

Hometown Scholars



Health centers

Grow your own physician, dentist, or PA

NACHC & ATSU's *Hometown Scholars* strategy

IDENTIFY, RECRUIT, and ENDORSE applicants for ATSU's medical, dental, and PA programs

Discover more! (turn over for details)

Hometown Scholars

The National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) has a partnership with A.T. Still University (ATSU) to train high-quality, community-minded healers. This partnership includes a strategy to recruit applicants from populations served by Community Health Centers. The strategy is called *Hometown Scholars*, <http://www.nachc.com/clinicalworkforcehometown.cfm>.

The University's medical school, dental school, and PA program based in Arizona, and its dental school based in Missouri, were started at the urging of the nation's Community Health Centers. These schools use a variety of efforts aimed at attracting and molding high-quality, community-minded healers. Efforts include service-education opportunities in health centers, course work specific to community-oriented primary care and the health center movement, faculty and speakers from the health center world, careful selections processes that seek compassionate qualities, and *Hometown Scholars* **applicant endorsement opportunities for health center leaders**.

NACHC encourages health center leaders to consider patients, employees, and children as the next generation of healers, to assist in recruiting individuals with a "CHC heart" and to encourage them to apply to ATSU's medical school, dental schools, or PA program. Instructions for applying to the Missouri-based dental school (MOSDOH), and the Arizona-based medical school (SOMA), dental school (ASDOH), and Physician Assistant program (ASHS PA) can be accessed at: www.atsu.edu/hometown

If you know an individual that you believe could become a compassionate, community-minded health center physician, dentist, or physician assistant, please consider nominating that individual for admission. **Student selection for *Hometown Scholars* endorsed applicants involves four main steps:**

- **You nominating a potential applicant as a *Hometown Scholar*** – Hometown Scholar testimonies, about the health center "heart" of an applicant, helps identify individuals to interview who have the compassion to become the next generation of CHC healers¹.
- **Initial application** – The initial application is completed through central processing cooperatives that screen medical, dental, and PA applicants.
- **Secondary application** – Prospective students who meet requirements are invited to submit a secondary application including letters of support.
- **The interview** – a process that is designed to help identify students with the character and drive to become compassionate, community-minded healers

¹ *Hometown Scholars* nominations are identified by endorsement letters (testimonies) from CHC leaders like yourself. Please send *Hometown Scholars* letters or emails to Gary Cloud, PhD, at 5850 E. Still Circle, Mesa AZ, 85206; gcloud@atsu.edu; or fax 480.219.6110. For further information on *Hometown Scholars*, contact Dr. Cloud.