

TRUST in Wyoming



Wyoming TRUST Communities

Douglas, WY



Thermopolis, WY



Powell, WY



WHAT IS TRUST?

The Targeted Rural Underserved Track (TRUST) seeks to provide a continuous connection between underserved communities, medical education, and health professionals in our region. Our initial goal is to create a full-circle pipeline by guiding qualified students through a special curriculum that connects underserved communities in Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, and Idaho (the WWAMI region), to the University of Washington School of Medicine (UWSOM) and its network of affiliated residency programs ([Family Medicine](#), [General Internal Medicine](#), including [Boise Internal Medicine](#), [Billings Internal Medicine](#), [Spokane Internal Medicine](#) and [Pediatrics](#)).

After a targeted TRUST admissions process, TRUST students are linked to underserved communities (TRUST/WRITE sites) which will be their home community for all four years of medical school. By linking TRUST with existing UWSOM programs such as the Rural Underserved Opportunities Program (RUOP) and the Underserved Pathway (UP), and adding some unique curricular elements, TRUST scholars are immersed in the care of rural and underserved populations. The goal of the program is to fulfill the workforce needs of the underserved areas of the WWAMI region.

WRITE in Wyoming

WHAT IS WRITE?

WRITE (WWAMI Rural Integrated Training Experience) is a clinical training clerkship experience in a longitudinally integrated structure that allows a student to be fully immersed in the day-to-day workings of a community medical clinic, and to actively participate as a member of the healthcare team. Over the course of 16-20 weeks, students provide continuity care for a panel of patients while meeting the clerkship requirements in a number of different clinical areas for which they receive credit. This clerkship takes place during the Patient Care Phase (Phase 2) of medical school. All TRUST Scholars participate in WRITE. The students value the one-on-one teaching and the hands-on experience that WRITE offers.

Visit the TRUST Website for more information:

<https://education.uwmedicine.org/somrural>

TRUST Curriculum & General Timeline

TRUST First Summer Experience (FSE):

Completed before classes start May- July. Wyoming TRUST scholars will spend 7 days in their assigned site with their physician mentor in the summer before starting medical school classes in August.

FOUNDATION PHASE CURRICULUM (Phase 1: First 18 Months)

- TRUST Scholars maintain contact with site community mentor and make return visits throughout Foundations Phase. Establish a mentoring relationship with a UWSOM Colleges' faculty member with a background in rural and underserved care. Participate in Journal Club in Foundations Phase.
- Participate in the Rural /Underserved Opportunities Program (RUOP) and complete an Independent Investigative Inquiry at the TRUST continuity community. A Global Health Immersion Program (GHIP) may be substituted for RUOP with prior approval; global health is not the focus of TRUST.

PATIENT CARE PHASE (Phase 2)

Participate in the patient care phase curriculum, including participation in the WRITE experience for 5-6 months in the continuity community. In addition to the WRITE experience, TRUST scholars have the option of completing their remaining clinical training in the Patient Care Phase curriculum in Seattle and throughout the WWAMI region.

EXPLORATION AND FOCUS PHASE (Phase 3)

Students participate in senior-level advanced care clerkships in which they further their clinical skills through hands-on experience with evaluating, treating, and managing patients; providing documentation; and gaining deeper experience in specific areas relevant to the student's chosen career goals.

"I got to know multiple physicians in the area, opening up opportunities for a variety of clinical experiences, both with specialists and primary care physicians. I was able to see patients not only over a few months' time, but over years. TRUST gave me the time to develop confidence in a supportive environment. It also gave physicians time to watch my progression, become familiar with me, and trust me with more responsibility."

Kevin Muller, E2016
TRUST Scholar, Lander,
WY

"My TRUST experience offered a unique chance to participate in longitudinal care specific to the needs of rural Wyoming. I was immersed in the community and got to know the needs of the patient populations as well as the joys and frustrations of the practitioners. This intimate and personal contact is a rarity otherwise in medical school training. The insights and experiences gained are much closer to the realities of real world medicine."

