About the Summer Careers Academy

The Summer Careers Academy is presented by the South Carolina AHEC in collaboration with the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) Colleges of Dental Medicine, Health Professions, Nursing, Medicine, Pharmacy and MUSC Library. The Academy is a one-week summer program designed to help underrepresented minority and disadvantaged students prepare for entry into health professions programs within South Carolina.

The Summer Careers Academy is an opportunity to increase the academic retention and graduation rates by increasing the participants’ knowledge in key areas:

- Designated health professions
- Admission requirements for the designated health professions
- Financial assistance resources
- Academic success skills
- Professional techniques
- Educational/professional opportunities

Participating Health Professions Training Programs

Dental Medicine

Medicine

Nursing

Occupational Therapy (OT)

Pharmacy

Physical Therapy (PT)

Physician Assistant (PA)

Summer Academy Components

Students apply to become Academy Fellows and take part in a week of clinical and didactic sessions on the MUSC campus in Charleston, South Carolina, from June 7-12, 2020.

Classroom lectures and project topics will focus on several health disparities prevalent among South Carolinians. Academy Fellows will then complete a project at the end of the week related to a health disparity topic.

Housing and meals will be provided. Fellows will receive a stipend of $200 upon the successful completion of the Academy.

Eligibility Requirements

All applicants must be/have:

- A South Carolina resident or enrolled in a South Carolina school, college or university
- 18 years old on or before June 6, 2020 NO EXCEPTIONS!
- Sincere interest in one of the participating healthcare professions
- Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher
- Currently enrolled in or accepted to an accredited college or university for the fall of 2020 with an interest in pursuing a career in a designated Academy career path
- Completed graduation/GED requirements prior to June 6, 2020 (Medicine, Nursing, Occupational Therapy, Pharmacy, Physical Therapy or Physician Assistant tracks)
- Dental track (college students only) Graduated from high school by December 2019 and earned a minimum of 12 hours of academic credit from an accredited college or university

Note: Applicants not meeting all eligibility requirements will not be considered. If accepted, transportation to and from Charleston will be the responsibility of the Academy Fellow.

Follow-Up

Academy Fellows are required to sign a release document that will allow their progress to be tracked through the respective educational programs with quarterly contact with the student and/or academic program advisor.
Application Components

1. **Academy Application Form**
   Complete online at [www.scahec.net/SummerAcademy](http://www.scahec.net/SummerAcademy)

2. **Personal Statement**
   A typed, 500-word personal statement outlining:
   A) Your plans to enter a health profession
   B) How can you help your health profession become more diverse and inclusive?
   C) Why you should be selected as a 2020 Fellow?

3. **Two letters of Recommendation**

4. **Current Official Transcripts**

5. **$25 Non-refundable Registration Fee**
   (Only online credit card payments or money order by mail accepted)

6. **For 2020 High School Graduate Applicants only:**
   (Documentation by a counselor on school letterhead confirming anticipated 2020 graduation date)

**Online application and supporting documents must be received by April 3, 2020**

To submit supporting documents or receive further instructions, please contact:

**Paula M. Jones, BHS, MBA**
Director, Health Careers Program
South Carolina AHEC
1 South Park Circle, Suite 203
Charleston, SC 29407
843-792-4443
E-Mail: jonespa@musc.edu