

# Montana Graduate Medical Education Appropriation Request

Montana needs more physicians, especially in rural and frontier counties.

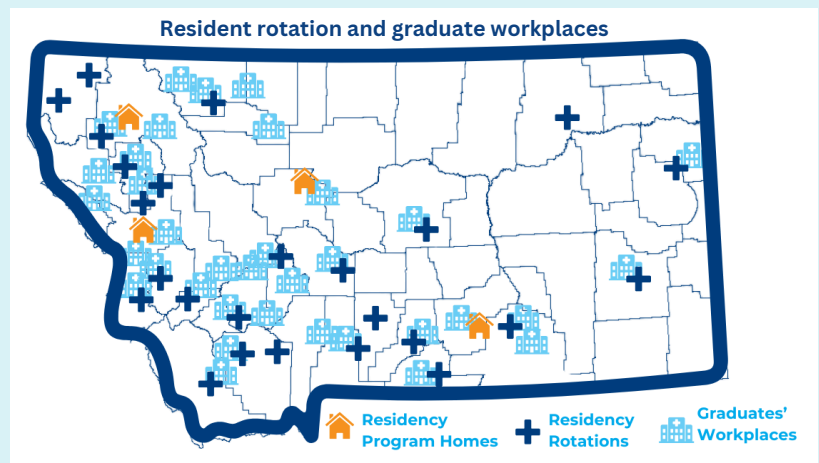
- About a dozen counties in Montana do not have a local physician.
- The Montana physician workforce is aging, with nearly 38% over the age of 60 [i].

## Education Pathway to Practicing Physician



## Montana's GME (Residency) programs train physicians in Montana, for Montana.

- Nearly  $\frac{2}{3}$  of resident physicians who train in Montana stay in Montana, one of the highest rates in the country [ii].
- 97 current resident physicians serve in Montana.
- Since 2013, Montana residency slots have grown from 24 to 97, a 300% increase!
- Montana has additional capacity to grow residency training. Only Wyoming and Alaska train fewer residents per capita [ii].

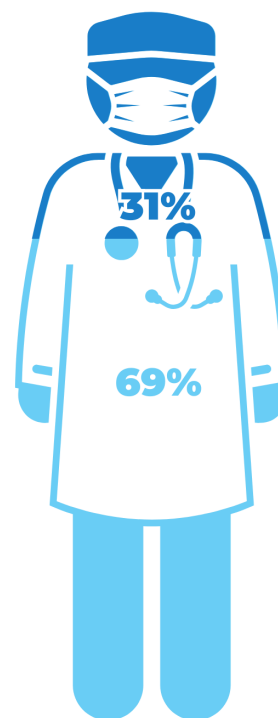


[i] AAMC, 2021 State Physician Workforce Data Report.

[ii] AAMC Report on Residents, 2023.

## Residency training is a shared investment with an excellent return.

- 190 practicing physicians in Montana trained at a Montana residency program.
- For every resident physician retained in Montana, the return on investment is over 2000% after the first year a physician is in practice.
- Each physician in MT supports an average of 12.3 jobs.
- In total, physicians in Montana generate \$1.4 billion in direct wages and \$515.3 million in indirect wages and benefits.
- Physicians in MT generate \$167.7 million in state and local tax revenue annually.



State of Montana contribution per resident: **\$65, 201**

(\$10, 637 appropriation  
\$54, 564 Medicaid)

Other (Medicare, hospitals & teaching clinics):  
**\$144, 799**

Average national cost to train a resident:  
**\$210, 000**

## Increased funding is needed to support growth in residency programs.

- **In the next three years, resident physicians training in Montana are projected to grow from 97 to 127.**
- **The current appropriation is \$914,769 per year (\$1,829,538 for the biennium).**
- **In order to maintain level funding and encourage future growth, we request an additional \$266,161 for 25/26 and \$436,385 for 26/27 (\$702,545 for the biennium).**

The Montana Graduate Medical Education Council works to improve the healthcare of Montanans by building the state's physician workforce, through the identification of approaches to support, advocate for and grow graduate medical education within Montana.

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