

## SEARCH Coordinators

Community-based coordinators facilitate the process

- Identify potential site and begin the SEARCH mentor application process.
- Foster or initiate student-mentor match.
- Facilitate access to student housing.
- Facilitate student travel processes.
- Orient student/residents to the community and to community-specific cultural competency experiences to anticipate.
- Visit training site during student/resident rotation to assess site, student, preceptor, interdisciplinary team, and community progress and challenges.

## Contact a coordinator

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East Program Office

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## Academic SEARCH Partners

Our academic search partners are among Texas medical schools, graduate nursing programs, physician assistant programs, dental schools, dental hygienist programs, and social work and counseling programs. **These partners incorporate care of the underserved in their curriculum** by offering primary care clinical rotations in underserved populations during traditional courses, elective courses and new innovative courses.

### Benefit to Academic Partner

- Students experience clinical rotations in interprofessional team environment in underserved communities
- Monetary allowance for student meetings, marketing, etc to programs fostering SEARCH participation.

1. Coastal Region
2. Piney Woods Region
3. Northeast Region
4. Victoria Region
5. Greater Houston Region
6. North Central Region
7. Waco Region
8. DFW Region
9. Capital Region

★ Program Office



Texas Area Health Education Center East

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TEXAS AREA HEALTH  
EDUCATION CENTER EAST

## SEARCH

**Student/Resident  
Experiences  
And  
Rotations in  
Community  
Health**

Facilitating learning experiences in underserved community-based, interprofessional team settings, *for health professions students or residents who are more likely to select a career serving underserved populations.*

*SEARCH is a program of the National Health Service Corps: Serving America's Communities*  
<http://nhsc.hrsa.gov/search>

<http://www.easttexasahec.org>  
Phone 409-772-7884

## Why Participate

### Community experiences

- Increase student/resident understanding of community and public health issues that impact the delivery of health care to the underserved populations
- Develop/facilitate culturally appropriate community health interventions
- Recognize the potential of recruiting the health professions learner as your communities' future health care provider

### Networking

- Discover how interdisciplinary and statewide partnerships enhance the physician's practice
- Share and coordinate resources
- Develop new strategies for providing primary care services for medically underserved populations

### Clinical Experiences

- Learn the value of working as part of an interdisciplinary team in the delivery of health services

### Mentoring

- Build a network of healthcare professionals throughout the education continuum that supports primary care to medically underserved populations

### Faculty development

- Promote programs that provide opportunities for primary care providers to develop their teaching skills

## Who's Eligible

### Eligible Student/Resident Participants

- Medical Students
- Physician Assistant Students
- Nurse Practitioner Students
- Dental and Dental Hygienist Students
- Social Work and Counseling Students
- Family Medicine Residents

who are more likely to select serving underserved populations as part of their career choices.

#### **Benefits to student/resident**

- Train in interprofessional, culturally diverse community setting
- Learn about public health issues that impact delivery of care to underserved populations
- Modest travel funds and possible housing support for student/resident
- Prospect of exploring future residency/employment opportunities

### Participation Objectives

#### *Sustained each year*

September 30, 2009 through September 29, 2012

- 40 health professions students trained
- 30 underserved training sites engaged
- 30 community faculty
- 7 academic partners

### Eligible Training Site Participants

Clinical training sites from among the Texas federally designated and other underserved clinical services sites, *i.e.* CHC, FQHC, NHSC, Migrant Health Center, Rural Health Center, County Health District ,

- who use an interprofessional team approach to patient care and
- whose mentor/preceptor is willing to
  - discuss career options and opportunities with the learner
  - engage learner in community activities
  - foster student/resident service-learning experiences (*community assessment, research on a specific community health problem, etc.*) that result in service to the community and increase learner's skills and commitment to serve the underserved
  - facilitate learner experience in administrative aspects of the facility and practice management (*i.e. critical-skills development, leadership development, healthcare delivery effectiveness, health disparities collaborative strategies*)

#### **Benefits to training site**

- Faculty development program for designated site preceptors
- Modest monetary allowance for each student/resident placement for educational activity support
- Pipeline of health care professionals for potential community employment