

Host Home Requirements

One of the main goals of SWCAHEC is to encourage health professional students to choose rural areas after graduation. Part of that encouragement includes offering housing for students during their rural rotations. We rely heavily on host homes, and if you would like to offer a room, please see below to see if you'd be a good fit! If so, we offer preliminary host applications online.

We occasionally will lease apartments, as well, depending on the town and the student need, so please contact us. We also work with people regarding special circumstances. Our students come for a variety of time, anywhere from three weeks to three months, although a one month stay is typical.

Benefits for becoming a host home:

- 1) Supporting a health professional student during their rotation.
- 2) Helping to encouragement doctors and other future medical professionals to choose a rural location after graduation.
- 3) Networking in the community.
- 4) Reimbursement for each night the student stays with you.

Occasionally, student rotations are cancelled or changed. We do our best to make sure that you are not inconvenienced by these sorts of circumstances.

Requirements for becoming a host home:

- 1) Host and all adults in the home must pass a background check. AHEC will cover the costs of the background check, but all adults must submit social security numbers and birthdates.
- 2) Host homes must have a working smoke detector on each level of the home. Batteries are to be checked every year and the smoke detector tested according to manufacturer recommendations.
- 3) Host homes must provide a non-smoking environment.
- 4) Host homes must offer students a bathroom (this may or may not be private).
- 5) Host homes must provide students with a bedroom with a solid door that can be closed completely and locked.

Other considerations:

- The bedroom must receive adequate heat during cool/cold temperatures as well as adequate ventilation overall, especially during warm/hot temperatures. Space heaters are not considered adequate heating (and they are considered unsafe for unsupervised or overnight use).

- A students' full time job is their clinical rotation – at no time are they to be considered part of the household in terms of providing daycare, housekeeping, transportation, etc.
- Students often have irregular work hours, and access to your home 24/7 is required. They will need a key or some other means to enter your home at odd hours and potentially when you are not at home.

All households have rules. We ask that you let us know what standards you would like the student to keep while living in your home.

We also have expectations of students during their rotations. Students are not permitted to bring overnight guests, family members or pets. Students understand they are to provide all their own toiletries, towels, bed linens and food items while they are living in your home. Please make adequate room in your refrigerator/freezer and pantry for them, unless you'd rather board them. Feel free to discuss this option with your student guest when they contact you prior to their rotation. If a student agrees to share your grocery bill, it would be the student's responsibility to pay you directly for these costs. The Colorado AHEC System covers housing expenses only.

Thank you for considering the opportunity to host a health professional student. Please contact us if you have any questions.