

Rural Community Health Elective

Goal: The goal of this elective is to expose learners to the various components that make up the healthcare system, with an emphasis on the unique cohesiveness of rural medical care.

Purpose: This elective is designed to allow learners to view the healthcare system from multiple different perspectives. The elective aims to foster an appreciation of each part of the healthcare system, while also developing both clinical and non-clinical skills.

Curriculum: The curriculum of this elective involves 3 main components; there are direct clinical experiences, broader health system experiences, and community health experiences. Each week spent in this elective can be shaped based on individual preferences.

Capacity: 1 learner per rotation with possibility to add additional based on learner interest and preceptor availability

Clinical experiences: All clinical experiences will take place at Hale County Hospital, Hale County Hospital Clinic, or Moundville Medical Associates. Learners will be granted access to Hale County Hospital/Clinic EMR for the duration of the rotation. There will be significant variability in schedule based on each learner's personal interests and preferences.

Community experiences: Experiences in the community (or outside of direct patient care) will vary widely. These experiences are designed to provide a diverse look at the various components that make up the healthcare system, as well as community and psychosocial factors that contribute to health and wellness in general.

Schedule: Scheduling will vary based on each learner's interest. The general make-up of this elective will be approximately 60% clinical with direct patient care, approximately 10-20% community health activities, and approximately 20-30% broader health system experience; this can be adjusted based on interest and preference. For example, if a learner is particularly interested in inpatient medicine, rounding in the hospital can take place daily.

Rotation options:

1. Direct clinical: Inpatient medicine, outpatient family medicine, ED, psychiatry, pediatric psychiatry
2. Health system: EMS, home health, hospice, lab/phlebotomy/ABGs, PT, hospital administration
3. Community health: Tutoring/mentoring elementary school students, healthcare preparedness programs for high school students, Project Horseshoe Farm

Sample Week:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
AM	Rounds	ED	Psych	PT	EMS
PM	Clinic	Clinic	HSF	Lab	EMS