UCSF Fresno is focused on improving health in the San Joaquin Valley through medical education and teaching, patient care, research and community partnerships.

In line with our mission, UCSF Fresno sponsors programs that address the special health needs and issues of California’s San Joaquin Valley.

UCSF Fresno aims to improve access to quality health care for underserved populations through health education and workforce training and by providing road maps for students to pursue careers in the health professions. UCSF Fresno also provides continuing education to enhance the knowledge and clinical capabilities of local health professionals, which in turn, boosts the quality of care in the region.

California Statewide Area Health Education Center (AHEC)

- One of the University of California’s oldest and most widely distributed health professions development programs
- Develops and supports health professions recruitment, training and retention programs in urban and rural underserved communities
- Supports the UCSF Fresno Family and Community Medicine Residency Program
- Works with 13 community-based organizations across the state
- Activities include pre-health professions programs to diversify the state’s future health professionals, clinical rotations in clinics and community health centers and continuing professional education for providers in underserved areas

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Continuing Dental Education Program

- Established in 1975
- Community-based partnership between central San Joaquin Valley dentists and UCSF Fresno
- Provides dentists, technicians, hygienists, dental assistants, students and other dental professionals with local continuing education seminars necessary to maintain professional licenses
- Lectures presented by faculty from a wide variety of dental institutions
- Programs designed to provide the latest information and strategies for dentists and related allied health professionals
- Courses approved by the Dental Board of California and the Academy of General Dentistry
- Program is funded independently

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Latino Center For Medical Education And Research (LACMER)

- Established in 1996
- Addresses the shortage of underrepresented physicians in the medical practice community and teaching faculty at medical and health professional schools
- Research efforts focus on the health care needs of Latinos and other underserved populations
- Operates the Health Professions Pipeline Program, which includes the Junior Doctors Academy, Doctors Academy and Health Careers Opportunity Program – the respective middle school, high school and college academic preparation programs
- Pipeline programs seek to increase the number of educationally disadvantaged students who go on to become competitive applicants to health professional schools

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Fresno Pharmacy Education Program

- Established in 2002 by the UCSF School of Pharmacy
- Brings fourth-year UCSF pharmacy students to the Fresno area to complete their required clinical rotations and senior research projects
- Students learn, practice and work alongside faculty members to provide care and meet the needs of the San Joaquin Valley’s diverse population in an underserved area
- Program seeks to attract local students into the pharmacy profession

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Summer Biomedical Internship Program (SBI)

- Established in 1988
- Provides unique biomedical research experiences for high school students
- Matches well-qualified high school students in the summer between their junior and senior years with UCSF Fresno faculty members who have or are developing a research project
- Students from Fresno, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Merced and Tulare counties are eligible to apply
- Student selection based on academic merit
- Up to 12 students are selected per year
- More than 300 students have participated in the program
- Many former participants are finishing their medical residencies, working in the biomedical or biotechnical industries or are currently in medical school

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