



MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™  
EXTENSION



## Rural Medical and Science Scholars

*A Program for Mississippi Citizens and Communities*

Since 1998, the Rural Medical and Science Scholars program has been focused on helping high school seniors determine if they want to pursue health-related careers and shaping students' interest and understanding of medicine, health-related disciplines, and other STEM fields. The scholars engage with healthcare professionals, complete an intense and rigorous session of health science college coursework, and engage in didactic, observational, and experiential learning. Discovering interest and solidifying career intent early, whether healthcare-related or not, can strengthen future goals, save money, and help ensure a successful career path.

Adding one physician to a community contributes an average of \$1.8 million in additional economic output. Hence, the program works to ensure a strong and passionate workforce for the long-term goals of improving Mississippi's economy and increasing access to healthcare.



*For additional information, please visit [extension.msstate.edu/rms](https://extension.msstate.edu/rms).*

**SUMMER 2025**

**JUNE 8–20**

**515 STUDENTS**  
*have participated in the*  
**RMSS program.**

*Scholars have come from*  
**70 OF THE STATE'S 82 COUNTIES.**

**27%**  
**OF PARTICIPANTS**  
*represent minorities.*

**63% of participants are FEMALE,**  
**and 37% are MALE.**

**58 SCHOLARS**  
*have attended*  
**MEDICAL SCHOOL.**

**30 PRACTICE**  
*in primary care.*

**70%** *have engaged in* **STEM-RELATED CAREERS.**

Many scholars are pursuing healthcare careers in nursing, pharmacy, dentistry, counseling, medical research, public health, and physical or occupational therapy. Other scholars now work in STEM-related careers, such as mathematics, technology innovation, and mechanical, biological, or chemical engineering.

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