



# 2021 WISCONSIN EXPRESS

*Interprofessional Teams | Culture | Community Health*

## Program Overview

Wisconsin Express is a multi-day cultural immersion experience designed to give health professions students an opportunity to study firsthand the diverse local and regional healthcare innovations and challenges in Wisconsin communities.

Multidisciplinary groups of 6-12 students explore the region's cultural diversity and healthcare, developing strategies for intercultural and interprofessional effectiveness in healthcare practice. Participants have opportunities to reflect on and evaluate their experiences.

Sessions noted as "virtual" are delivered using collaborative technology and require a reliable Internet connection. We may transition other sessions to virtual delivery if needed due to COVID-19.

## Sessions & Sites

- ✓ **Winter Break Session (virtual)** | Jan 10-13, 2021  
**STATEWIDE**
- ✓ **Spring Break Session I** | March 14-19, 2021  
**HAYWARD**
- ✓ **Spring Break Session II (virtual)** | March 21-24, 2021  
**EAU CLAIRE**
- ✓ **Summer Break** | May 23-28, 2021

**ASHLAND** | **BELOIT-MADISON** |  
**GREEN BAY** | **KESHENA** | **LA CROSSE** |  
**LAC DU FLAMBEAU** | **LANCASTER** |  
**MARSHFIELD** | **MILWAUKEE** |  
**SHEBOYGAN** | **SUPERIOR**

**Application opens for all sessions: November 15, 2020**

**Application deadlines: Winter Break: December 11 | Spring Break Sessions: January 22 | Summer Break Sessions: March 15**

**APPLY ONLINE: [ahec.wisc.edu/wisconsin-express](http://ahec.wisc.edu/wisconsin-express)**

### Participant fee is \$250 (\$50 for virtual)

- Fee includes five nights of housing, most meals, group transportation by van, curriculum materials, and admissions to local museums/points of interest.
- **Housing:** Sites are residential; participants are required to stay in the housing provided. Having a roommate is part of the residential program and enhances the experience for all.
- **Transportation** is provided. However, students are responsible for arranging their first day arrival and last day departure transportation.

### Activities vary by site and include:

- Experiential and interactive learning in groups
- Participation in community activities
- Access to healthcare organizations behind the scenes
- Conversations about life in the community and region
- Interactions with public and primary health practitioners

# 2021 Wisconsin Express Site Descriptions

## ASHLAND

MIDWIFERY, RURAL & NATIVE AMERICAN FOCUS

**Summer Break:** 6 Students

This site gives students the opportunity to see a wide variety of rural health care settings, including women's health, midwifery, acute care, public health, tribal clinics, and others. A diverse group of practitioners will present and discuss the challenges and rewards of working in rural health in far northern Wisconsin, as well as culturally appropriate care for Anishinaabe (Ojibwe) populations.

## BELOIT-MADISON

HEALTH DISPARITIES FOCUS

**Summer Break:** 24 Students

Participants gain opportunities to explore health disparities locally and globally and learn about health care programs and services available. Various community organizations and health care professionals offer participants experiences focusing on the underserved including Hispanic, African American, uninsured/underinsured, women's health, homeless, and rural populations.

## EAU CLAIRE

AGING & VETERANS FOCUS

**Spring Break Session II (virtual):** 25 Students

This site will focus on caring for an elderly population, many of whom are veterans, have mental health disorders, or have chronic diseases. Students will visit hospitals/clinics, public health departments, aging and disability resource centers, nursing homes, and mental health/rehabilitation facilities. Students will learn about the impact of an aging health care workforce and the ever-growing need for health care professionals in rural and underserved areas.

## GREEN BAY

NATIVE AMERICAN, HISPANIC & SOMALI FOCUS

**Summer Break:** 6 Students

Activities will challenge participants to see health from the perspective of the Native American culture of the Oneida Nation, the growing Hispanic and Somali community, as well as the homeless and underinsured. Small group activities include interactions with providers serving these diverse groups, as well as a service learning opportunity.

