



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) is a partnership of Arizona's regional Area Health Education Centers (AHECs), the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health (MEZCOPH), and community partners. The AHEC and RHPP mission is preparing health professional students for practice in rural and urban underserved areas of the state.

RHPP SERVICE LEARNING

Service learning is experiential education - learning in the field – between students, faculty, and community members. Partnerships with Arizona's regional AHEC Centers allow active learning and reflection on achieving health equity, eliminating health disparities, addressing the social and environmental determinants of health, and improving public and individual health outcomes.

The MEZCOPH RHPP emphasizes community-based, service-learning experiences for its students in graduate level, intensive week-long courses:

Border Health Service Learning Institute (PHPM 597C) – takes place along the US-Mexico border in Yuma, AZ and San Luis Colorado, Mexico. Students learn about health and social determinants of health along the US-Mexico border with the Regional Center for Border Health.

Rural Health Service Learning Institute (PHPM 597D) – takes place in Safford, Thatcher, and Morenci, AZ where students are introduced to some of the major industries in rural Arizona and their workforce – including copper mining, cotton farming, and ranching. Students learn about healthcare systems, environmental determinants of health, and work hand-in-hand with community partners.

Maternal and Child Health in Rural Settings (HPS 597B) – takes place in the vast frontier and rural areas of northern Arizona, including participants from the Navajo and Hopi Nations.

Phoenix Urban Underserved Service Learning (PHP 597F) – brings together students and faculty with safety net health and service organizations – Circle the City Healthcare for the Homeless, St. Mary's Food Bank, Vitalyst Foundation, Maricopa Co. Dept. of Public Health and others.

Family & Child Health in Urban Settings (HPS 597A) takes place in Tucson and Pima County and gives students real world and applied experiences on issues affecting the health of families and children.



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Center for Rural Health

crh.arizona.edu/programs/health-professions