Graduate Medical Education

Graduate Medical Education (GME), also known as residency training, prepares physicians for the independent practice of medicine. During their fourth year of medical school, medical students submit applications and interview to be accepted into a residency program. Residency training is required of all medical specialties for board certification.

The number of training positions eligible for Medicare GME funding has been frozen in teaching hospitals since 1997.

The major factor driving demand for physicians continues to be a growing, aging population. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the nation’s population is estimated to grow by more than 10% by 2032, with those over age 65 increasing by 48%. Additionally, the aging population will affect physician supply, since one-third of all currently active doctors will be older than 65 in the next decade. When these physicians decide to retire could have the greatest impact on supply.

Graduate Medical Education in Texas

- **47** sponsoring institutions
- **6.2%** of all residencies
- **7,778** residents
- **1,853** fellows
- **301** specialty programs
- **426** sub-specialty programs
- **2.46** per 100,000 (national average is 3.46)

59% of residents in Texas stay in-state after training. If they attend medical school and do their residency in Texas, that number jumps to 81%.

**141,826** active medical residents in U.S.