

# GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION



**GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION (GME)** is the continuation of formal training for physicians after they have completed their medical school education. GME includes residency and fellowship programs. Depending upon the residency program, training typically consists of three to seven years. Fellowship training is usually an additional one to three years and is pursued by those interested in subspecialty training after residency.

UW Medicine, through the School of Medicine (UWSOM), is the largest sponsor of GME programs in the five state region of Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana and Idaho (WWAMI). About 1296 trainees participate in 26 residency and 84 clinical fellowship programs accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME). Additionally, the UWSOM sponsors two fellowships approved by the American Board of Medical Specialties and over 100 trainees who participate in non-accredited clinical fellowship programs, many of which are approved by national specialty societies.

## ACGME-Accredited UW School of Medicine training programs

Current accredited residency programs (with number of subspecialty fellowship programs in parentheses) sponsored by the UW School of Medicine include:

- Anesthesiology (4)
- Dermatology (1)
- Emergency Medicine (1)
- Family Medicine (2)
- Family Medicine - Chelan Rural
- Internal Medicine - Seattle (19)
- Internal Medicine - Boise
- Medical Genetics (1)
- Neurological Surgery
- Neurology (4)
- Child Neurology
- Nuclear Medicine
- Obstetrics & Gynecology (2)
- Ophthalmology
- Psychiatry (4)
- Orthopedic Surgery (2)
- Otolaryngology (1)
- Pathology (12)
- Pediatrics (15)
- Pediatrics/Medical Genetics
- Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (4)
- Plastic Surgery Integrated
- Radiation Oncology
- Radiology - Diagnostic (4)
- Surgery - General (4)
- Thoracic Surgery (1)
- Thoracic Surgery - Integrated
- Vascular Surgery - Integrated
- Urology (1)

### GME training sites

Among over 800 sponsoring institutions nationally, UW Medicine ranks 6th in the number of ACGME-accredited programs and 8th in the number of trainees.<sup>1</sup> Trainees are located at five primary teaching sites in Seattle: University of Washington Medical Center, Harborview Medical Center, Seattle Children's Hospital, the VA Puget Sound Health Care System and Northwest Hospital Medical Center. Over 300 additional community hospitals and clinics in Seattle and the greater WWAMI region also serve as important training sites for UW residents and fellows.



### Building a strong physician workforce

GME programs are essential to the creation and maintenance of the physician workforce population, and play a vital role in addressing regional and national physician shortages. Research demonstrates that GME programs are strong drivers of regional physician workforce supply and that the site of residency training is one of the strongest predictors of where physicians will eventually practice after training.

The Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) projects a shortage of more than 90,000 primary-care and specialty physicians nationally by the year 2020. With the exception of Western Washington, the physician workforce shortage is expected to be even more acute in the WWAMI region where the physician supply is already below the national average.<sup>2</sup>

### GME funding: A good investment in community health

Historically, the Medicare program has been the primary financier of graduate medical education in the United States, providing Direct and Indirect Medical Education funding to teaching hospitals. This funding is critical to teaching hospitals, which provide lifesaving services that are largely unavailable elsewhere in the community, including Level I trauma and burn centers and intensive care units.

### Leadership team

The GME leadership is responsible for the administrative oversight and academic quality of UW's residency and clinical fellowship programs. They are committed to improving the quality of the learning environment for trainees and supporting the delivery of the highest quality care to improve the health of the public.

- Byron Joyner, M.D., M.P.A., Designated Institutional Official, Designated Institutional Official, Vice Dean, GME
- Jennifer Best, M.D., Associate Dean for Education & Accreditation, GME
- Cindy Hamra, J.D., M.A., Assistant Dean for Operations & Administration, GME

<sup>1</sup>ACGME, 2016-2017

<sup>2</sup>AAMC, 2011 State Physician Workforce Data Book