The Maine AHEC Network

Maine's Area Health Education Center (AHEC) Network was created in 1985 at the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine (UNECOM). The Maine AHEC Network's mission is to improve the supply, distribution, quality, and diversity of health professionals, especially primary care providers, in Maine's rural and underserved areas.

Today, the Maine AHEC Network consists of a Program Office at UNECOM in Biddeford, and three AHEC Centers—Acadia Health Education Coalition AHEC in Bangor, Franklin Community Health Network AHEC in Farmington, and Maine Center for Public Health AHEC in Augusta—that work with academic and community partners to:

- Provide rural, community-based clinical training experiences for medical and other health professions students from University of New England, University of Maine, and Husson College
- Provide practicing health professionals with continuing education and distance learning opportunities
- Encourage Maine youth to explore health careers at www.MaineHealthCareers.com
- Provide public health training, including Maine's only Master of Public Health degree at the University of New England

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In most states, AHEC receives state appropriations to help expand and leverage limited HRSA funding. According to a 2004 survey, state AHEC appropriations from 35 responding states ranged from $0 to $43.8 million, with an average appropriation of $2.6 million. Maine AHEC Network operates on a small budget without direct state support, and targets all of its activities to promote health workforce development in Maine's rural communities. We seek to expand our reach and we welcome partners and funders throughout the State of Maine to join with us in building and supporting primary health care for the future of our state and its communities.

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