



Northcentral PA AHEC

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The Northcentral Pennsylvania Area Health Education Center (Northcentral PA AHEC) facilitates the placement of health professions students with physicians and other health care providers in a ten county region. Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine medical students complete their rural primary care clerkship in ambulatory settings with physicians in the following counties: Centre, Clinton, Columbia, Lycoming, Mifflin, Montour, Northumberland, Snyder, Tioga and Union.

Each student must complete a CR-1 and student profile available at www.ncpaahec.org and return it to the Northcentral PA AHEC prior to placement confirmation. **Students should not contact individual physicians or practice sites to request rotations, as this results in confusion and delays placement. If you have a request, please make your request with the Health Professions Student Coordinator either by phone or email.** PA AHEC-affiliated physicians are committed to providing quality training experiences in our rural communities. Northcentral PA AHEC will make email and phone contact with each student prior to the rotation start date to facilitate the logistics involved.

Various immunizations and clearances are required. As soon as your placement is confirmed, you will receive an email with your rotation logistics including any required documentation/clearances. Failure to provide complete documentation delays orientation and may result in missed days and hospital-provided meals.

Each student must have his/her own transportation. In rural areas, practice sites, hospitals, and student housing are generally miles apart. If you arrive without your own transportation, the Northcentral PA AHEC cannot relocate you to a different training site from where you have been assigned.

Students are guests of the physician, hospital, and community while on rotation. Professional attitudes are expected while on rotation; students who fail to follow accepted standards of conduct jeopardize preceptor sites, hospital experiences, and complimentary food and housing for themselves and future students.

Northcentral PA AHEC strives to offer every student adequate housing. The accommodations range from a rental house, apartments, and occasionally rooms in homes of private individuals. Specific information will be sent to the student prior to the start of the clerkship. Each student is required to sign a housing agreement prior to the start of the clerkship. A housing deposit is required: A check for \$25.00 payable to Northcentral PA AHEC should be mailed with the housing agreement. Upon receipt of the check and the housing agreement, the key and post-rotation evaluation (CR-2) will be mailed to the student. The \$25.00 check will be returned to the student when the CR-2 and key are returned to the Northcentral PA AHEC. If key and CR-2 are not received within 14 days of the end of the rotation, the deposit will not be refunded to the student.

Northcentral PA AHEC has long-standing affiliations within the following counties and housing options for students. When students do not require housing assistance, preceptor opportunities can be arranged at nearly every location within the ten counties.

The Northcentral AHEC housing is used by a variety of health profession students from several health science institutions, each block of students is divided among all 5 housing locations. Please email your location request along with rotation type (Family Medicine, General IM, General PEDS, ER, or OB/GYN) to peggyh@ncpaahec.org. Please include 1st, 2nd, 3rd priority for location and rotation type and which is more important. Include career and personal information in the email to be considered for your rural rotation placement (ie student who loves ice hockey can be placed with doctors who play hockey; student who is going into urban ER can be put into a rural ER; hang gliding is popular in Renovo and multiple road and mountain bike opportunities are available throughout our region).

Housing is available at the following locations (all have wireless internet):

- Lewistown (Mifflin County)** - 2 bedrooms/1 bath, one room has 1 twin bed, the other has 2 twin beds, full kitchen and appliances, A/C, wireless internet; Lewistown Hospital gives 22 meal vouchers for dine in only; There is an electric company next door so the noise level bothers some people when trucks make deliveries; distance to site varies from walking distance up to 20 miles.
 - Lewistown Hospital and a number of its physicians are AHEC-affiliated. Ambulatory sites include international medicine, pediatrics, and hospital-based practices.
- Renovo (Clinton County)**- 2 rooms; each room has twin bed, refrigerator, tv; washer/dryer, wireless internet; Meals provided at the hospital; Cell service is limited; No travel required after you arrive
 - Bucktail Medical Center in Renovo is a critical access hospital with a community health center, emergency room, and long-term care facility. Students are assigned to the community health center and emergency room. This is a National Health Service Core (NHSC) loan repayment site, if you are interested in loan repayment or would like to see true rural medicine (no specialist are located in Renovo) this is a great opportunity.
- State College (Centre County)** - 2 bedrooms/1 bath; 2 twin beds in each room, full kitchen and appliances, living room, A/C; No food provided; The apartment management is charging students \$50 to let them into the apartment; transportation needed for all sites
 - The Northcentral PA AHEC has affiliation agreements with several providers in Centre County. Opportunities are individualized, based on student and provider professional interest and potential for future recruitment.
- Wellsboro (Tioga County)**- 5 bedrooms/2 baths, some rooms have 1 twin bed, some have 2 twin beds, full kitchen and appliances, living room, dining room, washer/dryer, wireless internet; Meals provided at hospital if you have hospital orientation and id; walking distance and travel up to 15 miles
 - A variety of health care systems and private practices operate within the county. Six Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC's) and several additional primary care practice sites provide excellent training experiences. Physicians from each health system have privileges to practice at Soldiers and Sailors Hospital, the only hospital in Tioga County.
- Williamsport (Lycoming, Clinton, Northumberland and Union Counties)** - 3 bedrooms/1 bath, 1 twin bed per bedroom, full kitchen and appliances, washer/dryer, study area, A/C in one room, wireless internet; No food provided; Located in a urban underserved area; transportation needed for most sites, may travel up to 35 miles one way
 - Housing is provided for a variety of sites in Lycoming, Clinton, Northumberland, & Union Counties. Please specify what type of rotation you are interested in and how far you are willing to travel.