



# Brody RISE: Evaluation of Program Goals

Keyur H. Patel, MS, Medical Education and Teaching Scholar  
 Milton Bond, MSA, Director of Brody RISE  
 Brody School of Medicine, Department of Diversity Affairs

Keyur H. Patel  
 Brody School of Medicine  
 East Carolina University  
 Greenville, North Carolina 27858  
 patelke18@students.ecu.edu

## INTRODUCTION

- Brody RISE is a pre-college pipeline initiative offered through the Office of Diversity Affairs at Brody School of Medicine
- Established in 2019
- Primary goal:
  - Increase supply of PCPs serving NC
  - Improve health status of eastern NC
  - Enhance access of disadvantaged and minority students to a medical education
- This study aims to evaluate whether the RISE program is on track to achieving its program goals
- Participants are middle and high school students and sufficient time has not passed for participants to have pursued secondary education
- Proxy goal:
  - To determine if the RISE program has increased interest in STEM/healthcare related professions

## MATERIALS & METHODS

- Data used in this study was pooled from three prior survey responses and a newly administered survey consisting of a 5-point Likert scale (Part A) and free response questions (Part B).
- Quantitative data analysis consisted of calculating mean and standard deviation of the Part A questions.
- Qualitative data analysis consisted of thematic coding of statements into categories, documentation of how frequent these themes recurred, and examples of statements submitted by participants.

## RESULTS

Table 1. Comprehensive Program Evaluation 2022

	Pre-program interest in STEM/Health care	Post-program interest in STEM/Health care	Medical School Interest	Volunteerism	Student organization involvement	Program Support
Mean	4.53	4.67	4.13	3.47	3.47	4.67
Standard Deviation	0.64	0.62	0.83	1.41	1.25	0.62
95% CI	0.32	0.31	0.42	0.71	0.63	0.31

Table 2. Program Evaluation Post-2021 Summer Program

	Class Rating	Participant satisfaction	Application of material	Recommendation to friends	Teacher Rating
Mean	4.41	4.53	4.93	4.73	4.77
Standard Deviation	0.83	0.82	0.26	0.59	0.43
95% CI	0.42	0.41	0.13	0.30	0.22

Table 3. Free Response Coded Data

Categories	# Of Comments	Examples
Mentorship	4 (+) 0 (-)	<p>"The opportunity to hear important information about the inner structure of Brody and to meet those who work in Academic Affairs."</p> <p>"I especially liked the commitment that ECU has to include underrepresented minorities into its Medical School Program"</p>
Shadowing	5 (+) 0 (-)	<p>"...being able to shadow a doctor in a real work setting was an amazing opportunity"</p> <p>"My best experience would be the shadowing they gave us the opportunity to do, It was very enjoyable"</p>
STEM, Medical Education	16 (+) 3 (-)	<p>"This has been a great experience to learn more about the human body!"</p> <p>"...seeing the skeleton, learning about the brain and then learning about the heart and it was eye opening..."</p> <p>"More hands-on activity"</p>
Personal development	11 (+) 0 (-)	<p>"Brody rise has become the reason I want to go in the health care field"</p> <p>"We're able to do team building activities and how to be able to control your emotions"</p> <p>"Brody Rise has been a way for me to step out of my comfort zone"</p> <p>"I have always wanted to go into the medical field and being in the Brody Rise program has made me want to pursue it even more"</p>
Medical students/Staff	18 (+) 4 (-)	<p>"...amazed at the doctors and others who took the time to spend with the group and has been excited about going back each day"</p> <p>"I enjoyed how the medical school students shared their experiences as well."</p> <p>"Provide more people in different job in the medical field"</p> <p>"Weakness is probably more opportunities to explore deeper in different types of professions in the hospital and COVID restrictions"</p>
Program Logistics	0 (+) 3 (-)	<p>"Weakness is that it's only twice a month"</p> <p>"I wish the meetings weren't so few and far between"</p> <p>"It needs more students"</p>

## DISCUSSION

- These results support the conclusion that most participants were interested in STEM or healthcare related professions prior to their participation in the program but have strengthened that interest through their participation in the program. This result is likely due to self-selection bias. All RISE participants self-selected to apply for the program because of previous interest in STEM and health care.
- Involvement in student organizations or volunteerism related to STEM and healthcare does not appear to be significantly affected by RISE program participation.
- The data also suggest overall satisfaction with the Brody RISE program. Table 2 highlights program feedback from participants after the third summer program in 2021. The students enjoy being part of the RISE program and have gained valuable mentorship, experiences, and personal development as illustrated by participant records in Table 3.
- When asked about long-term goals, most students express interest in pursuing college education within the next 5 years and medical education within the next 10 years.

## REFERENCES

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