

# Rural Health Track

## Program Overview

The Washington State University College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences (CPPS) is offering a specialized track for student pharmacists who are committed to expanding access to pharmacist care in rural communities. Students will apply for admission into this track before the end of their first year (PY1). Once admitted, students will be assigned a faculty mentor to guide them through successful completion of the track. Expectations of students in the rural health track include selecting elective courses that emphasize rural health topics, scheduling of Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experience (IPPE) and Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience (APPE) rotations in rural areas, and completion of a capstone project focused on improving an aspect of rural health care.

Applicants to the CPPS rural health track are student pharmacists with a commitment to practicing pharmacy in Washington state's rural communities. Student pharmacists that are from rural communities in Washington state and hope to return to those communities are especially encouraged to apply.

## Program Details

- Access to specialized elective course work
  - » Current Affairs and Opportunities in Rural Health (or Interprofessional Practice in Rural Communities) – 2 credits, offered fall semester
  - » 3 to 6 additional credits in electives covering topics relevant to rural health – access to courses within and outside the CPPS
- Capstone Course – 2 to 4 elective credits
  - » Longitudinal special project in rural health
  - » 1 credit awarded per semester
  - » Faculty and community mentors
  - » Present results at a regional or national meeting, develop a manuscript for publication
- IPPE and APPE rotations scheduled at rural sites
  - » Multiple home zones available across the state
- Interprofessional service and learning experiences in rural communities
- Unique mentoring program – faculty and alumni advisors with rural pharmacy experience

