



# UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND

## College of Osteopathic Medicine

### COMMUNITY HEALTH ROTATION

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Year requirement; can move to 4<sup>th</sup> year only if absolutely necessary, i.e., Neuro TAs, HPSP students, COMLEX issues
- Criteria for Community Health (CH) rotation
  - 4 consecutive weeks on the same service in the same location
  - Primary care (Family Medicine, General Internal Medicine, General Pediatrics)
  - Preferably in a rural clinic, private practice or community hospital (non-teaching=no residencies); urban is acceptable
- Students at Maine clinical campuses will be assigned to a CH rotation generally within 30-45 minutes of their campus (CRA required when assignment is confirmed); **NOTE:** Students at the Lewiston Clinical Campus will be assigned to Swift River Health Center, Rumford, ME – student housing is provided at no cost to the student.
  - If you have friends or family (housing) elsewhere in the state, let us know
  - **DO NOT** contact physicians directly
- Students outside of Maine will schedule their own rotation in the appropriate 3<sup>rd</sup> year time period (CRA required)

If a student based outside of Maine would like to complete the CH assignment in Maine, the student must contact Rita Brown ([rbrown@une.edu](mailto:rbrown@une.edu)) at least 90 days in advance of the proposed rotation and provide the following information:

- Dates, which must coincide with the CH dates listed for the current academic year (See Key Dates in the Clinical Training Manual or in the Clinical Education Essentials course on Blackboard)
- Preferred location, excluding York and Cumberland counties (student must have their own housing in this area)
- Placement will be attempted but cannot be guaranteed

#### **Roles of AHEC Program Manager and UNECOM Clinical Coordinator**

Together, the AHEC Program Manager and UNECOM Clinical Coordinator coordinate student placements and share ongoing quality improvement information.

The AHEC Program Manager (Maryfrances Smith, 207-221-4461, [msmith4@une.edu](mailto:msmith4@une.edu)) coordinates clinical training site approval, recruits faculty for the CH rotation, helps new faculty interpret responsibilities, and conducts site visits.

The UNECOM Clinical Coordinator (Rita Brown, 207-602-2333, [rbrown@une.edu](mailto:rbrown@une.edu)) is available to assist both students and preceptors to review student performance and to problem-solve issues that might arise.

**Unique Opportunity #1 – Cohort 2**  
**Enhanced Aroostook County Community Health Rotation (all blocks – 1 to 2 slots/each)**

From October 2014 to June 2015, the AHEC Program Office and our Northern Maine AHEC Director, with UNECOM and Aroostook County community collaboration, commenced a pilot program based in Aroostook County. Our first cohort has had positive and energizing experiences. Be a part of our second cohort and share in the unique experience of Aroostook County community life.

- I. The objectives are the same as those for the Community Health rotation in any other location, but AHEC has created additional opportunities in Aroostook County to work with providers and community organizations to create an unique rural experience in the northernmost county of Maine. Housing for the student is provided at Northern Maine Community College, as is a mileage reimbursement for one round trip from Biddeford, Maine to Presque Isle, Maine.
- II. In order to take advantage of this unique rotation, the student must submit an application to the AHEC Program Office **a minimum of 8 weeks** prior to the start date of your Community Health rotation. This application will be reviewed by the AHEC Rural Committee with an answer to the student within two weeks of submission.
- III. Additional information and the application form are in the Appendix to the Community Health Rotation Syllabus on New Innovations and Blackboard.

If approval is not given for the Enhanced Aroostook County CHR, the student will be assigned to their Community Health Rotation at another location in Maine within driving distance of his/her clinical campus.

**Unique Opportunity #2 – New for August 2015 to June 2016**  
**Enhanced Western Maine Community Health Rotation (Tentative 2 – 4 slots)**

There was such a response to the Enhanced Aroostook County CHR that it was a unanimous decision to commence a similar pilot project in Western Maine. With the assistance of the AHEC Program Office, the Western Maine AHEC Director, and other community partners, we have developed two to four slots for 2015-2016. All will be in the Farmington, Maine area. Housing (next to Franklin Memorial Hospital in Farmington) will be provided and mileage reimbursement for one round trip from Biddeford, Maine to Farmington, Maine.

Everything else is the same as with the Enhanced Aroostook County CHR as noted above in: I, II, and III.

If approval is not given for the Enhanced Western Maine CHR, the student will be assigned to their Community Health Rotation at another location in Maine within driving distance of his/her clinical campus.

**Come and be a part of Western Maine's first Cohort!**