

**West Virginia Rural Health Education Partnerships  
Policy and Procedures**

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<b>Title of Policy:</b>	Policy Statement to encourage a more even distribution of Medical Students
<b>Approved By:</b>	WVRHEP Advisory Panel
<b>Approved Date:</b>	November 15, 2004
<b>Effective Date:</b>	July 1, 2005
<b>Implementation Responsibility:</b>	WVRHEP Advisory Panel RHEP Executive Director
<b>Oversight Responsibility:</b>	Schools Committee

**Policy Statement:**

This policy will encourage a more even distribution of medical students without capping the number of rotations at any one location. It will also encourage rotations in the most underserved areas which have a history of very few RHEP rotations and are also HPSA's. Level I sites are sites located in counties which have had the bulk of medical student rotations over the past 2 ½ years. Level II sites are specific underserved towns and sites located within the Level I counties and other counties whose number of medical student rotations falls between the cut-off for Level I and Level II counties. Level III sites are sites located in counties which have had few medical student rotations *and* have a HPSA designation and experience chronic problems with recruitment and retention of health providers. RHEP restricted cities are still ineligible as RHEP or "other rural" sites. The status of these sites will be annually reviewed by the Recruitment and Retention Committee. **See Addendum for a complete listing of all Level I, II and III counties/towns and a listing of all clinics with a designation as an FQHC, federal 330 Clinic (CHC) and/or free clinic as of 5/12/04.**

**Procedures:**

1. All medical schools will encourage students to complete at least one RHEP rotation in a Level II or Level III RHEP county/town/site.
2. If the students' respective school allows, medical students may receive an incentive of 2 months of RHEP credit for one month spent at a Level III site.
3. The RHEP web site will indicate Level I, II and III sites. These will be updated annually.

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Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences  
Higher Education Policy Commission

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Hilda R. Heady, MSW  
Executive Director, WVRHEP

[Addendum](#)