# EXPANDING THE HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE

Interim Joint Committee on Health Services, June 18, 2024



# Undergraduate Medical Education Grew 32% from 2017-2022

UK
COLLEGE OF
MEDICINE
REGIONAL
CAMPUSES



## **UK Rural Physician Leadership Program**

- 12 students are accepted each year
- Since 2012, the RPLP has graduated 121 physicians
  - 47% entered primary care internal medicine, pediatrics, family medicine
  - 61% are in rural practice settings



# **UK Graduate Medical Education – Addressing the Workforce Crisis**

## **More Residency Slots = More Doctors in Kentucky**

- The Association of American Medical Colleges estimates a shortfall of up to 124,000 primary care and specialty physicians by 2034.
- Yet, Medicare-funded training for medical school graduates remains frozen at 1996 levels.

- The current cap restricts the number of positions at teaching hospitals.
- Medicare will not fund training for residents over the cap.
- UK is self-funding 298.55 slots over our cap.
- UK invests \$48 million a year to fund these slots and support the workforce in KY.

- More residency slots means more physicians in KY to address critical shortages.
- 54.2% of doctors who completed residency training are practicing in the state of residency training. (AAMC data from 2008-2017)

# Approved increases in GME positions in Lexington, Ky. – July 2025-2030

Program Total # of increased GME	
Anesthesiology	8
Child Neurology	5
Gastroenterology	3
Hematology and Medical Oncology	3
Internal Medicine/Pediatrics	8
Neurology	4
Triple Board (Pediatrics, Adult and Child Psychiatry)	10

> UK Internal Medicine/Psychiatry Residency Program started in July 2021

# Addressing the physician workforce in Kentucky

UK increasing GME Programs at UK King's Daughters and Pikeville Medical Center

## **New Primary Care Programs**

- Internal Medicine Residency Program UK King's Daughters
  - 3 residents/year starting July 2026
  - Total complement of 9 residents
- Family and Community Medicine Residency Program – UK King's Daughters
  - 3 residents/year starting July 2026
  - Total complement of 9 residents
- Internal Medicine Residency Program Pikeville Medical Center
  - 4 residents/ year starting July 2026
  - Total complement of 12 residents

# **Expanding Existing Residency Rotations at UK King's Daughters**

- Emergency Medicine residents training in Obstetrics
- Critical Care fellows rotate in CT ICU
- Anesthesiology fellows rotate in CT ICU

# HEALTH RESOURCES SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (HRSA) PRIMARY CARE MEDICAL STUDENT PROGRAM

Goal: Increase the number of primary care physicians who practice in the top quintile of states with a projected primary care provider shortage. UK awarded \$3.97 million per year for four years.

1. **Recruit, retain, and graduate** medical students from tribal, rural, and/or medically underserved communities with interest in practicing in these areas following residency training.

UK College of Medicine Graduates	2017	2023
Percentage staying in Kentucky	24%	42%
Percentage matching into primary care	33%	45%

- > Average student debt for in-state students: \$240,000
- > \$3 Million in scholarships awarded in the first year of the grant to:
  - 22 first-year students
  - 22 second-year students
  - o 20 third-year students
  - o 20 incoming students



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2. Increase the number of medical school graduates who select residency programs in family medicine, general internal medicine, general pediatrics, or combined internal medicine/ pediatrics to increase the primary care physician workforce in tribal, rural, and medically underserved communities.

### **Programs Initiated:**

- Pre-matriculation Program
  - Designed for interested incoming students the week before orientation
- Primary Care Scholarly Concentration
  - Developed for first- and second-year students interested in primary care, rural medicine, and leadership
- Post-Baccalaureate Program
  - Established for students to improve their application to medical school through biomedical studies
- Primary Care Scholar
  - Opportunities in research



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3. **Develop or enhance strategic partnerships**, including one or more rotations in primary care such as at a Teaching Health Center or community-based setting, to collaborate on educational and training activities for the medical students.

Enhancing partnerships across the state including:

- Morehead State University and St. Clair Regional Medical Center
- Western Kentucky University and The Medical Center at Bowling Green
- Northern Kentucky University and St. Elizabeth Medical Center
- Mountain Comprehensive Care Center
- Lewis County Primary Plus
- North Fork Valley Health Center
- Voluntary Faculty Conference in March 2024
- Increase community physician faculty to serve as preceptors across several aspects of the program



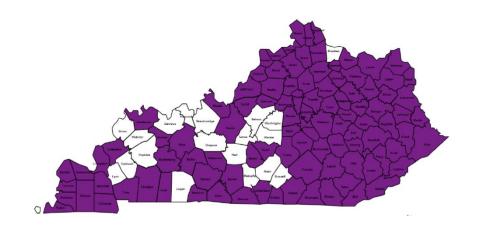
## **KENTUCKY AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTERS (AHEC)**

The Kentucky AHEC Network is a collaborative partnership between the University of Kentucky, the University of Louisville, and eight regional centers serving 120 counties across the Commonwealth.





In 2022-2024 budget, the General Assembly provided a total of \$2.5 million per annum to UK and UofL to support the 8 regional AHECs in recovery funds to support health professions pathways programming



KY AHEC reached 101 of the Commonwealth's 120 counties and served learners across the educational continuum, from middle school students through postgraduate trainees and health professionals.



Over 24,000 individual students participated in AHEC programs statewide (more than double the number from the previous year -11,300). As such, the cost per student averaged about \$100.

#### **KENTUCKY AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTERS**

## **Clinical Rotations and Experiential Learning**

KY AHEC has provided 3,245 different clinical rotations for health professions

- 1,050 medical students (UK College of Medicine, UL School of Medicine, and the KY College of Osteopathic Medicine in Pikeville). The majority of these were in primary care fields such as family medicine, internal medicine, and pediatrics.
- 450 nursing students
- 100 dental students
- 570 pharmacy students
- 310 allied health students