What is GME?

Graduate medical education (GME) is a formal, hospital-sponsored or hospital-based training program for individuals who have completed medical school and earned an MD or DO degree. It includes residency, internship, fellowship, specialty and subspecialty programs.

There are nearly 7,200 physician residents currently working in Michigan. The average length of GME training at teaching hospitals is 3-7 years. The average starting salary for a resident is $51,000, paid by the training institution and partially with state GME funds. On average, medical residents range in age from 26-31.

GME is a wise investment of public dollars in a program that helps move Michigan toward being a high-tech, high-wage state. GME allows physicians to pursue their medical education while delivering much-needed care to patients throughout the state.

Every $1 Michigan invests in GME generates $1.81 in federal funding in fiscal year 2019. GME funds do not pay for medical school tuition. Physician residents are licensed physicians who have completed medical school. They work in teaching hospitals, community clinics and laboratories.

44% of physicians who complete undergraduate medical education in Michigan are practicing in the state. The U.S. median is 39%.

Michigan is a national leader in medical education, attracting medical students and residents from around the globe. Strong residency programs help leverage medical expertise to grow Michigan’s life sciences economy, while providing jobs and encouraging research, technology and investment.

4th in the Nation* number of teaching hospitals. 3rd in the Nation* student enrollment at public medical schools. 6th in the Nation* number of medical residents on duty.

*Source: 2016 Medicaid Graduate Medical Education Payments: A 50-State Study and State Physician Workforce Data Book 2017, Center for Workforce Studies, Association of American Medical Colleges