible.

Application Deadlines: ECSU: March 15; NCCU: March 15; UNCP: February 25

Health Careers Opportunity Program
Winston-Salem State University

Contact Information:
Program Director
Undergraduate Programs
Winston-Salem State University
P.O. Box 19510
Winston-Salem, NC 27110
Phone: (336) 750-2650
FAX: (336) 750-2652

Program Dates: Year-round (September–August)

Description: The Health Careers Opportunity Program is a federally-funded program for all Winston-Salem State University students who intend to major in an allied health profession. The program's goal is to increase the number of disadvantaged students and enhance their academic qualification to enter an allied health field. HCOP begins working with students at the beginning of their freshman year and provides continuous academic assistance until graduation. During their years at WSSU, students have abundant opportunities to receive academic enrichment from the services provided by HCOP, including: counseling, individual enrichment, an intensive eight-week summer enrichment program, workshops, and seminars. In addition, field trips, clinical training, and other hands-on experiences give students considerable exposure to the professional allied health world.

Eligibility: Undergraduate minority freshmen and sophomores enrolled in a pre-health or allied health curriculum are eligible to participate. A minimum GPA of 2.5 is required and North Carolina residents are given preference.

Application Deadline: March 1
HCOP Summer Enrichment Program
UNC Pembroke

Contact Information:

Director
Health Careers Opportunity Program
University of North Carolina at Pembroke
P.O. Box 1510
Pembroke, NC  28372
Phone: (910) 521-6590
FAX: (910) 521-6496
www.uncp.edu

Program Dates: Six weeks: June - July

Description: The HCOP Summer Science Enrichment Program provides special assistance to rising high school seniors or college freshmen from economically and/or disadvantaged backgrounds who wish to pursue a health science career. Selected students spend six weeks on the UNCP campus and take enrichment courses taught by UNCP faculty. Students interact with local health professionals and representatives from health professions schools through nightly seminars. Trips are taken to medical facilities and health professions forums.

Eligibility: Students are selected based on the following criteria: 1) economically and/or educationally disadvantaged background, 2) high school senior or incoming freshman enrolled at a college or university, 3) U.S. citizen, 4) minimum GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale, 5) SAT composite scores that meet University admissions requirements, 6) minimum of three years of high school math (Algebra I, II, Geometry), 7) minimum of two years high school science (Physical and Biological sciences), 8) minimum of three years of high school English, and 9) letters of recommendation from counselors and teachers.

Application Deadline: Call for date.

Into the Fields
Student Action with Farmworkers

Contact Information:

Program Director
Into the Fields
Student Action with Farmworkers
1317 W. Pettigrew St.
Durham, NC  27705
Phone: (919) 660-3652
FAX: (919) 681-7600
www.saf-unite.org

Program Dates: 10 weeks, June - July

Description: Into the Fields is a program offered by Student Action with Farmworkers (SAF), a nonprofit organization that links students with farmworkers to learn about each others' lives, share resources and skills, improve conditions for farmworkers and build diverse coalitions working for social change. Each summer approximately ten of our thirty internship positions are in rural migrant health clinics. Health interns conduct health education sessions in Spanish, coordinate health fairs for farmworkers, perform health assessments, and interpret for farmworkers in health care settings.

Eligibility: Applicants must be enrolled in a college or university in North or South Carolina. Spanish fluency is required for most placements. Applicants must be able to commit for the duration of the summer program.

Application Deadline: February 10

Program Benefits: Participants receive a $1,200 stipend, furnished housing, and a $1,500 scholarship.
Medical Education Development Program
UNC School of Medicine

Program Dates: Nine weeks: May–July

Description: The MED Program provides a demanding academic core on the level of beginning medical/dental studies for rising college seniors and postgraduates planning to apply to medical or dental school in the fall. Students are engaged in over 200 scheduled class and lab hours in Gross Anatomy, Histology, Physiology, Clinical Biochemistry, and Microbiology/Immunology or Dental Theory and Technique. Individualized work in learning, study, and test-taking skills will be provided in addition to pre-professional counseling, seminars, workshops, and orientation to the medical and dental school environment. Participants receive grades in each course and a certificate upon completion of the program. A UNC transcript is NOT issued, although some institutions may elect to give credit. A program evaluation is issued to graduates and is favorably recognized by admissions committees throughout the country.

