

# Charlotte AHEC

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The Charlotte Area Health Education Center (AHEC) is the focal point for health profession education in an eight county located in the Western Piedmont of North Carolina. This geographic region contains some of the most sparsely populated rural settings as well as the State's largest city. The continuum of healthcare parallels these contrasts. Physicians still make house calls from farm to farm in the same region in which helicopters and fixed wing aircraft support sophisticated trauma intensive care units. The entire spectrum of preventive, acute and chronic care and rehabilitative services are provided in rural, urban and transitional settings. Continuity of care is enhanced significantly by continually refined relationships between hospitals, public health departments, mental health area programs, community healthcare and private practice settings throughout the region.

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## Background Information

The Charlotte AHEC is managed through a contractual agreement between the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Carolinas HealthCare System. Charlotte is one of the fastest growing economic centers in the South. The Charlotte AHEC coordinates and produces continuing education programming and technical assistance for all health care providers within the AHEC region and provides the administrative structure for clinical training of students and residents in the health care sciences.

Economic and population growth and the managed care environment have produced intense competition between fewer vertically integrated health care providers and a greater accentuation of the differences in the needs of our rural and urban constituents. New types of educational programs aimed at health promotion, disease prevention, and improved health care outcomes are necessary.

The Charlotte AHEC emphasizes primary care training, enhancement of rural and urban underserved environments, and the development of new programs that focus on the root causes of various illnesses. Simultaneously we are implementing new educational technologies, such as telemedicine, that enhance access to our programs and others from the region and the rest of the nation.

With the constant growth and evolution of health care systems within our area and the statewide AHEC program (viewed by others as a neutral organization), the role of Charlotte AHEC as the facilitator of educational programs becomes greater than ever before. We have been asked to address special needs in primary care delivery through expanding and strengthening networks and coalitions between universities, community colleges, hospitals, clinical service agencies, professional organizations and others. All of these expectations acknowledge AHEC as a bridging organization whose role involves negotiating with practices and educational institutions to embrace the interests of regional workforce development, education and training.

As part of the statewide North Carolinas AHEC Program, Charlotte is one of nine regional university partnerships administered by the School of Medicine of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The North Carolina General Assembly and a variety of local and regional resources provide funding for these initiatives.

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## Mission

The mission of Charlotte AHEC is consistent with that of the statewide AHEC Program. Specifically, the program is designed to accomplish the following:

1. The promotion of generalism in all primary care disciplines as well as health care extenders.
2. The promotions of work force diversity to more closely represent the minorities in our population.
3. The promotion of educational strategies to recruit and retain practitioners in rural and urban undeserved communities.
4. An emphasis on public health and interdisciplinary approaches to education and practice particularly as it relates to health promotion and disease prevention.

*The Division of Allied/Public Health Education* provides educational training, technical assistance and consultation to a variety of health care professionals at the undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate levels. Ancillary service areas include:

- Occupational Therapy
- Physical Therapy
- Speech and Hearing Sciences
- Radiology
- Respiratory Therapy
- Health Informatics
- Clergy
- Pre-hospital/First responders
- Nutrition/Dietary Services

- Health Educators
- Environmental Specialists
- Social Work
- Public Health Nursing
- Administrative/Management Services

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## Administration

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Charlotte AHEC  
Carolinas Medical Center  
PO Box 32861  
Charlotte, NC 28232-2861  
Director, Charlotte AHEC, Harry Gallis, MD  
URL: <http://www.clahec.org/>

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## Charlotte AHEC Housing Information

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General housing accommodations:

- Shared double rooms in houses and apartments
- Telephone - local service with calling card capabilities
- Cable TV
- Pots, pans, dishes, and microwave ovens provided.
- Data line for Internet access
- No pets are allowed
- No overnight guests
- Limited closet space
- Bring: linens for a twin bed, pillows, towels, and toiletries

**All students must submit the CHS/Charlotte AHEC Visiting Student Application Form Part 1 when rotating at Carolinas HealthCare System facilities. Complete Part 2 if housing is requested. \$50.00 security deposit required.** Please make check out to: CHS Housing. (Sample copy of application form at end of this section; actual forms available outside DAHS-AHEC office.)

