

Arkansas Colleges of Health Education Strategic Plan 2025-2030

Adopted by the Board of Trustees October 25, 2024

Mission

The mission of the Arkansas Colleges of Health Education is to educate and train a diverse group of highly competent and compassionate health care professionals; to create health and research support facilities; and to provide healthy living environments to improve the lives of others.

Adopted August 18, 2016, by the Arkansas Colleges of Health Education Board of Trustees.

Vision

The Arkansas Colleges of Health Education will be a driver of health education and training through learning, research and service which contributes to healthy living environments.

Core Values

The Arkansas Colleges of Health Education embraces diversity and reflects a sense of stewardship representing the vision of the founders including integrity, service, entrepreneurship, shared leadership, excellence, scholarship, collaboration, mentorship, responsibility, and mutual respect.

Goal 1. The Arkansas Colleges of Health Education will foster a culture which pursues, acknowledges and rewards excellence by students, faculty, staff and administrators in all its programs and activities by:

- Systematically building an endowment to support student scholarships in all programs to help offset the cost of professional graduate education.
- Allocating available scholarship assistance through strategies consistent with the ACHE mission.
- Building a culture of community, compassion, caring, and courage modeled by faculty and staff and cultivated in students.
- Emphasizing high performance in all existing programs while considering program expansion in terms of capacity to achieve excellence and sustainability in new programs.
- Supporting activities which encourage, recognize and reward excellence by faculty, staff and administration.
- Using a variety of metrics to document and annually report institutional performance on indicators of progress and success in all programs.

Goal 2. The Arkansas Colleges of Health Education will fulfill its mission to train future healthcare professionals from diverse backgrounds to serve the disparate needs of underserved populations by:

- Recognizing and addressing the many dimensions of diversity as they affect students preparing to serve in healthcare roles and venues.
- Providing a teaching and learning environment which addresses the needs of students from diverse backgrounds.
- Considering the impact of diverse environments on health conditions presented by patients.
- Providing students with experiences to equip them for service based on an evolving healthcare environment.

Goal 3. The Arkansas Colleges of Health Education will support an aspiring vision for dynamic research that encourages the discovery and application of scientific advances to promote healthy living practices among all ages by:

- Attracting faculty in all programs who are committed to active research and who will mentor aspiring student researchers in their pursuit of scholarly research.
- Supporting faculty researchers by providing an advanced research facility and appropriately allocating FTE toward scholarly research.

- Providing assistance to ACHE researchers as they pursue funding for active research from outside sources.
- Developing research partnerships and collaborations with other researchers to expand lab-based and clinical activities to improve health and wellness.
- Regularly hosting conferences and symposia which bring national and international researchers together.
- Enhancing student learning and active participation in research through mentored and independent research.

Goal 4. The Arkansas Colleges of Health Education will pursue strategies to attract and retain a diverse faculty and staff through an environment of trust which supports and advances scholarship and academic excellence by:

- Concentrating on recruiting and retaining faculty who embrace and reflect the mission and who demonstrate high performance in their respective areas of expertise.
- Collaboration with a variety of health care partners to promote faculty growth and leadership development through fellowships and other experiences.
- Supporting the continuing physical and psycho-social wellness of faculty, staff, and students.
- Emphasizing interprofessional engagement of faculty in all ACHE programs to represent the mission locally, regionally, and nationally.

Goal 5. The Arkansas Colleges of Health Education will actively engage the community through service and involvement in an array of wellness programs to foster the mission- specific development of a healthy living environment by:

- Continuously informing the community about ACHE programs and activities reflecting artistic awareness in support of health through visual and performing arts as aspects of wellness.
- Emphasizing activities which will encourage graduates to practice in the service area through support for expanded Graduate Medical Education opportunities in the region.
- Developing and supporting an alumni base from all programs to build a network of ACHE graduates for perpetuity.
- Supporting programs to engage K-12 students in awareness, educational and research activities which will encourage students to consider entering the field of health care.
- Providing community access to research opportunities, and artistic and wellness activities which will enhance better living.
- Maintaining a safe and secure campus environment fostering a community culture.