This Colorado School of Public Health (ColoradoSPH) Rural Public Health Practice Scholarship is made possible by the State of Colorado through the Colorado Rural Healthcare Workforce Initiative Senate Bill 22-172, which was passed by the Colorado Legislature in 2022. This scholarship is intended to support students with financial need, who will establish or continue their public health professional careers working in rural or frontier Colorado areas. Two thirds of Colorado’s 64 counties are rural or frontier and most are designated shortage areas for public health professionals. Although only about 20% of Colorado’s population lives in rural and frontier counties, the entire state relies on them for much of its food, water, energy and recreation. Public health in these areas is essential to the vitality of rural economies and for urban dwellers when they visit and recreate in rural areas. Through this scholarship, the goal is to increase the number of public health graduates who will practice in Colorado’s rural and frontier counties and who will remain in these rural and frontier areas for the long term.

This scholarship is available to current Certificate, Master of Public Health (MPH) and Doctor of Public Health (DrPH) students in the ColoradoSPH.

This scholarship is contingent upon your academic good standing in the ColoradoSPH degree program. If awarded this scholarship, you agree that within six (6) months of completing your public health degree, you will practice public health in a rural or frontier county within the State of Colorado for a period of two consecutive years at a full-time equivalency as required by SB22-172. Colorado’s rural and frontier counties are defined by the Colorado Rural Health Center which is the State’s Office of Rural Health. If you do not fulfill this requirement, you will need to agree to repay the full amount of your scholarship to the ColoradoSPH’s scholarship fund.

Please note that prior to awarding of this scholarship, applicants may be asked to participate in an interview with the scholarship review committee.

Eligibility:

- Current Certificate, Master of Public Health (MPH) and Doctor of Public Health (DrPH) students (in good standing) at the Colorado School of Public Health.
- Recipients will be selected based on financial need and strength of scholarship application, including intentions to work in a rural or frontier area in Colorado for 2 years following certificate or degree completion.
- Applicants are required to submit 2 brief essays as part of the application. See detailed instructions in Part B below. Applicants may also be asked to engage in a short interview with the scholarship review committee.
APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name____________________________________ SOPHAS or Student ID_____________________

Address______________________________________________________________

City_________________________________ State__________ Zip __________________

Daytime Phone #________________________________ Other phone #________________________________

Email Address________________________________ State of Residence:_________________________________

Home Campus:  ☐ CU-ANSCHUTZ  ☐ CSU  ☐ UNC

Program:  ☐ MPH Concentration:____________________________________

☐ DrPH Focus Area:__________________________________________________

☐ Certificate Focus Area:____________________________________________

Are you applying for Financial Aid?  ☐ YES  ☐ NO

If yes, please document your financial need as determined on your FAFSA. Calculate financial need by subtracting your Estimated Family Contribution from the Cost of Attendance.

Estimated Family Contribution can be found on the FAFSA, listed as “EFC: #######”

Cost of Attendance can be found on the UCDenver/Anschutz website. FAFSA Net Financial Need: _____________

If you are not allowed to apply for FASFA, please describe your financial need.

Documentation of financial need will be requested from finalists before scholarships are awarded.

I certify that the information provided in this application is complete and correct to the best of my knowledge and may be verified upon request.

Applicant Signature:_____________________________________________
Part B: Essays

1. In 200 words or less, please describe how your background has prepared you for working in public health in a rural or frontier community.

2. In 200 words or less, please describe your public health career aspirations to contribute to the health of rural Coloradans and work in a rural or frontier Colorado area for 2 consecutive years following completion of your certificate or public health degree.

3. Please provide the review committee of an overview of the coursework you have taken and the remaining courses you need to take to complete your certificate or degree.

Essays should be submitted as a separate document and attached to the submission email (see below).

APPLICATION SUBMISSION INFORMATION

The priority deadline for spring 2024 applications is March 25, 2024 at 5:00 pm MST.

All applications will be accepted via email only.

The subject line should be “ColoradoSPH Rural Public Health Practice Scholarship and YOUR LAST NAME” and sent to: coloradosph.academicaffairs@cuanschutz.edu

APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS AND TIMELINE

Applications received by the deadline noted above will be reviewed by a subcommittee of the ColoradoSPH Scholarship Committee. Awardees will be notified by email shortly thereafter.