

ELON PA PROGRAM GOALS (SSR 14H)

CONNECT (Boldly Elon): Serving (DPAS)

Goal 4: Promote opportunities for community engagement

Community-based learning is an established means of encouraging student academic growth and has been shown to improve understanding communities and their needs.¹ These benefits are augmented when the learning is embedded and integrated into a curriculum in an intentional, meaningful manner.²

Community engagement opportunity examples include integrated co-curricular activities through Start Early in Medicine, voluntary extracurricular activities with the Open Door Clinic of Alamance County and the Dream Center, and optional clinical practicums (an elective) in global or national locations.

Benchmarks/Outcomes

B4.1 Elon PA learners will participate in co-curricular and voluntary community engagement during the pre-clinical phase of education

- Outcome 4.1: See table

Table 4.1: Elon PA Community Partnership for Community Engagement				
<i>Ongoing opportunities</i>	c/o 2022	c/o 2023	c/o 2024	c/o 2025
Start Early in Medicine	I	I	I	I
Open Door Clinic of Alamance County	V	V	V	V
Project Access				(instituted, v)
Diabetes Coffee Hour (Dream Center)				(instituted, v)
<i>Other 1-time opportunities</i>	c/o 2022	c/o 2023	c/o 2024	c/o 2025
City Gate Dream Center diaper drive	V	V	V	V
Food Drive for Piedmont Association of Physician Assistants (PAPA)		V	V	V
Habit for Humanity Build	V			
Holiday gift drive for community			V	V
Supply drive and volunteerism for Western NC				V
<i>Glossary: V=voluntary, extracurricular; I=integrated, co-curricular</i>				

B4.2 Elon PA learners in good academic standing will have an opportunity to participate in global or national (“Study USA”) locations for supervised clinical practicum experiences (SCPEs)

– Outcome 4.2: See table.

Table 4.2: Elon PA Students Participating in Global and National (Study USA) Learning Opportunities				
<i>Global opportunities</i>	c/o 2022	c/o 2023	c/o 2024	c/o 2025
Belize	2	3	4	9
<i>Study USA (national) locations</i>	c/o 2022	c/o 2023	c/o 2024	c/o 2025
Indian Health Service (IHS), Arizona	0	1	0*	0*
N. Mariana Islands (Saipan)	n/a	2	0*	0*
<i>*Placement availability is based on site availability. 2023 was the year Saipan’s site was developed. Opportunities at IHS vary annually. In 2024, there were no slots provided.</i>				

Citations:

1. Oliveira AL, Smith CH, Xavier NA. Service-Learning in Physician Assistant Education: A Scoping Review. *J Physician Assist Educ.* 2023;34(1):41-45. doi:10.1097/JPA.0000000000000481
2. Forest CP, Lie DA. Impact of a Required Service-Learning Curriculum on Preclinical Students. *J Physician Assist Educ.* 2018;29(2):70-76. doi:10.1097/JPA.0000000000000193