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## Region-Specific Housing & Travel Information

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### City of Charlotte Rotations:

Housing concerns handled by:

Charlotte Office of Regional Primary Care Education (CORPCE)

CORPCE Coordinator/Staff Assistant: Jenny Pitts (*Charlotte Housing Contact*)

1(800) 861-0971 or (704) 355-8380 email: [jenny.pitts@carolinashealthcare.org](mailto:jenny.pitts@carolinashealthcare.org)

Director: Debbie Fisher, MT (ASCP), MA

Report any medical or other student emergencies involving AHEC housing to the CORPCE Director. (704) 355-8234 email: [DLFisher@carolinas.org](mailto:DLFisher@carolinas.org)

Students scheduled for the city of Charlotte should leave Chapel Hill the day before the rotation begins. It will take about three hours to drive from Chapel Hill to Charlotte, approximately 150 miles. Reimbursement for travel will be in accordance with Statewide AHEC Program guidelines. Students staying in Charlotte AHEC housing will receive detailed information on parking and directions. Key pickup is available 24 hours/day through Carolinas Medical Center's Security Department.

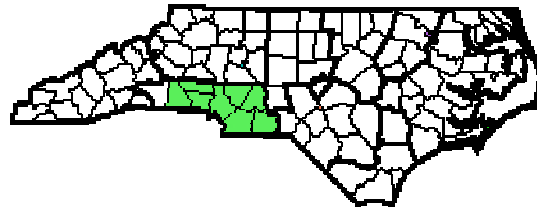
Routine Parking: Students commuting from outlying areas should contact their assigned department regarding parking instructions.

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### Stanly Memorial Hospital Rotations, Albemarle:

Contact Betty Barnes, Administration, for guesthouse availability. Phone: (704) 982-1943

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Shelby, Lincolnton and Gastonia rotations:

NC health science students stay at no charge in the Hamrick House in Shelby, NC. This renovated mansion is owned by Cleveland Regional Medical Center.



Housing Contact: Linda Brackett, Educational Resources Department  
Phone: (704) 487-3199; Fax: (704) 487-3399; Email: lbrackett@carolinas.org  
\$50.00 security deposit required. Make checks payable to: Cleveland Regional Medical Center.  
Deposit returned upon checkout with return of house key.

General Housing Accommodations: Housing is assigned on a per request basis. Most rooms are shared double rooms in a 7 bedroom house that accommodates up to 12 residents. The Hamrick House has:

- Telephone – local service with calling card capabilities
- Data line for internet access
- Cable TV, VCR
- Fully furnished kitchen

And remember, as with all AHEC housing: No Pets and No Overnight Guests!

Upon arrival in Shelby, students should go to the Emergency Department of CRMC. Ask the person at the Reception Desk to get the Police Officer on duty. The officer on duty will have a packet of information that includes your room assignment and key. The Officer will escort you to the Hamrick House and be sure you get in.

➤ Directions to Cleveland Regional Medical Center:

Hwy 74 by-pass into Shelby. At the intersection of Highway 74 and DeKalb Street (Shelby High School, Burger King, Express Store and McDonalds are corner landmarks) turn North (right) onto DeKalb. Continue on DeKalb until you get to the stop light with CRMC directly in front of you. At this intersection, turn left onto Grover Street. Go to the next light (intersection of Washington Street), turn right on Washington. Turn right into the Emergency Department parking lot.

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## Directions to Carolinas Medical Center from Chapel Hill

- Take 1-40 West to 1-85 South
- From 1-85, take Exit 38 (Statesville/Columbia) to 1-77
- Take Brookshire Freeway East ( I-277, Highway 16)
- Drive approximately 2 miles and follow Highway 16 South - veer left as the road splits. This becomes John Belk Freeway and Highway 16
- Follow "Trauma Center" signs around the Central Business District of Charlotte staying in the right lanes
- Exit right onto Kenilworth Avenue, Exit 1 E. Turn right at stop onto Kenilworth Avenue
- At the third stop light, turn left onto East Morehead Street.
- Go through one light. Turn right onto South Kings Drive at the next light.
- Turn right onto Medical Center Drive at the light.
- In one block you will be in front of the Rush S. Dickson Tower of Carolinas Medical Center. Telephone (704) 355-2000.

### MAP OF CHARLOTTE



## Carolinas Medical Center and Dilworth Inn

