**Lafayette Branch Campus**

LSU medical students have done clinical clerkship rotations in Lafayette for over 25 years. Rotations in internal medicine, surgery, obstetrics/gynecology, pediatrics, and family medicine were originally located at University Medical Center (UMC), the state-owned public hospital in Lafayette. Management of the hospital was transferred to Lafayette General Hospital in 2014. UMC was renamed University Hospital and Clinics. Our programs remained in place, but we now have additional clinical learning opportunities at Lafayette General Hospital and at Women and Children’s Hospital in Lafayette. Since 2003, students in the Rural Scholars Track (RST) program have moved to Lafayette for all of their clerkships. In addition to the required clerkships, these have a weekly longitudinal rural preceptorship experience with a primary physician in the surrounding area. This program has been one of the most successful programs in the country in preparing students for practice in rural primary care. (More information about the RST can be found on the LSU School of Medicine Office of Admission webpage). While the RST students spend the entire year in Lafayette, additional students from New Orleans will continue to rotate there on the internal medicine, surgery, family medicine, and obstetrics/gynecology clerkships.