

State of Florida
Increasing Medical Education Capacity
Issues and Challenges

Florida Board of Governors
Medical Education Workshop
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National Perspective

- physician workforce supply-

- substantial shortage of physicians projected
- enrollments in allopathic medical schools relatively constant for quarter century
- graduates of U.S. allopathic schools account for only 2/3rds of new physicians
- call for increase in enrollments by 15-30%
- new schools needed in states with large and growing populations
- FSU first new school in quarter century
- increase in GME capacity needed to increase supply

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- physician workforce supply -

- the size of the state's physician workforce is comparable to the national average (#MDs/100,000 persons)
- Florida is a major importer of physicians – only 14% of state's physicians graduated from a Florida medical school and only 25% completed residency training in the state
- Florida ranks 3rd among all states in the percentage of physicians who are graduates of non-US medical schools
- Florida has ranked near the bottom in the number of Med-1 positions
- Florida ranks near the bottom in the number of entry level GME positions

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- increasing UGME capacity -

The number of Med-1 positions in the state are projected to slightly more than double the baseline of a few years ago.

The increased capacity will bring Florida to the current national average, but because of increases occurring in other states, Florida will continue to rank below the national average.

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- increasing UGME capacity -

- increase capacity of existing schools on site
- increase capacity of existing schools using distant sites (regional campuses)
- increase capacity of existing schools by establishing satellite four-year programs
- establish new schools

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- increasing GME capacity -

Increasing GME capacity is essential if the state is to become more self-sufficient in producing physicians.

How the state chooses to increase UGME capacity will affect the ability of the state to increase GME capacity.

How the state chooses to increase UGME capacity will affect the nature of the GME programs that may be developed, and thereby, the nature of Florida's future physician workforce.

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- increasing GME capacity -

FORMIDABLE CHALLENGES

- recruiting institutional sponsors
- funding costs of new programs
- negotiating academic affiliation agreements
- recruiting program directors and faculty
- managing the development of the programs

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- increasing GME capacity -

- the Medicare program is the single largest payer of the costs of GME
- there is no Medicare policy that prohibits a sponsor of GME programs from increasing the size of existing programs or developing new programs
- the Medicare program will not reimburse hospitals its “fair share” of direct GME costs for positions in excess of the hospital’s current cap
- the impact of the current Medicare policy on hospitals varies depending on the size of its Medicare inpatient population
- there is no pre-determined cap for new GME program sponsors.

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- increasing GME capacity -

Graduates of U.S. medical schools prefer to train in hospitals that are closely affiliated with a medical school and viewed as part of an integrated academic medical center.

Once a program has become identified as an IMG-dependent program, it is difficult to recruit graduates of U.S schools into the program.

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- return on investment -

- increase opportunities for Florida residents to attend medical school in state
- increase likelihood of maintaining an adequate physician workforce
- improve health care in the state
- create new jobs
- attract out of state funds

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- return on investment -

How the state chooses to increase medical education capacity will affect in varying ways the return on investment over time.

State of Florida

- increasing medical education capacity -

Given the relationships that exists between UGME, GME, and physician workforce supply, Florida, like any state, would be well served to decide on its strategic workforce objectives and then to develop a comprehensive plan for increasing medical education capacity in ways that will achieve those objectives!