

Reauthorize the Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education (THCGME) Program

Since inception, the THCGME program has trained over 1,000 new primary care physicians and dentists across the country.

THCGME Graduates

64 percent are practicing in a primary care setting – nearly double the national average for all physicians.

58 percent are practicing in medically underserved and/or rural communities.

Benefits of THCGME

- 1 Reduces the primary care physician shortage
- 2 Expands the geographic distribution of medical education
- 3 Increases the number of physicians who serve underserved populations



THCGME residents train in the primary care specialties of family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, psychiatry, ob-gyn and dentistry. (65% train in family medicine)



Teaching Health Centers are located in 23 states (AL, AR, AZ, CA, CT, FL, IA, ID, IL, KY, ME, MA, MI, MO, MS, MT, NC, NM, NY, OH, OK, PA, TX, WA, WV) and D.C.



Most family physicians practice within 100 miles of their residency program, helping to remedy the uneven distribution of physicians.



Strict accountability requirements ensure every federal dollar is used exclusively for primary care training.

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The THCGME program will expire on September 30
- unless Congress takes action!

Primary Care = Health Care Savings

Access to primary care lowers overall health care utilization, increases the use of preventive services, and lowers disease and death rates - especially where income inequality is greatest.



The THCGME program could yield up to **\$1.8 billion in health care savings** (\$1.5 billion in Medicaid savings and \$284 million Medicare savings) over the next five years, from 2019-23. *(HRSA funded study by the Geiger Gibson/RCHN Community Health Foundation Research Collaborative, Policy Issue Brief #58, March 2019)*



THCGME residents and faculty will provide more than **one million primary care medical visits in 2019** to underserved communities.

Legislative Action

Support *Training the Next Generation of Primary Care Doctors Act of 2019* (HR 2815/S.1191) to reauthorize the THCGME program for five years. Contact Reps. Raul Ruiz (D-CA) and Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA) in the House, and Sens. Susan Collins (R-ME) and Jon Tester (D-MT) in the Senate.