



Establishing the Northwest Georgia Clinical Campus

Georgia faces significant challenges in meeting physician workforce needs. The Medical College of Georgia (MCG) at Georgia Regents University is committed to medical education expansion through collaborative partnerships across the state. With a class size of 230 entering students per year (up from 190 in 2009), MCG is partnering with medical centers and clinics and University System of Georgia institutions statewide to achieve projected growth of 300 entering medical students per year by 2020. By utilizing a 'hub and spoke' model of education delivery for advanced and doctoral degrees, GRU is poised to help meet the health care needs of Georgians.

Fiscal Year 2014 Budget Request

An integral component of the 'hub and spoke' model of medical education delivery, the Northwest Georgia Clinical Campus requires start-up and operational funding. MCG estimates an annual budget requirement of \$800,000 for salaries of the campus dean, clerkship coordinators, travel, office space, and other associated costs of delivering medical education. The funding for the campus is carved out of existing expansion funding. We want to change this to a line item in this year's and future budgets to ensure the state's ongoing support.

Northwest Georgia Clinical Campus Development

The Northwest Georgia Campus would use a curriculum modeled after Harvard's longitudinal integrated curriculum—one of only a few colleges in the nation using this model, **helping put Georgia on the map for medical education**. Graduates from the campus are **more likely to enter primary care**, a significant need in the state. The campus leadership is optimally positioned to administer teaching sites and build important relationships. These administrators are also well-positioned to help develop future sites for Graduate Medical Education opportunities (medical residencies), a critical need identified to build the state's physician workforce.

Benefits to Georgia

Georgia benefits in many ways by establishing a clinical campus in Rome:

- Increases the number of medical students with a higher propensity to return to the Northwest Georgia region
- Focuses on students who wish to practice in primary care, a defined need for Georgia
- Starts in 2013 with 10 third year medical students, moving to 15 students per year
- Generates an economic impact of \$1.8 million per physician returning to practice in region
- Utilizes the expertise of high-quality, community-based physician educators in Northwest Georgia
- Creates learning labs in collaboration with high-quality health care systems including **Redmond Regional Medical Center, Floyd Medical Center, and the Harbin Clinic**
- **Expands current teaching sites in the region from 20 to 40 sites in two years**
- Creates partnerships with **Georgia Highlands College** to house the campus and its personnel, efficiently and seamlessly tying medical students into University System of Georgia resources
- Creates partnerships to help expand Graduate Medical Education (GME)