Eligibility: Selection for participation is based on a number of factors, including educational promise, a strong commitment to a health career, and lack of past opportunities (e.g., education, social, and economic) which may place a student from a nontraditional background at a disadvantage in seeking admission and successfully entering medical or dental school. Applicants must have completed at least three years of college coursework including organic chemistry and possess a strong background in the major biological and physical sciences that are preparation for medical or dental school. Applicants must submit the program application with essay, financial aid application, transcripts from all institutions attended, and two letters of recommendation. An interview is recommended but not required. Preference is given to North Carolina Residents.

Application Deadline: March 1

Program Benefits: Exposure to medical and dental curricula, interaction with medical and dental faculty, use of facilities, and stipend and dorm housing (if qualifications met).

Science Enrichment Preparation Program
North Carolina Health Careers Access Program

Program Dates: Eight weeks: May - July

Description: Held each summer on the campus of UNC-Chapel Hill, the Science Enrichment Preparation (SEP) Program is an eight-week, honors-level academic enrichment program for disadvantaged undergraduate students (rising sophomores and juniors) who plan to pursue careers in health care. Program participants engage in more than 150 contact hours of rigorous classroom instruction in physics, organic chemistry, human physiology, quantitative skills and biostatistics as well as classes and seminars in reading speed and comprehension, test-taking strategies, essay writing, and interview techniques. Field trips to area health care and biomedical research facilities expose students to a variety of career options and allow them to discuss their career interests with health care professionals and biomedical scientists. In addition, a service-learning component is included in the program that allows students to volunteer with local charities and civic/community groups.

Eligibility: Underrepresented minority and/or economically/educationally disadvantaged students who have demonstrated a commitment to entering the health professions are eligible. Participants also must have a 2.5 or above science and overall GPA, be a rising sophomore or junior at time of application, have completed a minimum of three semester hours of college level math and one course each (three semester hours) in biology and chemistry, and be a U.S. Citizen or permanent resident. Priority is given to in-state residents.

Application Deadline: March 1

Program Benefits: Students receive educational supplies, teaching materials, lodging on UNC-Chapel Hill campus, a stipend and limited travel support (if funds are available).
**Summer Medical Education Program**

**Duke University School of Medicine**

**Program Dates:** Six weeks, June - July

**Description:** SMEP is a six-week enrichment program for talented underrepresented minority students interested in medicine. The program, held at Duke University, is designed to assist students by providing clinical/laboratory exposure, academic enrichment in areas such as the biological and physical sciences, strategies for solving verbal reasoning exercises, and MCAT preparation.

**Eligibility:** Participants must be a member of a minority group who has completed at least one year of college (qualified post-baccalaureate applicants are also eligible) with an overall GPA of 3.0 and a science GPA of 2.75. Must be a US citizen or permanent resident, and express serious interest in a medical career.

**Application Deadlines:** March

**Program Costs/Benefits:** This program offers instruction and experimental opportunities in web-based instruction in science, math, medical writing and computer competency. Students will participate in seminars and discussions on topics in medicine, MCAT preparation with individual assessment, and a medical recruitment fair. Housing and meals are free and scholars will receive a $550 stipend and transportation assistance.

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**Summer Program for Future Doctors**

**East Carolina University School of Medicine**

**Program Dates:** Eight weeks: May–July

**Description:** The Summer Program for Future Doctors is an eight-week intensive and challenging educational summer program in which participants are exposed to the pedagogical style and demands of the medical school curriculum. Some classes include: biochemistry, physiology, MCAT preparation and learning skills, communication skills, scientific writing, and preceptorship. The program strives to make students more competitive for admission to medical school. Students receive a grade for each course they take as well as summative evaluations which can be provided to medical schools with students’ applications.

**Eligibility:** Students who have satisfactorily completed introductory level college courses in biology, chemistry physics and organic chemistry are eligible. Preference is given to minority, disadvantaged, and nontraditional students, but all students are encouraged to apply. Priority is given to North Carolina residents. Applicants must demonstrate strong academic potential and their commitment to medicine.

**Application Deadline:** March 7

**Program Benefits:** The program is tuition free and pertinent textbooks and supplies are also provided. Stipends will be paid to all eligible students.
Minority Undergraduate Student Training in Academic Research

North Carolina A&T State University

**Contact Information:**
North Carolina A&T State University
Biology Department
College of Arts & Sciences
1601 E. Market Street
Greensboro, NC 27411
Phone: (336) 334-7907
FAX: (336) 334-7105
www.ncat.edu/~biology/

**Program Dates:** Year round, for 2 years

**Description:** The program's goals are: 1) to increase the number of well-prepared minority students who can compete for entry into graduate programs leading to the Ph.D. or MD/PhD degree; 2) provide strong curriculum and research opportunities in the biological and physical sciences to prepare students for careers in biomedical research; and 3) to increase the student's awareness of the need for scientific integrity and adherence to ethical principles in research. The multi-disciplinary program includes the Departments of Animal Science, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Psychology.