Isaac Wentz,
E2015 TRUST
Scholar, Douglas, WY

"Being a TRUST student has been such a wonderful and worthwhile experience for me. I have had the privilege of learning, growing, and becoming a greater part of the community - not just within the medical field, but the town of Powell as well. The curriculum allows you to build and maintain continuity with those that you work with, as well as gaining quality patient relationships in the process. It was wonderful to see some of the same patients throughout the years, which makes you really feel like you are making a difference within their lives and doing what we came to medical school to do - improving the lives of others. In a smaller community, I was able to have diverse exposures to different patient profiles and a multitude of personalized and hands-on experiences. Additionally, I was able to witness multiple outlooks on the practice of medicine as a whole - from a hospital setting, to Direct Primary Care, to Health Center Care Models with sliding fee scales. It ultimately changed the way I look at medicine and what I find important in my life going forward. In looking back on my choice to apply for TRUST, I couldn't have asked for a better experience. Thank you to the TRUST curriculum and faculty/staff as having this program has been such a wonderful opportunity for both me and my family."

Tappy Gish, E2016 TRUST, Powell, WY

Frequently Asked Questions

Why would I want to participate in the TRUST Program?

The TRUST program is for students who have an interest in a career in underserved rural and small city medicine. TRUST nurtures the desire to care for underserved populations by matching each TRUST Scholar with a rural or underserved community for various educational experiences throughout the four years of medical school. TRUST scholars participate in many unique learning opportunities, such as experiencing the practice of medicine at their TRUST site, participation in the Underserved Pathway, unique TRUST curricular offerings, leadership training, and opportunities to attend a variety of national meetings. TRUST scholars also form a network of TRUST students who share a similar passion for the care of the underserved both with their state cohort and the larger UWSOM TRUST scholar cohort.

Do I get to choose where I will spend my time?

The exact location for your continuity experiences will be determined after reviewing your application and in consultation with you. We have a limited number of sites available and sites may change from year to year. Therefore, we will make placements based on all the information available during the matching process. Your continuity community will be one of the three locations in Wyoming - Douglas, Thermopolis and Powell.

Do I have to choose a primary care specialty to participate in TRUST?

No. TRUST Scholars will generally choose a primary care specialty (Family Medicine, Internal Medicine or Pediatrics). However, other specialties with physician workforce shortages lend themselves to rural and small city underserved practices, such as: General Surgery, OB/Gyn, Psychiatry, etc. In general, participating in TRUST will be advantageous preparation for students entering most specialties.

Where will I complete my clinical years of medical school?

TRUST Scholars will complete a WWAMI Rural Integrated Training Track Experience (WRITE) during 22-24 weeks of their clinical phase (second phase). This final TRUST requirement is the capstone of our longitudinal curriculum. TRUST Scholars who complete the WRITE experience usually see more patients with a higher level of responsibility than students participating in the more traditional clerkship blocks.

What happens if I decide to leave the TRUST program prior to graduation?

TRUST will prepare you to be an excellent physician no matter what your career choice. Experience has shown that students who complete the WRITE program have matched in competitive residency programs. We expect all Scholars to complete the TRUST program. If circumstances arise that could impact your participation, we request you visit with us and we will assist in the determination.

If I participate in TRUST does it eliminate the chance to experience big city clinical medicine?

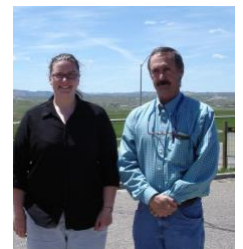
Both prior and after WRITE, in the Patient Care phase, students have the opportunity to experience learning in large quaternary and tertiary care hospitals in Seattle and throughout the WWAMI region. The Career Exploration phase allows students to be in Seattle or in the WWAMI region. TRUST students often comment that they have the best of both worlds in regards to learning experiences: time in Seattle in the large quaternary referral center with resident teams and then the extended longitudinal learning experience of WRITE which offers one on one hands on clinical teaching.

I am interested in global health, why should I participate in TRUST?

The TRUST program at UWSOM offers opportunities for scholars to spend time in both rural and small city underserved experiences. With these experiences and the Underserved Pathway we expect our graduates to be able to serve underserved populations in a variety of settings including global and urban underserved populations. TRUST scholars should be well prepared to serve underserved populations in a variety of settings both within the US and globally. While many TRUST Scholars have interests in international service, work outside the WWAMI region is not the focus of our program.

Additional Questions & Answers provided at:

<https://education.uwmedicine.org/somrural>

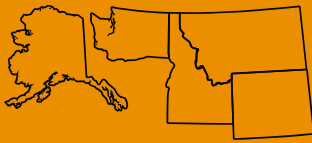


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WWAMI

TRUST

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The Targeted Rural Underserved Track (TRUST) curriculum is a longitudinal medical school experience in rural and small city underserved communities, with a goal to produce physicians committed to practice in the underserved areas of the WWAMI region.

Interested in Rural Underserved Medicine?



Wyoming WWAMI TRUST

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