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University of Colorado School of Medicine
Office of Student Life
Campus Box C292
13120 East 19th Avenue
Aurora, CO 80045



Colorado Rural Health Scholars Program

January 12, 2016

Dear Counselors/Advisors,

We would like to invite your rural high school students (current sophomores and juniors) to apply to the Colorado Rural Health Scholars Program.

The enclosed information sheet should give you a feel for the nature of our program. In brief, we are a non-profit group sponsored by the University of Colorado School of Medicine and University of Colorado Hospital. **All students receive a full scholarship for tuition and room and board** so that participation is free of charge and the program pays all student expenses. Students are taught by University of Colorado School of Medicine faculty and medical students, and are exposed to science and health careers through lectures, laboratories, and volunteer experiences at University of Colorado Hospital. We also expose the students to the process of applying to colleges and develop their note-taking, writing, and public speaking skills.

The student to staff ratio is approximately 2:1 with eight medical students who live with the students in the dorms and act as counselors. Thus, every participant is ensured individualized instruction. The **3-week program** runs from **Sunday, June 4th, 2017 - Saturday, June 24th, 2017**, and will be an intense educational experience. The students also receive the added benefit of living in a college dormitory at a local university.

When encouraging students to apply for the program, please remember that we are looking for mature, enthusiastic, and motivated students who are willing to work hard and who would benefit from this type of educational experience. This does not necessarily mean only top academic students will be selected. All applicants are evaluated on an individual basis with special attention given to minority status as well as family and economic situations. Forty final applicants will be interviewed by phone before final selections are made. Remind students that materials are to be postmarked or emailed **no later than Friday, March 10th, 2017**.

Please help your students by bundling their official transcript and two letters of recommendation into a single email or envelope. Letters of recommendation should come from a teacher (preferably science or math) and a non-related adult who knows them well (i.e. employer, counselor, teacher, coach, or clergy member). Please fill out the application online and send official transcripts and letters of recommendation to email or address listed above.

There is no limit to the number of students that can apply from your school.

Thank you for your interest in the Colorado Rural Health Scholars Program.

Sincerely,

Jessica Smith
Director, 2017 CoRHSP

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Colorado Rural Health Scholars Program
Application for Participants 2017

This year, the application will be accessed **online only** at the following URL:

<https://goo.gl/TLyVIg>

A link to the application will also be posted on the Colorado Rural Health Scholars Website in the coming weeks. Please make sure that you are filling out the application for the 2017 CoRHSP.

Please have counselors/advisors collect and send the following in one envelope or one email message:

- A. An **official** copy of your high school transcript.
- B. Two letters of recommendation. (Note: these must be mailed or emailed separately and must meet the deadline)
 - 1. One from a teacher, preferably science or math.
 - 2. One from an adult who knows you well, but is not a relative.
(i.e. employer, counselor, teacher, coach, or clergy member)
- C. If mailing, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope where we can notify you of our decision.

Email all materials to:

corhsp@gmail.com

Or Mail to:

Jessica Smith attn: CoRHSP
University of Colorado School of Medicine
Office of Student Life
Campus Box C292
13120 East 19th Avenue
Aurora, CO 80045

Applications must be postmarked or emailed no later than **Friday, March 10th, 2017**. This includes all recommendations and transcripts.

Important Note: We will select approximately 40 students for phone interviews. These will be conducted from March 24th - March 31st. If you will not be at home during these times, you must let us know in your application! We will notify you of our decision by April 14th.

Colorado Rural Health Scholars Program (CoRHSP)

Program Dates: June 4, 2017 to June 24, 2017

Who are we?

The Colorado Rural Health Scholars Program (CoRHSP) is a non-profit residence-based science and medical program primarily designed for rural students interested in careers in the health sciences. Special consideration is given to minority and underprivileged students. CoRHSP is sponsored by the University of Colorado School of Medicine. CoRHSP is staffed, supported and directed by a group of eight dedicated medical students and University of Colorado School of Medicine professors and staff.

