

ABOUT ECMO AHEC:

ECMO AHEC is one of seven regional centers which work in collaboration with Saint Louis University School of Medicine, Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine, the University of Missouri School of Medicine, and local community partners to form the statewide Missouri AHEC (MAHEC).

The mission of MAHEC is to enhance access to quality health care, particularly primary and preventive care, by improving the supply and distribution of health care professionals through community/academic educational partnerships.

ECMO AHEC is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit corporation supported by federal, state and local funds including Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services/PRIMO, and local grants, partnerships and contributions.

The ECMO AHEC region includes St. Louis City, St. Louis County, St. Charles County, Jefferson County, and Franklin County. The target communities within these counties are those designated as medically underserved or having a shortage of health professionals.



Saint Louis University Medical Student Mentors
(Doctors for Diversity Student Interest Group)

USEFUL ACRONYMS

- ACES** (AHEC Career Enhancement Scholars – High School Students)
- ACES Plus** (AHEC Career Enhancement Scholars – College Students)
- AHEC** (Area Health Education Center)
- BTEP** (Bridge to Employment Program)
- Club M.E.D.** (Medical Education & Development)
- ECMO** (East Central Missouri)
- MESA** (Medical Explorations in Science & Anatomy)
- PRIMO** (Primary Care Resource Initiative for Missouri)

Other ECMO AHEC Programs:

Camp Scrubs, a one week medical exploration summer camp for high school students who qualify for the ACES program.

M.E.S.A., a distance learning opportunity for high school students to explore science and anatomy through dissection and hands on experiments.

BTEP, a Health Career Development Program sponsored by Johnson & Johnson for students at McCluer South-Berkeley High School.

Club M.E.D., an in school health career interest group for high school students.

Youth Health Service Corps, a career recruitment program designed to prepare students to volunteer in health care settings that serve the underserved.



SAINT LOUIS
UNIVERSITY

*ECMO's academic partner is Saint Louis University
Department of Family and Community Medicine*

For more information, please contact:



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AHEC CAREER ENHANCEMENT SCHOLARS (ACES) PROGRAM



**Connecting Students to Careers,
Professionals to Communities,
and Communities to Better Health**

What is PRIMO ACES/ACES+?

PRIMO ACES/ACES+ is a comprehensive career planning and assistance program for students identified and interested in pursuing a career in primary healthcare. This program develops one-on-one relationships for Missouri high school students, undergraduate students, and communities to create a complete pipeline of services to guide students into primary healthcare careers.

Why does the program exist?

- To address the shortage of primary healthcare providers in underserved areas of Missouri
- To give students a competitive edge in attaining primary healthcare career goals
- To build relationships between students and communities
- To nurture the students' career interests through educational experiences

Which healthcare professionals are supported by the PRIMO program?

- Family Practice Physicians (including pediatric)
- Family Practice Dentists (including pediatric)
- Dental Hygienists
- Licensed Professional Counselors
- Licensed Clinical Social Workers
- Psychologists
- Psychiatrists
- Dietitians/Nutritionists
- Public Health Veterinarians
- Practical Nursing Professionals



ECMO AHEC's first dental school graduate,
Dr. Justin Garner

Who should apply to the program?



ACES students dissecting a fetal pig

The **PRIMO ACES/ACES+** program is for high school (ACES) and undergraduate students (ACES+) who display strong interests in pursuing careers in primary healthcare. Students who are interested must have a 3.0 GPA (on a 4.0 scale) and submit a completed application that includes:

1. a letter of recommendation from a school counselor or faculty member
2. a letter of recommendation from a non-relative
3. an essay that explains the student's personal interest in a primary care profession
4. a copy of school transcripts through the previous quarter of the application date



ACES Summer Camp Scrubs participants

What will students do?

- Complete a Comprehensive Individual Career Plan (ICP)
- Explore health careers by receiving valuable information from healthcare professionals.
- Shadow healthcare professionals
- Receive assistance in preparing for the standardized entrance exams.
- Experience math and science enrichment and assessments
- Use Missouri Connections to build online portfolios
- Have fun with hands on activities including dissections, demonstrations, experiments, and much more (MESA and field trips)
- Participate in community leadership activities
- Receive mentoring and tutoring by medical professional students (Doctors for Diversity)

Benefits to the Students

Academic Support or Transferable Skills

- Maintain a high GPA
- Obtain desirable scores on standardized entrance exams (ACT/SAT, MCAT, GRE, DAT, NCLEX-RN, NCLEX-PN, and others)
- Mastery of basic academic subject areas (Reading, Math, Science, Communications)

Job Content Skills:

- Exposure to employment requirements for the healthcare industry
- Shadowing, volunteering, community services opportunities
- Placement in internships and summer jobs
- HIPPA, Vital Signs, CPR and AED training
- Youth Health Service Corps training
- Health Literacy training

Self-Management (Soft) Skills

- Leadership training
- 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens and People training



ACES students getting CPR certification