

SE Alaska Health Consortium: Mt. Edgecumbe Medical Center

City

Sitka

State

AK

Details

This site will fulfill the Indian Health and Underserved Pathway Requirement.

Students will work at the Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium (SEARHC) Mt. Edgecumbe Medical Center, as well as other health care clinics within the communities SEARHC serves. Site directors, Drs. Lisa Antonio and Patricia Siza will be key contact people. Students will work with physicians across the continuum of care. Students can expect to provide a wide variety of ambulatory, in-patient, emergency, and obstetric services in Sitka and the surrounding communities, where there is limited specialist availability. One week out of the clerkship, the student *may* have an opportunity to accompany a physician on a visit to a remote village clinic. The village trip is dependent on many local factors and will not be available for all rotations (*Village travel has been temporarily placed on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic*).

Community

Sitka is a unique island community in southeast Alaska. It is a popular cruise ship and tourist destination that embraces its rich culture and history. Despite a population of roughly 8,500, Sitka inspires the arts – there are festivals, events, shows, and activities all year long. Sitka can be reached by Alaska Airlines and the Alaska Marine Highway ferries. The weather has temperatures that are mild year-round; with a maritime climate, you can certainly expect rain. Outdoor recreational opportunities abound all year round. A gym pass will be available for those who prefer to stay warm and dry while they exercise.

Duties

Students will spend five weeks in various outpatient clinics and one week working at the hospital in the ED and medicine floor.

Patients

Students can expect to serve a diverse population of Native Alaskan and other ethnic groups, of all age ranges.

Housing

An apartment is located about 1.5 miles from the hospital / clinic. The apartment is fully furnished and includes basic cable, internet access, and a bicycle. The apartment has two bedrooms and is large enough to accommodate a guest, but no animals. If you're intending on having guests / family stay, the landlords request to be notified in advance. A car is provided and can be picked up at the airport. The car should be clean and full of gas upon its return to the airport prior to your departure.

Arrival/Check-In: Students may check into AK WWAMI housing **after 3 pm on the Sunday afternoon prior to the start of their rotation.**

Departure/Check-out: Students must vacate AK WWAMI housing on **Friday afternoon, after they complete their testing, by 3pm.**

**Early arrivals and late departures require prior approval. If such approval is not sought or granted, housing accommodations and expenses will be the student's responsibility.*

Other

Some facts about Sitka

- The City and Borough of Sitka, Alaska encompasses 4,710 square miles, making it the largest city by land mass in the United States, with a population just under 9,000.
 - The area where Sitka sits was originally settled by Tlingit people more than 10,000 years ago.
 - Sitka was the capital of Russian America until Alaska was purchased by the US in 1876.
 - The annual rainfall is 87 inches/year (Seattle gets 36 inches).
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Features

Rural Sites less than 25,000