



# *The Role of Virtual Simulation as a Modality of Clinical Experience in AHEC Scholars Program*

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# Problem Statement

The **Area Health Education Center (AHEC) Scholar Program** clinical rotations diminished during the pandemic due to clinical pressures in state-wide healthcare systems.

The **Center for Experiential and Applied Learning (CEAL)** and other state-wide simulation centers provided virtual simulation experiences as an alternative.

# Study Design

In 2022, CEAL is hosting four (4) virtual simulation experiences focused on anesthesiology and labor and delivery.

Electronic surveys are administered to participating Scholars and descriptive statistics, t-tests, and qualitative assessment of themes are completed.



# Evaluation Plan & Conclusion

Preliminary 5-point Likert results reveal:

- agreement with the content being pertinent to educational needs (4.6)
- increased knowledge/skills due to the virtual simulation event (4.6)

CEAL will:

- evaluate our own program across the four (4) simulation experiences
- partner with participating simulation centers to compile simulation data across all programs,
- determine if/how simulation will remain a part of the future Scholars program.

# Questions for Discussion

- *What virtual simulation topics do you think relevant to AHEC Scholars who are in college and considering a career in healthcare?*
- *What the biggest barriers to clinical rotations in our healthcare system?*