



Arkansas Rural Practice Program

Rural Practice Program

- **What is the purpose?** To increase the number of Primary Care physicians practicing full time in medically underserved, qualified communities in rural Arkansas.
- **Who can apply?** Any Arkansas resident who is accepted for admission or is on the alternate list at the UAMS College of Medicine.
- **What is the benefit?** While in medical school at UAMS \$12,000 per year – up to four years.
- **What is the definition of Primary Care?** Family Medicine, general Internal Medicine, general Pediatrics, general Internal Med/Peds, general OB/GYN, General Surgery, Emergency Medicine and Geriatrics.
- **What is a medically underserved community?** Any “medically underserved” area that the Arkansas Rural Practice Student Loan and Scholarship Board determines to have an unmet need for medical services due to factors including and without limitation to: ratio of primary care physicians to population and the infant mortality rate; percentage of population with incomes below the federal poverty level; resident individuals 60 and older; physicians 60 and older; accessibility within the area to primary care medicine.
- **What is A Qualified Community?** It is one that is less than 20,000 in population and more than 20 miles from a community with more than 20,000 in population.
- **When do I choose my community?** You do not have to choose a qualified community until you near the completion of your primary care residency training program.
- **Is there a penalty for defaulting?** Yes. Loan repayment with interest/penalties as well as the potential loss of your license to practice medicine in Arkansas.



For Information Contact: Tammy Henson, Administrator
(501) 686-5354

Email: Tahenson@uams.edu