



Connecting students to careers, professionals
to communities and communities to better health



*CT AHEC sponsored “Essential Skills for Nurse Preceptors: Increasing your ESP!”
A conference for nurses, by nurses (May 2025)*

CT AHEC Strengthens the Nursing Workforce by Supporting Clinical Nurse Preceptor Development

Clinical nurse preceptors are instrumental in training and retaining nurses by providing one-to-one oversight and guidance; however, they are in short supply and training and support for the ones already in this role is inconsistent and often lacking. To address this gap, CT AHEC, through its affiliation with the New England Nursing Clinical Faculty and Preceptor Academy (Academy), a \$4 million Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) project, has been offering preceptor training opportunities to Connecticut nurses. “We sent 20 nurses to the Academy’s Teaching of Tomorrow training and hosted a nurse precepting conference in Hartford for 30 more. In addition, we are developing a free, online nurse preceptor training program. CT AHEC is committed to developing and supporting nurse preceptors and clinical faculty to strengthen and grow the Connecticut health care workforce at all levels, across all settings,” said Petra Clark-Dufner, Director, CT AHEC. Read about the conference in [UConn Today](#).

CT AHEC supports nursing workforce development in Connecticut by:

- Recognizing all nurses benefit when focused training on how to teach and train nurses and nursing students is provided.
- Inviting nurses from all settings—hospitals, community health clinics, primary care, public health, schools, and academia—to participate in CT AHEC training efforts.
- Spreading the word about the free [toolkit](#), [webinars](#) and [podcasts](#) offered by

the New England Nursing Clinical Faculty and Preceptor Academy.

Supporting Primary Care Workforce Development in Connecticut by:

- ▶Promoting Strong Community/Academic Partnerships
- ▶Creating Pipeline Programs for Pre-Health Professions Students
- ▶Supporting Health Careers Awareness Programming
- ▶Providing Community-Based Training for Health Professions Students
- ▶Supporting Community-Based Health Education and Screenings
- ▶Promoting Strategies to Address Health Disparities

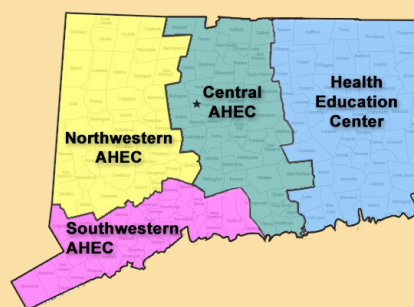
CT AHEC Network Regional Centers:

Central AHEC, Inc. (Hartford and Middlesex Counties, Meriden and Wallingford)
www.centraltahec.org

Health Education Center, Inc. (New London, Tolland and Windham Counties)
www.healtheducenter.org

Northwestern AHEC
(Greater Waterbury, Greater Danbury and Litchfield County)
www.nwctahec.org

Southwestern AHEC, Inc. (Southern Fairfield and New Haven Counties)
<https://swctahec.org>



The statewide Connecticut Area Health Education Center (CT AHEC) Network, based at UConn Health, is implemented through four regional centers which enable the CT AHEC Network to provide high-quality, efficient, effective and flexible services that meet local needs. Thank you for your continued support of the CT AHEC Network.

Call us at 860-679-7969 or **visit:**
h.uconn.edu/ct-ahec