## HAYWARD

HEALTHCARE ENTREPRENEURIALISM FOCUS

**Spring Break Session I:** 10 students

Students will be exposed to rural healthcare in both small and tourism-based communities of the northwoods. The program will present a unique perspective as the coordinators of this program come from the workforce development industry. The program will include many healthcare entrepreneurs that started their own business and the process they used to develop the business in addition to many other visits, job shadows, and speakers.

## KESHENA

NATIVE AMERICAN FOCUS

**Summer Break:** 11 Students

This site engages with the Menominee Indian Tribe and starts at a Pow Wow honoring Veterans. This experience provides a historical perspective of termination & restoration, including learning about the Tribe's unique status of federal jurisdiction and sovereignty on their own land. Visits will be made to multiple sites around the reservation and focus on health disparities and how residents have engaged their community to create change.

## LA CROSSE

RURAL, UNDERSERVED FOCUS

**Summer Break:** 6 Students

This site focuses on social determinants of health and cultural competence engaging with providers and patients across the region. Students will visit sites that serve the Amish, Hispanic, Ho-Chunk, Hmong, LGBTQ, uninsured/underinsured, homeless and more. Students will have the opportunity to job shadow, volunteer at a homeless shelter, provide education at a free clinic, and participate in a community project.

## LAC DU FLAMBEAU

NATIVE AMERICAN FOCUS

**Summer Break:** 11 Students

Students at this site will focus on priority health care issues facing rural and indigenous communities in northeast Wisconsin including chronic illness, obesity, substance use disorder, and domestic/sexual violence. The week starts out with attendance at the Menominee Nation Veteran's Pow Wow. Throughout the week, the concepts of tribal historical trauma and trauma informed care will be explored.

## LANCASTER

INCARCERATION FOCUS

**Summer Break:** 6 students

This site offers students a first-hand opportunity to explore incarceration healthcare through visits to maximum and minimum state prisons and county jail. The week will also explore rural Grant and Crawford counties focusing on income and geography's effects on health and access to healthcare. We will hear from community members, healthcare practitioners, and public health professionals.

## MARSHFIELD

AMISH AND MENNONITE FOCUS

**Summer Break:** 10 Students

This site focuses on Amish/Mennonite culture and rural health care. Students visit these communities to explore how respect for culture can interact with health care. They learn about the balance between cost of medical care and reduction of risk. Some of the sites students visit include public health departments, fee-for-service, midwifery and family practice clinics, dental practices, educational institutions, and various Amish/Mennonite businesses.

## MILWAUKEE

URBAN FOCUS

**Summer Break:** 12 Students

At this site, students learn about Milwaukee's Latino, African American and Hmong communities. Students will explore health care disparities and meet providers working to address these disparities. Students visit a variety of health care settings and community organizations. Students explore issues of poverty, lack of access to health care, homelessness, language barriers and AODA issues.

## SHEBOYGAN

HMONG FOCUS

**Summer Break:** 12 Students

Approximately 6,000 Hmong live in Sheboygan. A health needs assessment (2016) documented serious problems in health care access and health literacy in this population. The Hmong Community Center has implemented a number of unique programs addressing these needs. Student will also gain first-hand knowledge about Hmong history, culture and traditional health beliefs.

## STATEWIDE

DIVERSE POPULATION FOCUS

**Winter Break Session (virtual):** 30 Students

Take a virtual tour around the state of Wisconsin and explore the unique cultures and communities of each of our 7 regions. Populations of focus include Hmong, Native American, Spanish/Immigrant, Homeless and Incarceration.

## SUPERIOR

GERONTOLOGY & AGING POPULATION

**Summer Break:** 6 Students

Northwest Wisconsin is aging at rates faster than most of the country and the state of Wisconsin due to 'Brain Drain' and retirees moving to the region. This site will explore gerontology, dementia care and their careers and services associated with this demographic.



**WISCONSIN AHEC**  
Area Health Education Centers

Site information, including dates and format, is subject to change. Please see our website for the latest and greatest information:

[ahec.wisc.edu/wisconsin-express](http://ahec.wisc.edu/wisconsin-express)