To meet the stated objectives, a rigorous two-year Honors Research Training Program has been established for highly motivated and outstanding juniors and seniors. Each participating discipline has developed an Honors curriculum for purposes of enrichment, one that includes heavy emphasis on developing the quantitative skills which serve as the backdrop of most graduate programs. The training includes: 1) an on-campus research orientation program during the first year, 2) off-campus research during the summer preceding the trainee's junior year and the summer between the junior and senior years, 3) a weekly seminar series and bimonthly Natural Science Honors Colloquia, 4) on-campus research that culminates in an undergraduate research thesis, 5) student travel to, and participation in, national, regional, state and local scientific meetings, 6) discipline-specific curriculum enrichment elements, and 7) a ten-week lecture/discussion course focusing on scientific integrity and the ethical principles of research.

**Eligibility:** Minority junior and senior undergraduates majoring in animal science, biology, chemistry, mathematics, physics, or psychology and who are committed to pursuing the Ph.D. or M.D./Ph.D. in a biomedical science are eligible to participate. A minimum GPA of 3.0 overall/3.0 major is required.

**Application Deadline:** Call for dates.

**Program Benefits:** Participants receive a stipend, tuition and fees, and full travel reimbursement to attend scientific meetings.

Minority Access to Research Careers
North Carolina Central University

**Contact Information:**
Program Director
MARC Program Office/Psychology Department
North Carolina Central University
1801 Fayetteville Street
P.O. Box 19675
Durham, NC 27707
Phone: (919) 530-5077

**Program Dates:** Year round: 2 years

**Description:** This program is intended to inspire and prepare highly qualified junior and senior students for entry into Ph.D. programs in the biomedical sciences. This is accomplished by an undergraduate curriculum of courses that sufficiently prepare students for Ph.D. programs in the departments of medical schools and other departments that award degrees in the biomedical sciences. The program provides financial support for the training of minority students of demonstrated ability, promise and commitment from the Departments of Biology, Chemistry and Psychology for admission and retention in Ph.D. programs in the biomedical sciences. Students participate in on- and off-campus research experiences during two summers and the junior and senior years. Each student develops an independent research project (thesis) during his or her senior year. Continuation in this program is contingent on maintaining a GPA of 3.0 or better, continued commitment to the goals of the program, and documented progress in student research activities.

**Eligibility:** Minority juniors majoring in the sciences are eligible to participate. A minimum GPA of 3.0 or better is required.

**Application Deadline:** Call for dates.

**Program Benefits:** Participants receive a stipend, tuition and fees and full reimbursement for travel to scientific meetings.

20
Minority Biomedical Research Support Program
North Carolina Central University

Program Dates: Four years

Description: The purpose of this program is to improve and strengthen the research capabilities on NCCU's campus and to increase the number of underrepresented minorities seeking careers in biomedical research. The MBRS program trains undergraduate and graduate students with hands-on, research-level laboratory experience in biomedical research. The program is composed of four principal investigators, four research technicians, three collaborators, nine salaried students, and one grants technical assistant.

Eligibility: North Carolina minority college students

Application Deadline: January

Program Benefits: Participants receive a stipend and full travel reimbursement for off-campus seminars.

Partnership for Minority Advancement in the Biomolecular Sciences
UNC Chapel Hill

Program Dates: Yearly

Description: PMABS is an alliance of scientists and educators from six of North Carolina’s historically minority universities and UNC-Chapel Hill collaborating to ensure equity of access to knowledge and opportunity in order to increase the number and diversity of students pursuing and attaining careers in science. Partner universities include: Elizabeth City State University, Fayetteville State University, Johnson C. Smith University, North Carolina Central University, Shaw University and the University of North Carolina at Pembroke.

PMABS aims to heighten interest and awareness in science careers for students usually underrepresented in the science field. The PMABS Partnership, by working with faculty and students to improve curricula and laboratory infrastructure and providing increased research opportunities, strives to have more minority students choose science careers.

Students participate at their own institutions before enrolling in PMABS-supported courses — Frontiers in Biomolecular Sciences and the Frontiers Laboratory Course — and receive Undergraduate Research Assistantships. Most partner institutions now offer molecular biology or biotechnology minors which incorporate these experiences. PMABS’ Technology Research Group supports the delivery of new courses using video-conferencing between partner biology departments, thus integrating web-based computer activities into the teaching/learning environment. The Partnership maintains a database of summer undergraduate research opportunities found at www.unc.edu/depts/pmabs/summer.htm. Inquire within the Biology Department of each partner university as to what components of the program are available.

