2023 AHEC Preceptor Survey - Preceptors

Summary
In 2023, Georgia Statewide Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) distributed a survey to 11,174 active and inactive preceptors via Qualtrics. 1,365 preceptors responded.

Survey Respondents
Demographics
- Respondents were fairly evenly split by age
  - 28% between 30-39 years old
  - 26% between 40-49 years old
  - 27% between 50-59 years old
  - 19% between 60-69 years old
- There were more women (58%) than men (42%)
- There were more White (72%) than Black (12%), Asian (10%), Hispanic or Latino (< 3%), multiracial (< 3%), or Alaska Native, Native American or Pacific Islander (< 1%) respondents
- Respondents represented 155 of Georgia’s 159 counties

Disciplines and Preceptor Status:
The 2023 AHEC Preceptor Survey was sent to preceptors representing multiple disciplines. Out of survey respondents, 46% were physicians, 40% were advanced practice nurses, 12% were physician assistants, and 2% were other allied health professionals. Most (80%) are currently precepting, while 20% having precepted in the past.

Most community-based faculty indicate they have been precepting for three or more years. Approximately 50% precept for 15 or more weeks per year.

Why do our community-based preceptors teach?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Why do our preceptors teach?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Giving back</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joy of teaching</td>
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<td>Role model</td>
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<tr>
<td>Updating knowledge</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community practice</td>
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<td>Recruiting</td>
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Preceptors indicated the importance of various teaching incentives in their decision to precept students using a scale of 1 (none) to 5 (very great).

How could programs help you to do your job as preceptor?
When asked how programs could better assist preceptors, the most cited response was for programs to provide a syllabus that clearly outlines expectations. Other responses were self-directed learning assignments for students that engage office staff in conversations, visits to preceptors’ sites to establish authentic relationships, improving the student and preceptor evaluation process, and providing training on how to be a preceptor and to provide feedback.
How would you like programs to demonstrate appreciation?

The Preceptor Tax Incentive Program (PTIP) tax credits were the most cited response. Preceptors would also appreciate stipends for CE/CME, conferences, or other resources; CME for teaching (available to physicians); academic appointments at a health science university; and recognition of their site as center of teaching excellence.

Preceptors suggested other options, including financial compensation, PTIP for the training of out-of-state students (who would likely end up working in Georgia), continuing education units for advanced practice providers, and tokens of appreciation such as a school shirt or hoodie, framed certificates with years of service every five years, or gift cards with a note of appreciation.

Financial compensation for precepting

In the 2023 survey, we asked if any of our community-based faculty are paid to precept students in the health professions. 89% of survey respondents indicated they do not receive payments, and among the 11% that do receive compensation, 85% receive less than $1500 per rotation, from in-state, out-of-state, and offshore (e.g., foreign medical school) sources.

PTIP

The Preceptor Tax Incentive Program ((link https://www.augusta.edu/ahec/ptip.php)), or PTIP, allows community-based faculty who are not compensated for teaching, to earn tax credits for providing clinical training to students from the state’s public or private medical, osteopathic, advanced practice nursing, or physician assistant educational programs.

PTIP was a direct result of feedback from community-based faculty in previous Primary Care Summits. Among those who responded to our survey, 70% have registered for PTIP and most found registering to be relatively easy.

Satisfaction with precepting

Overall, 73% of our community-based faculty are either satisfied or very satisfied with precepting. Some additional comments about preceptor satisfaction received indicate that preceptors want more appreciation from academic programs, preceptors have difficulty maintaining patient load and precepting, and preceptors should have additional incentives for teaching.
2023 AHEC Preceptor Survey- Students

How students influence the clinical site
Overall, preceptors indicated they are satisfied or very satisfied with students when it comes to their relationships with their colleagues and staff, relationships with their patients, patient satisfaction, and patient flow. The figure below shows the satisfaction with each aspect of the clinical site.

How could students be better prepared for their rotations
Students begin their rotations throughout Georgia with varying levels of knowledge and skills. Preceptors were asked in which areas they would like students to be better prepared before site rotations, and could select more than one option. The figure below shows the responses.
2023 AHEC Preceptor Survey - Telehealth

In the 2023 edition of our survey, we added questions about telehealth. Approximately 1,100 preceptors responded to this subset of questions.

- 41% of preceptors indicated they do not use telehealth
- Approximately 20% use it at least once a day

About 20% of preceptors indicated they were somewhat or very knowledgeable about the Association of American Medical Colleges competencies in telehealth.

We looked at telehealth comfortability by discipline, rurality, and age

- The comfort level with telehealth technology between physicians, physician assistants and advanced practice nurses is comparable
- Preceptors who either worked in partially rural counties or a combination of rural and nonrural counties reported being more comfortable with telehealth than those who work solely in rural or nonrural counties
- Preceptors under age 50 feel more at ease with telehealth than preceptors over 50 years old
2023 AHEC Preceptor Survey- Preceptor Well-Being

**Wellbeing and AHEC preceptors**
In our 2023 survey, roughly 600 preceptors responded to questions about wellbeing in the workplace. Preceptors answered questions related to workplace wellbeing using a scale of 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree).

More preceptors agreed with such statements as, “I feel that I belong to a team” and I have autonomy in my work environment” than with such statements as, “I am able to get adequate rest” and “I have clear and equitable pathways for career advancement.”

**Mental health and AHEC preceptors**
Preceptors endorsed the statements, “I feel safe from physical harm” and “I feel safe from psychological harm” more than the statements related to talking about mental health or receiving support for mental health issues.

**Burnout and AHEC preceptors**
68% of preceptors said they do not feel burned out, 23% said they have 1+ symptoms of burnout, and 9% either have burnout symptoms that won’t go away or feel completely burned out.

The charts below show responses by age, gender, race, and discipline categories.

**Burnout and AHEC Preceptors by Age**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Range</th>
<th>Definitely burned out</th>
<th>Symptoms of burnout</th>
<th>Not burned out, enjoy work</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>60+ years (n=116)</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-59 years (n=177)</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40-49 years (n=142)</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-39 years (n=166)</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Burnout and AHEC Preceptors by Gender

Not burned out, enjoy work
- Female (n=337): 65%
- Male (n=264): 73%

Symptoms of burnout
- Female (n=337): 27%
- Male (n=264): 18%

Definitely burned out
- Female (n=337): 8%
- Male (n=264): 9%

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Burnout and AHEC Preceptors by Race

Not burned out, enjoy work
- White (n=452): 67%
- Black (n=68): 68%
- Asian (n=46): 76%
- Hispanic (n=17): 76%
- Multi (n=17): 65%

Symptoms of burnout
- White (n=452): 24%
- Black (n=68): 24%
- Asian (n=46): 20%
- Hispanic (n=17): 12%
- Multi (n=17): 24%

Definitely burned out
- White (n=452): 9%
- Black (n=68): 9%
- Asian (n=46): 4%
- Hispanic (n=17): 12%
- Multi (n=17): 6%

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Burnout and AHEC Preceptors by Discipline

APRN (n=216)
- Definitely burned out: 9%
- Symptoms of burnout: 25%
- Not burned out, enjoy work: 66%

PA (n=70)
- Definitely burned out: 9%
- Symptoms of burnout: 16%
- Not burned out, enjoy work: 76%

Physician (n=315)
- Definitely burned out: 8%
- Symptoms of burnout: 23%
- Not burned out, enjoy work: 69%