

What is GME?

Status of Alaska GME

What is Graduate Medical Education (GME)

Graduate medical education (GME) is the structured training of medical school graduates. Medical residents (GME trainees) provide patient care with supervision by senior physicians. All states require at least two or three years of GME prior to being eligible for a medical license.

Alaska GME - Current Status

Alaska has only one residency, the Alaska Family Medicine Residency (AFMR).
Alaska has not launched a residency since 1996.
The University of Washington has two Alaska tracks, the Pediatric and Internal Medicine Tracks.
AFMR has two fellowships, Hospice & Palliative Medicine and Addiction Medicine.

Alaska GME - Compared with Other States

Alaska has only one residency, fewer than all other states.
Alaska has the fewest number of medical residents (GME trainees) than all other states.
Alaska has the lowest medical resident to state population ratio compared with all other states.

Alaska GME - Projecting Capacity Using National Data

Alaska has 4.91 GME trainees per 100,000 population (2022).
The national median was 35.42 trainees per 100,000 population (2022).
Using the median GME trainee to population ratio, Alaska would train 258.6 medical residents.

How is GME Funding?

The federal government is the primary funder of GME.
Federal GME support comes through Medicare, Medicaid, Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), and the Department of Defense (DOD).
More than 85% of all federal GME funding comes through Medicare and Medicaid.
In 2021, Medicare GME was \$13.4 billion.
In 2022, Medicaid GME was \$7.3 billion.
Less than 15% of all federal GME funding comes through the VA, HRSA, and DOD.
The VA, HRSA, and DOD fund GME for specific physician workforce priorities.

Alaska GME - The GME Outlier

The federal government is the primary funder of GME.
Medicare GME funding in Alaska is third from lowest per state population.
Medicare GME funding in Alaska is third from lowest per state Medicare population.
Alaska funds GME through Medicaid but at a much lower rate than other states.
The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), and Department of Defense (DOD) do not provide GME in Alaska.