Eligibility: Underrepresented science and pre-health students

Application Deadline: Deadlines vary; contact campus programs individually.

Program Benefits: Participants receive instructional materials. Other benefits vary.
**Summer Pre-Graduate Research Experience**

**UNC Chapel Hill**

**Program Dates:** 10 weeks, Summer

**Description:** The SPGRE program offers undergraduate students the opportunity to work full-time on research projects under the direction of UNC faculty members and may be involved in research ranging from molecular biology to physical chemistry. SPGRE is a full-time research program but a number of special seminars and sessions related to research and graduate schools are included, as well as various workshops and a full GRE preparatory session.

**Eligibility:** Students who have an interest in attending Ph.D. programs at UNC are of great interest to the program. Please note that preferences will be given to students who have completed their junior year. Neither freshmen nor graduates will be eligible for participation.

**Application Deadline:** February 6

**Program Benefits:** Students receive a stipend of $3,200 and a food allowance of $1,400. Housing is provided as is reimbursement for travel up to $400. Moreover, SPGRE affords an excellent opportunity for students to closely interact with UNC Graduate School programs.

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**Contact Information:**

SPGRE Program
CB #3500 Peabody Hall
UNC Chapel Hill
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3500
FAX: (919) 843-2554
http://www.ibiblio.org/res/undergrad.php
(online application and information)

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**Undergraduate Research Opportunities**

**UNC Chapel Hill**

**Program Dates:** Ten weeks period beginning May 23

**Description:** The Summer Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) Program at UNC-Chapel Hill offers talented undergraduate students the opportunity to carry out an independent research project under the guidance of UNC faculty mentors. The overall goal of the REU program is to provide promising undergraduate students a mentored research and training experience. The intense REU summer experience will allow students to make better decisions regarding graduate education and careers in science education and research. Furthermore, the workshops and professional development activities will strengthen their applications and help them gain admission into top graduate programs across the country. At the end of the program, all students will have the opportunity to present their work at our annual REU summer research symposium.

**Eligibility:** Although preference is given to students with little prior independent research experience, all talented undergraduates with a genuine desire to pursue a career in biomedical research and teaching are encouraged to apply. Admission is limited to rising juniors and seniors; first generation college students and students from groups underrepresented in the sciences are strongly encouraged to apply.

**Application Deadline:** March 1

**Program Benefits:** Participants receive a stipend, housing and meals.

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**Contact Information:**

Undergraduate Research Opportunities
The Program in Molecular Biology & Biotechnology
CB# 7100, 4109 Neuroscience Research Bldg.
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-7100
Phone: (919) 966-6791
FAX: (919) 966-3630
www.med.unc.edu/wrkunits/3ctrpgm/pmbb/sure/index.htm

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**Summer Research Opportunity Program**

**Duke University**

**Program Dates:** 10 Weeks, email for specific dates

**Description:** The Duke University Summer Research Opportunity Program (SROP) is a training program designed to give underrepresented minority undergraduate students hands-on experience in graduate-level biomedical research. The program is designed for students who are seriously considering entering a Ph.D. graduate program following the completion of their undergraduate degree, and emphasizes direct laboratory experience. Students spend a majority of their time working in the laboratory, attending lab meetings, interacting with members of other labs, and otherwise conducting themselves as though they had entered graduate school. Each student works under the supervision of a faculty mentor and will solve real research problems in an active, modern biomedical research laboratory.

**Application Deadline:** February

**Program Benefits:** Participants receive a $2600 stipend as well as an on-campus room, travel assistance and a food allowance.
About North Carolina’s Contract Schools Program...

The State of North Carolina, under contract with institutions in other states, has for many years secured spaces for training its students in certain health professions which could not be fully provided by institutions within the state. North Carolina students selected to fill contract spaces qualify for reduced tuition at the private institutions and for payment of tuition at the in-state rate at the public institutions. Students may also qualify for loans, scholarships, and work-study programs administered by the contracting institutions.

Administered by the University of North Carolina General Administration, contract programs are as follows:

- **Dentistry**: Meharry Medical College
- **Medicine**: Meharry Medical College
- **Optometry**: Pennsylvania College of Optometry
  - Southern College of Optometry
  - University of Alabama, Birmingham
  - University of Houston

The programs in medicine and dentistry are supplementary to excellent existing programs in North Carolina. Those in Optometry are not available in the state. Students must be bona fide residents of the state of North Carolina in order to qualify for admission under North Carolina’s quotas.

