Michigan SEARCH Program
Vision and Mission Statements

**Vision:**

Primary health care needs throughout Michigan will be fully met by a multi-disciplinary primary health care workforce sustained by a pipeline of primary health care professionals educated in an environment with:

- Strong linkages between communities and health professional training programs,
- Collaboration among health professional training programs (within and across disciplines), and
- Opportunities for all students to experience primary care service delivery in an underserved community as part of a culturally competent, multidisciplinary health care team.

**Mission:**

The Michigan Student/Resident Experiences and Rotations in Community Health (M-SEARCH) will:

- Enable students and residents to experience meaningful clinical rotations on multidisciplinary health care teams in underserved communities across the state,
- Contribute to improved provider recruitment and retention for health care facilities in underserved areas, and
- Establish a web-based student clinical rotation matching system that provides high quality, multi-disciplinary training experiences in underserved areas.

To accomplish this mission, the M-SEARCH program will:

- Increase clinical rotation opportunities for students at primary care clinical practice sites in underserved areas.
- Develop and support clinical placement sites for health professional students at health care facilities in underserved areas.
- Provide training, academic linkages, and peer support for preceptors.
- Offer incentives to students to encourage their participation in rotations at primary care clinical practice sites in underserved areas and completion of community projects.
- Provide students with an optimal clinical rotation experience, thereby attracting premiere students and leading edge clinical practice sites.
- Support the development of culturally competent, community focused primary health care students through participation in a community project.
- Upon completion of M-SEARCH placement, encourage students and practice sites/preceptors to remain in contact throughout the student’s professional training to assist in their respective job search and recruitment efforts.
- Promote the availability of the National Health Service Corps and State Loan Repayment Programs.
- Monitor student and practice site evaluations to drive continuous program improvement.
- Expand statewide partnerships to meet the diverse primary care needs of the underserved.

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SEARCH PROGRAM

What is SEARCH?

The SEARCH program facilitates the matching of interested health professional students/residents with practice sites and clinical preceptors in underserved communities. Eligible students include those enrolled in medical, physician assistant, nurse practitioner, dental, and other primary care training, as well as primary care medical residents. Service includes a two to eight week clinical rotation as part of a multi-disciplinary health care team and the completion of a community project which attends to the needs of an underserved community.

The Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH), in partnership with the Michigan Health Council, Michigan Center for Rural Health, Michigan Primary Care Association, and the National Health Service Corps, is establishing the Michigan SEARCH (M-SEARCH) program. We will be working with health professional training programs and community clinical sites to begin placing students in underserved communities in 2010.

M-SEARCH Objectives

1. Assist Michigan and the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) with recruitment, retention, and training of primary health care professionals for services in underserved areas.
2. Facilitate and strengthen partnerships between communities and academic institutions (community-academic linkages).

In order to accomplish these goals, M-SEARCH will...

1. Provide opportunities for students to implement their classroom experiences in a health care setting.
2. Provide opportunities for students and residents to train on multidisciplinary primary health care teams.
3. Nurture the development of culturally competent, community focused primary health care providers.
4. Expand statewide partnerships to form a network of organizations to meet the diverse primary care needs of the underserved.

Benefits for Participating Clinical Sites (and their Communities)

- Promote primary care practice to fill the needs of the underserved.
- Improve academic and practice site linkages.
- Promote the facility to future clinicians.

For More Information

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Michigan State Loan Repayment Program (MSLRP) and National Health Service Corps (NHSC) Eligible Medical HPSA Designations in Michigan

Legend

- County

NHSC and SLRP Eligibility
- MSLRP Only
- NHSC and MSLRP

Michigan Department of Community Health
Health Planning & Access to Care Section

Data Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Health Resources & Services Administration - http://hpsafind.hrsa.gov/
Michigan State Loan Repayment Program (MSLRP) and National Health Service Corps (NHSC) Eligible Dental HPSA Designations in Michigan

Legend

County

NHSC and SLRP Eligibility

MSLRP Only

NHSC and MSLRP