



January 2014

From: Missouri Area Health Education Centers

MU PROGRAM EXPANSION OFFERS MORE OPPORTUNITY FOR UNDERGRADS INTERESTED IN RURAL MEDICINE

The University of Missouri School of Medicine is expanding a program designed to train more physicians to practice in rural areas of Missouri. Seven additional universities throughout the state have been added to the School of Medicine's Bryant Scholars Pre-Admissions Program, bringing the total number of eligible institutions to 13. Current universities that allow applications into this program are Drury University, Missouri State University, Missouri University of Science and Technology, Truman State University, Southeast Missouri State University and the University of Missouri. In this current academic year, students from the following schools will be eligible:

- Missouri Western State University, St. Joseph
- William Jewell College, Liberty
- Missouri Southern State University, Joplin
- Westminster College, Fulton
- Northwest Missouri State University, Maryville
- University of Missouri-St. Louis
- University of Missouri-Kansas City

The Bryant Scholars Program began in 1995 as part of the Rural Track Pipeline Program at the MU School of Medicine. **"Students with rural backgrounds are more likely to practice in these underserved areas when compared to their classmates from urban areas,"** said Kathleen Quinn, Ph.D., acting associate dean for rural health and director of the MU Area Health Education Center. "Our Rural Track Program is uniquely positioned to support MU's rural mission and benefit interested students by helping train and prepare them for practice in rural communities."

Through this cooperative program, eligible undergraduate college students are pre-admitted to medical school at MU. For pre-admission, undergraduate college students are required to achieve certain academic standards, demonstrate ongoing professional conduct and participate in required activities. For more information about the Bryant Scholars Program, please visit www.muahec.missouri.edu.

MAHEC: Connecting students to careers, professionals to communities, and communities to better health



Bryant Scholars Troy Loethen, Elizabeth Tidwell, and Sarah Kapala during third year Rural Track rotations.

MAHEC is a partnership of seven locally-governed organizations and three university-based health professions education programs working statewide to increase the numbers of Missouri youth entering stable, high-paying jobs as healthcare professionals and the numbers of professionals caring for underserved populations.

The MAHEC partners include:

- A.T. Still University – Kirksville
- University of Missouri – Columbia
- Saint Louis University
- Northeast Missouri AHEC – Kirksville
- Northwest Missouri AHEC – St. Joseph
- West Central Missouri AHEC – Lexington
- Mid-Missouri AHEC – Rolla
- East Central Missouri AHEC – St. Louis
- Southeastern Missouri AHEC – Poplar Bluff
- Southwest Missouri AHEC – Springfield