



## HLC Accreditation Evidence Document

**Title:** Area Health Education Center

**Office of Origin:** Health and Sciences Center

**Description:** A screenshot of the Area Health Education Center (AHEC) landing page within the HSC web space. It provides some information on the functions of the program and confirms its membership with the National AHEC Organization (NAO).

Date: 2018



## Education

### FCM Education

#### AHEC

- [FM Residency Program](#)
- [Advanced Training and Fellowship Programs](#)
- [Family Medicine Clerkship](#)
- [Physician Assistant Program](#)

#### [Family and Community Medicine](#)

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## Area Health Education Center

### New Mexico Area Health Education Center

The New Mexico Area Health Education Center (AHEC) includes the Program Office at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque NM and three Centers: The Montañas del Norte AHEC (MdN AHEC) is located on the campus of Luna Community College and serves 15 counties in Northern NM. The Southern Area Health Education Center (SoAHEC) and FORWARD NM AHEC (FNM AHEC) are both administered through the Southwest Center for Health Innovations. SoAHEC serves 13 counties in Southern NM and FNM AHEC serves four counties in Southwest NM.

Area Health Education Centers connect students to health careers, connect health professionals to communities, and connect communities to better health!

#### NM AHEC Scholars Program:

The AHEC Scholars Program is a federally-funded, nationwide initiative to create a cadre of health professionals across disciplines committed to working in rural and underserved communities. AHEC Scholars will be leaders in their fields, having gained the knowledge, skills and training to improve primary care practice outcomes through inter-professional and collaborative training. Select the Scholars Program tab, below for more information.

New Mexico AHEC is a Charter Member of the [National AHEC Organization](#) (NAO), now comprised of 56 AHEC programs and more than 235 centers operating in almost every state and the District of Columbia. Click [here](#) to read about NAO's programs and outcomes.

Purpose	Goals	AHEC Offices	Map	HPSA	Scholars Program
<p>32 of the 33 counties have at least one type of <a href="#">Health Professions Shortage Area (HPSA)</a> classification. Specifically, primary care has 39 HPSAs (including 18 entire counties) dental care has 35 HPSAs (21 entire counties), and 29 counties are designated as mental health shortage areas.</p> <p>Professional shortages also exist for emergency medical personnel, pharmacists, laboratory technicians, behavioral health professionals, nurse practitioners, nurses, and many allied health professionals such as physical and occupational therapists.</p> <p>Rural, geographically remote Hispanic and Native communities in New Mexico are in areas with the most significant shortage of health professionals in the nation. Studies have shown that students who participate in programs that encourage rural and underserved community involvement are more likely to eventually work in these communities.</p>					