

ARCADIA UNIVERSITY – COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

Applied Experiences in Health Sciences (HSC 430) Partner Opportunity for Clinics & Nonprofit Organizations

Arcadia University's Health Sciences Program invites community and healthcare organizations to collaborate with students for our *Applied Experiences in Health Sciences* course. This upper-level course provides students the opportunity to apply their academic learning to real-world health challenges through short, structured volunteer or observation experiences.

What the Course Is

HSC 430 bridges classroom knowledge and practical engagement. Students—typically juniors or seniors—use their backgrounds in biology, chemistry, public health, and health sciences to explore how health is addressed at the population level. Experiences may occur in clinical, community, or non-clinical health settings.

What We're Looking For

Partner sites that address health or wellness within a defined population. Experiences do not have to be direct patient-facing, but they should connect to health in a meaningful way—for example:

- Programs serving a specific diagnosis group (e.g., diabetes education, stroke recovery, mental or physical health of older adults)
- Clinics or nonprofits addressing health access, prevention, rehabilitation, or health education
- Organizations focused on social determinants of health, behavioral health, or health equity
- Health-related research, program development, or data collection initiatives

If your organization impacts health outcomes, community wellness, or access to care, your work aligns with the goals of this course.

Placement Structure

A minimum of 10 hours is required. This may be in-person, virtual, or hybrid. Experiences should be mutually beneficial—supporting the organization's goals while giving students supported practical exposure to real-world healthcare issues. Sites do not need a pre-defined project. Students can observe, identify an area of need, and propose a small-scale project or data-collection idea that benefits the organization.

- Flexible scheduling—placements can occur on-site, remotely, or in a hybrid format
- Students come prepared with strong academic foundations in health sciences and professional communication
- Organizations are encouraged to involve students in observation, discussion, and data-driven initiatives

- Projects can evolve organically as students identify useful opportunities during their time with your team

What to Expect

Students will:

- Observe operations and workflows within the organization
- Reflect on challenges and opportunities for improvement
- Develop a brief project proposal or targeted improvement plan based on their observations
- Present their findings to faculty and peers at the end of the semester

Benefits for Partner Sites

- Collaborate with motivated undergraduate students preparing for healthcare careers
- Gain fresh perspectives and innovative ideas from emerging professionals
- Enhance community engagement and visibility through partnership with Arcadia University
- Build long-term connections with the College of Health Sciences for future collaboration

Interested in Participating?

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