

EMERGING LEADERS IN GLOBAL HEALTH



A leadership program for North Carolina's next generation of global health changemakers

ABOUT THE NORTH CAROLINA GLOBAL HEALTH ALLIANCE



The North Carolina Global Health Alliance (NCGHA) is a statewide nonprofit that convenes, connects, and advocates for North Carolina's global health community. Representing universities, nonprofits, companies, health systems, and independent professionals, **the NCGHA works to advance North Carolina as a center of global health.** Through advocacy, workforce development, information sharing, and community building, the NCGHA strengthens collaboration across sectors and helps ensure that North Carolina remains a leader in addressing the world's most pressing health challenges.

PROGRAM SUMMARY

Emerging Leaders in Global Health is a selective, year-long leadership development program designed to prepare the next generation of North Carolina's global health changemakers. Bringing together **six undergraduate and graduate students** from North Carolina universities, the program provides hands-on experience in leadership, advocacy, communication, and professional engagement.

The program focuses on practical skills that employers and communities increasingly need: public speaking & storytelling, networking, coalition building, advocacy, and effective communication across sectors and audiences.

Through monthly virtual sessions, mentorship from professionals, experiential learning opportunities, and site visits to local organizations, the **Emerging Leaders** gain a deeper understanding of the state's unique global health ecosystem while developing the confidence and skills to become effective communicators and advocates for global health.



CAPSTONE SHOWCASE

The program culminates in a public showcase during which each Emerging Leader delivers a **memorized** TED-style presentation on stage at the NCGHA's Spring Event (**April 7**) sharing their vision for addressing a critical global health challenge and demonstrating the communication and leadership skills they have developed throughout the year.

PROGRAM TIMELINE

Friday, September 25: Applications close at 5 pm ET

October 5 - 14: Finalist interviews conducted virtually

Friday, October 16: Decisions are delivered via email

Regular Cohort Meetings will take place virtually on Wednesdays from 6:00 - 7:30 pm ET (*cohort members may only miss one*):

- **Oct 21:** Onboarding
- **Oct 28:** Visiting Expert meeting #1
- **Nov 18:** Visiting Expert meeting #2
- **Dec 2:** Visiting Expert meeting #3 + elevator pitches
- **Jan 20:** Visiting Expert meeting #4
- **Feb 3:** Visiting Expert meeting #5
- **Feb 17:** Visiting Expert meeting #6
- **March 3:** Writing workshop

Cohort members are expected to participate in other in-person and virtual meetings throughout the year*:

- **Thurs, Oct 22, 20-minute window between 2-4 pm:** Optional attendance for part of the NCGHA Board Meeting
- **Fri, Oct 30, 12:00 pm:** Virtual pre-conference networking webinar
- **Fri, Nov 6, 8:30 am - 2:30 pm:** Required in-person attendance at NCGHA Fall Conference at NCCU in Durham (*scholarship provided*)
- **Nov 9-20:** In-person one-on-ones with NCGHA Executive Director
- **Jan 4-14:** Virtual one-on-ones with NCGHA ED
- **Fri, March 19:** Required in-person rehearsal at Duke (time tbd)
- **March 29 - April 1:** Optional one-on-one virtual rehearsals
- **Fri, April 2:** Recommended in-person rehearsal, NC Biotech
- **April, date tbd:** Cohort lunch



Wednesday, April 7, 2027:
Emerging Leaders Showcase
at the 2027 NCGHA Spring
Event at the NC Biotech Center
in RTP, NC!

**There will be two in-person field trips to FHI 360 and RTI International, to be scheduled with the cohort members.*

Preparing for the Showcase



Each Emerging Leader will spend the majority of the Spring session preparing to showcase their memorized talk at the NCGHA Spring Event.

Cohort members should expect the following timeline:

- Jan 4 - 14: One-on-one brainstorm with NCGHA ED
- Wed, March 3: Group writing workshop
- March 4 - 18: Time to write
- Fri, March 19: **Required** in-person rehearsal, Duke (time tbd)
- March 20 - April 1: Time to memorize
- March 29 - April 1: Optional one-on-one virtual rehearsals
- Fri, April 2: Recommended in-person rehearsal, NC Biotech
- Wed, April 7: Emerging Leaders Showcase

WHAT EMERGING LEADERS CAN EXPECT

The Emerging Leaders program is designed to be an active, hands-on leadership experience. Throughout the year, cohort members will meet virtually with visiting experts from across North Carolina's global health community, exploring topics including the evolution of North Carolina's global health sector, the business of global health, leadership through crisis, navigating careers in a post-USAID landscape, business development, and building public-private partnerships. These conversations are designed to give Emerging Leaders an inside look at the many pathways and perspectives that shape global health in North Carolina.



Emerging Leaders will not simply attend these conversations, **they will lead them.** Each of the six cohort members will be responsible for preparing and facilitating one Visiting Expert session. This includes communicating directly with the guest speaker, developing discussion questions, preparing a short memo for the cohort, and facilitating the conversation. Additional skill-building throughout the year will focus on networking, communication, public speaking, advocacy, and professional presence. Cohort members will also participate in NCGHA events and field visits with organizations across North Carolina's global health ecosystem.

The program culminates in the **Emerging Leaders Showcase** at the NCGHA's Spring Event on April 7, 2027. Beginning in the fall, each Emerging Leader will start exploring the idea they want to share. In January, they will work one-on-one with the NCGHA Executive Director to develop their concept, followed by a writing workshop, dedicated writing time, in-person rehearsal, & individual coaching.

Each Emerging Leader will ultimately deliver a memorized 5-8 minute presentation without notes or slides to an audience of approximately 150 global health professionals, sharing their perspective on an important issue and their vision for the future of global health.

This is a competitive cohort and a significant professional commitment. Emerging Leaders are expected to attend all regular cohort meetings, with the ability to miss one meeting as long as it is not the meeting they are responsible for leading. Any missed training must be made up with their peers. All participants are expected to approach the program with the professionalism, preparation, and commitment they would bring to a job. In return, Emerging Leaders will have an opportunity to learn from accomplished professionals, build relationships across North Carolina's global health community, develop skills that will serve them throughout their careers, and take the stage to share their own vision.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications close Friday, September 25 at 5:00 pm ET.

Applicants must be a **current** undergraduate or graduate student studying global health or a related field, or with research interests relevant to global health or a related field, at a North Carolina University during the 2026-2027 academic year.

To apply, email the following to Members@ncglobalhealth.org:

- Resume (pdf)
- 1-page Cover Letter (pdf)
- Answers to 4 supplemental questions found below (pdf)

In the body of the email, please indicate if you will be available to participate in the full cohort experience between October 2026 - April 2027, and attend all required events.

A note about AI: We encourage all applicants to answer the supplemental questions on their own, avoiding the use of AI. Reviewers will be looking for *authenticity* and a *unique voice* over perfection in communication style. We want to get to know you, not your bot.

No late applications will be considered. No out of state applicants will be considered.



Required Supplemental Questions

Applications that do not include answers to all four questions will not be considered. Please answer all four questions on a single page (~500 words total), save as a pdf, and submit with your resume and cover letter in one email.

Question 1: What global health issue or question are you most curious about right now and why?

Question 2: Tell us about a time when you worked with people who had different perspectives, backgrounds, or areas of expertise than you. What did you learn from that experience?

Question 3: What do you hope to gain from this experience and what will you bring to the cohort?

Question 4: Imagine you have five minutes on stage in April 2027 to share one idea that you believe could change the future of global health. What would you talk about and why?