



Arizona Center for Rural Health • Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health • The University of Arizona

## Fast Facts: Rural Health Professions Program

The Arizona Center for Rural Health Rural Health Professions Program (RHPP) at the Mel & Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health is a partnership with the Arizona Area Health Education Centers (AHEC). Partnerships with Arizona's AHECs serve as the platform for active learning and reflection on health equity and eliminating health disparities. The overall goal of our program focuses on increasing the numbers of public health students who practice in rural and underserved communities in the state of Arizona.

The core of our program is our menu of five distinct, graduate-level, Service Learning academic courses. Our program also administers the Interprofessional AHEC Scholars Program, which is interwoven within the RHPPs at the University of Arizona Colleges of Nursing, Medicine (Tucson and Phoenix), Pharmacy, Arizona State University College of Nursing and Health Innovation, and Northern Arizona University School of Nursing.

### SERVICE LEARNING

Service learning is built on the idea that experiential education, learning in the field instead of the classroom, builds a stronger understanding between students, faculty, and communities. Our RHPP provides students, faculty, and community partners opportunities to collaborate and learn to address real world rural and public health issues. It is the foundation for many community engagement activities, strengthens community partnerships, and builds new ones. Participants learn the knowledge and skills needed to build health equity, work for social justice in communities, address the social determinants of health, and improve health outcomes.

[crh.arizona.edu/programs/health-professions](http://crh.arizona.edu/programs/health-professions)



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