



2014 PRIMARY CARE SUMMIT RECOMMENDATIONS

Continued Support of Georgia's GME Programs

PHASE 4 Residency / Graduate Medical Education: *Increase the total number of Georgia GME slots in Primary Care disciplines.*

MAJOR ISSUES SURROUNDING GME:

1. The need to rapidly increase the number of GME residency training slots available in Georgia, in Primary Care;
2. The need for Congress to remove the 1997 Medicare GME caps;
3. The need for Congress to address the ACA recommendation to reduce Indirect Medical Education payments by 10% to existing GME programs;
4. The need to increase primary care GME slot capitation dollars to allow for increasing number of residents; and
5. The need to retain Georgia GME residency graduates in the state.

TOTAL ASK FROM THE LEGISLATURE:

1. Support the Board of Regents continued funding at the current level of \$5,275,000 to support creation of new residency slots in Georgia, with a goal of funding an eventual 400 new residency slots in the state. No new funds are requested in FY 16 but existing funding should be protected from any reductions.
2. Increase the Physicians for Rural Areas Loan Forgiveness Award amounts to \$30,000 each. There are currently 26 awards funded at \$20,000 each, and are administered by the Georgia Board for Physician Workforce. **(FY 15 amended ask is \$260,000)**
3. Increase the Physicians for Rural Areas Loan Forgiveness Award amounts to \$30,000 each. There are currently 26 awards funded at \$20,000 each, and are administered by the Georgia Board for Physician Workforce. **(FY 16 ask is \$260,000, if not provided in the FY 15 amended budget) AND** Increase the Physicians for Rural Areas Loan Forgiveness Award numbers by 14 for a total of 40 awards at \$30,000 each. **(FY 16 ask is \$420,000) TOTAL ASK FOR FY2016 IS \$680,000 if the \$260,000 is not provided in the FY 15 amended budget.**

(Note: By increasing the number of loan repayment awards as well as the amount of each award we are seeking to retain Georgia residency graduates in the state as well as recruit doctors to Georgia from out of state to meet our physician workforce needs.)

4. Support the Georgia Board for Physician Workforce proposal to increase primary care residency capitation funds by **\$4,531,901** for new and expansion positions in FY 16, as part of the Governor's Strategic Plan for a Healthy Georgia.

(Note: Between FY2009 and FY2014, support for Georgia's GME programs decreased by 16.6%. Residency capitation funds for existing programs should be increased to previous support levels and new funds added for new residency programs in Georgia.)