Some contract schools offer enrichment programs to strengthen and prepare students for graduate and professional programs.

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### Summer Enrichment Program

_Pennsylvania College of Optometry_

**Contact Information:**

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**Program Dates:** Six weeks: June - July

**Description:** The overall mission of this program is to maintain and strengthen the number of well-prepared candidates from minority backgrounds who may successfully apply, enter and graduate from the Pennsylvania College of Optometry.

Most of the students in the program will have been accepted to the College. During the program, students are enrolled in several mini-courses including microanatomy, gross anatomy, biochemistry, optics, pathology, physiology, neurosciences and study skills. A clinical rotation is included in the program.

**Eligibility:** Minority college students committed to pursuing a career in optometry are eligible to apply.

**Application Deadline:** April 15
Texas Optometry Career Opportunities Program (TEXOCOP)

An important part of TEXOCOP is a six-week summer enrichment program for 20 to 25 students at the University of Houston College of Optometry from mid-May through the end of June. Students participate in a rigorous course of study which simulates the pace of graduate work and which includes ocular and human anatomy, vision science, clinic, optics, pharmacology, critical reading, leadership skills, and math. Classes are held Monday through Friday, 8 am to 5 pm, Saturdays, 9 am to 4 pm, and one Sunday class for CPR instruction.

In addition: All summer program students participate in an all-day vision screening in a neighborhood health center in Houston. Several faculty donate their time to supervise the students. Invited speakers provide lectures on a variety of topics including history of the profession, experiences of individual optometrists, current issues and opportunities in vision research. All summer program participants are required to submit a paper and participate in a mock scientific symposium as part of the Optometric Leadership course. Students enrolled in TEXOCOP participate in financial aid lectures, workshops and counseling.

Eligibility: Call for details.
“I dream of becoming a health professional.”

“How will I make that dream come true?”

That’s the question asked by hundreds of hopeful students every year. Will you try to make it on your own? Will you give up and go in another direction? Or will you look for a way to become a health professional in spite of the challenges you may have faced up to now?

Becoming successful takes drive, determination and a competitive edge. There is no better place to gain that edge while you are in school than through the North Carolina Health Careers Access Program (NC-HCAP).

Through a variety of programs and activities geared toward disadvantaged students—from elementary to graduate school—NC-HCAP works to increase the number of individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds who are trained, educated and employed in the health professions. It is our desire to serve as a resource for you and to provide opportunities that will enhance your education and help you be successful in your chosen health field. Our programs provide you with the most up-to-date, hands-on experiences that are essential to gain the competitive edge you need. Whatever your health career goal—NC-HCAP can help you achieve it!

Health Careers Information and Enrichment (HCIE) Workshops
Designed for underrepresented minority and educationally/economically disadvantaged students in grades 5-12, these two-hour workshops focus on small group and cooperative learning activities and provide students with general information about health careers, health career enrichment activities, and health professions schools and educational programs in North Carolina. Tips and techniques for improving academic skills as well as information about opportunities for financial aid and scholarships for both undergraduate and professional school are also provided. NC-HCAP conducts HCIE Workshops at no charge to host schools.

Science Enrichment Preparation (SEP) Program
Held each summer on the campus of UNC-Chapel Hill, SEP is an eight-week, honors-level academic program for disadvantaged undergraduate students (rising sophomores and juniors) who plan to pursue careers in health care. Over the course of the program, you will engage in rigorous classroom instruction in math and science, learn the ins and outs of the professional school admissions process, attend seminars to develop skills necessary to be a competitive applicant, shadow a local health professional and tour local health education facilities.

Clinical Health Summer Program (CHSP)
A summer program for students accepted or enrolled in a health-related curriculum at Elizabeth City State University, North Carolina Central University or the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, CHSP is a great way to gain full-time clinical experiences in health care agencies as well as participate in academic enrichment activities.

Health Professions Forum/Inspirational Speakers in Science (ISIS) Lecture
Our annual forum covers an array of health professions and related issues, including health professions programs offered across North Carolina, admission and graduate requirements and processes for graduate and professional schools, financial aid opportunities, support systems for minority students, minority presence data for featured health professions, and career planning information. Our ISIS lecturers draw upon their personal experiences and share stories that are sure to inspire and motivate you to achieve your personal and professional goals.

Since 1971, NC-HCAP has helped thousands of students reach their career goals...will you be next?

For more information about NC-HCAP or the programs we offer, please contact our office at (919) 966-2264 or visit our web site at http://nchcap.unc.edu.