What are we?

CoRHSP is an intensive academic program designed for students interested in the medical field, including physician, nursing, physician's assistant, physical therapy, dentistry, pharmacy, etc. During the program, participants divide their time between instruction, group project work, laboratories, hospital volunteer positions, educational field trips, recreational field trips, and time spent with a mentor. The program is fairly structured, however there is free time scheduled during the week. Nearly all activities are done as a group and we are planning a fun and educational summer experience!!

When is it?

CoRHSP extends from **June 4 through June 24, 2017** seven days a week. You must be free for the entire program duration in order to participate. Students remain at the university on the weekends.

Where is it?

Students will be housed for the duration of the program in a dormitory at Johnson & Wales University. Classes and laboratories will be held at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus with clinical experiences at University of Colorado Hospital.

What do students get from the program?

- **A full-ride scholarship.** The program pays for all student expenses of tuition, books, classroom fees, room and board. Transportation to and from Denver at the beginning and end of the program is the responsibility of the student's family.
- **A close circle of friends with similar goals and interests.**
- **Clinical experience.** All students volunteer at a local hospital two days a week.
- **An intense and rewarding educational experience.** Students will be lectured to by some of the best professors and student instructors at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus. While this experience will be fun, students will be expected to put forth effort in the classroom and will be tested. A team approach to learning is emphasized.
- **A continuing network with the program.** Student's relationship with the CoRHSP will continue after the formal program has ended. We will continue to keep students informed of educational opportunities as they become known to us.
- **Letters of recommendation for college and employment.** Many of the academic staff affiliated with the program can write college recommendation letters.
- **And a whole lot more!**

How will I spend my time?

During the program, participants will spend two days per week volunteering at local hospitals in challenging volunteer positions. Three days per week will be spent in class or the laboratory on topics such as anatomy, physiology, disease prevention, and public health. There will be a weekly field trip with the group as well as other group activities during the week. Evenings will include small discussion groups, guest speakers and study time. On the weekends, students will relax and enjoy recreational events around Denver. Past excursions have included the Denver Zoo, Rockies games, Water World, movies and a camping trip. As you can see, there is not a lot of free time, but the activities are designed to be fun as well as a great learning experience!! You will have the opportunity to live on a college campus and experience college level classes as well as meet other students who have similar interests as yourself.

How do I apply? How many are chosen?

Fill out the attached application as soon as possible. Pay special attention to the instructions. You may mail or email the above application. Your high school counselor must collect and mail or email your transcript and two letters of recommendation in a single envelope or email separate from your individual application. **Make sure your name and high school appear on all materials.** Everything must be postmarked or emailed no later than **March 10th, 2016.**

Twenty students will be selected to participate in this year's program.

Who should apply? How do you choose applicants?

The following criteria will be used for selection:

- **Junior or Seniors standing in Fall 2017**
- Residence in a rural community
- Underserved and/or minority status has priority
- Demonstration of intelligence, maturity, initiative, curiosity, enthusiasm, and a willingness to work hard and learn a lot!!
- An interest in health careers
- Demonstration of aptitude in math and science (this does not necessarily mean straight A's)
- Letters of recommendation

"In upcoming fall" means next year, so students who are currently sophomores or juniors during the present year are eligible to apply for the program.

****Please note that each candidate need not fulfill all criteria to be considered and fulfillment of all criteria does not guarantee acceptance.**

What is the selection process?

- Submit a complete application **with your counselor sending a transcript and two letters of recommendation**
- If among the top 40 applicants, participate in one or more phone interviews with staff.
- **Interviews will be conducted from March 24 – March 31. If you will not be at home during these times, you must let us know in your application!!!**

How am I notified about my status in the application process?

Everyone is notified in writing or email of the final selections. We would appreciate it if you **DO NOT** call us regarding your status unless you have not received notification by April 14, 2017. Alternates will be selected and notified of their status.