

New England Rural Health Association 2024 Rural Health Student Summit Agenda

8:30-9:30 AM | Registration / Check In

Location: Chilcott Atrium

Description: Light Breakfast & Networking

9:30-9:45 AM | Welcome

Location: Auditorium E/F

Description: Welcome and Introductory Activity

9:45-11:00 AM | Working in Rural Communities Panel Discussion

Location: Auditorium E/F

Description: A panel of rural practitioners will share their experiences of the real-life joys and challenges of rural practice. Hear their thoughts and have the chance to ask questions about topics such as rural healthcare employers, what it's really like to live and work in rural or isolated communities, the unique disparities and strengths of rural patients, etc. Panelists will be available to talk one-on-one after the discussion.

11:00-12:00 PM | Paying for It All: Rural Loan Repayment Programs & More

Location: Auditorium E/F

Description: Hear experts from Area Health Education Centers (AHECs), Primary Care Associations, and others about the universe of options to help pay for educational loans in rural practice. Get the scoop on National Health Service Corps, State Loan Repayment Programs, and other ways to reduce or eliminate loan debt.

12:00-1:00 PM | Resource Fair and Lunch

Location: Chilcott Atrium

Description: Grab lunch and talk to students from other states, schools and disciplines. Representatives will be on hand to speak with you one-on-one about state and Federal loan repayment programs, rural residency opportunities, rural internships, scholarships and more. State Office of Rural Health and AHEC representatives will be available as well.

1:00-2:00 PM | Interactive Breakout Sessions

Location: Various

Description: Drop in on one or more of these sessions to learn more about rural practice. Learn a skill. Share your experiences. Ask your questions. Hear from peers and mentors.

1. Title: Navigating Identity and Community in Rural Settings

Description: There is no question that living and practicing rurally can be very different from urban environments. What keeps rural practitioners working in a rural area as persons of color, LGBTQ+, religious minorities, ESL, etc.? What unique challenges and rewards will you find in a small community? Hear from people who have been there.

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3. Title: Choosing a Rural Community to Live & Work In

Description: The New England states may not be the largest, but nowhere will you find such a diversity of physical, population, and cultural environments. From our islands to lakes, from rivers to mountains, from oceans to “deserts,” there are many different kinds of rural locations. Share your experiences and hear from others about the differences in demographics, history, vibe, and unique characteristics around our region.

4. Skill Building Sessions:

Title: NARCAN Skill Building

Description: Narcan training with specific instruction on administration and the pharmacokinetics of the medication, opioid overdose risk assessment with identification of overdose signs and symptoms, and substance use education. The opioid epidemic takes the lives of thousands of people every year in the US and with Narcan being available over the counter at pharmacies, we are encouraging all to become more involved with identifying overdoses and being able to assist someone in a medical crisis. We will also be providing samples of Narcan to take home following the lecture for those interested.

Title: Treating Complications of Diabetes

Description: Future providers, learn about management and prevention strategies of diabetes and its complications, a leading cause of chronic disability in rural populations. This discussion will address ways to mitigate illness and disease stemming from undertreated hyperglycemia, including cardiovascular disease, nephropathy, neuropathy and disorders of enteric motility.

5. Title: So You Want to Get Paid? Creating Health for Your Rural Facility, Patient, & Community

Description: No matter where, when and how you practice, you expect to be paid. But the rural patient mix is often far different from other communities, and this difference can have profound impacts on sustainable reimbursement. Rural demographics and insurers require unique strategies. Learn about Medicare, Medicaid, low income supports and resources for uninsured patients.

2:00 PM | Closing Remarks

Location: Auditorium E/F

Post Event Networking Fun Activities

If you can stick around, join others for a fun networking experience! Scan the QR Code.

