

Initiatives to Address the Need for Healthcare Services in Texas Rural Areas

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Texas Higher Education
Coordinating Board

Selected THECB Programs and HRI Efforts

THECB Programs:

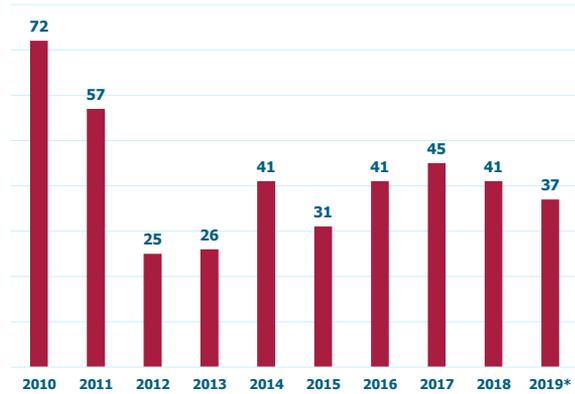
- Family Practice Residency Program, Rural Rotations
- Physician Education Loan Repayment Program
- Joint Admissions Medical Program

Health-Related Institutional Efforts:

- TTUHSC, Family Medicine Accelerated Track
- UTMB Galveston, Virtual Health Network
- UNTHSC, TCOM, Fort Worth, Rural Scholars Program
- UT MD Anderson Cancer Center and UTHSC San Antonio, Project ECHO
- TAMUHSC, Rural and Community Health Institute and Blue Cross and Blue Shield

FPRP Rural Rotations provide insight into rural life

- Opportunity for a family medicine resident to spend a month in a rural community
- Support started in 1991; participation fluctuates based on funding
- Participants receive \$1,000 and residency program receives \$1,500
- Supervising rural family physicians are volunteers and do not receive payment



PELRP physicians provide year of service and then receive loan repayment

- Physicians who complete four years of service receive loan repayment of up to \$160,000
- Priority for participation is primary care physicians who practice in a rural Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA)
- In 2018, approximately 29 percent of PELRP recipients were practicing in a rural HPSA

Fiscal Year	Appropriated Dedicated General Revenue	Biennial Appropriation	New Physicians Enrolled
FY 2010	\$7,000,000	\$22,000,000	102
FY 2011	\$15,000,000		43
FY 2012	\$5,600,000	\$5,600,000	0
FY 2013*	\$0		138
FY 2014	\$4,300,000	\$33,800,000	89
FY 2015	\$29,500,000		92
FY 2016	\$16,900,000	\$33,800,000	96
FY 2017	\$16,900,000		129
FY 2018	\$12,675,000	\$25,350,000	82
FY 2019**	\$12,675,000		-

**Unencumbered balance from FY2012 carried forward to FY 2013*

***Participation has not yet been determined.*

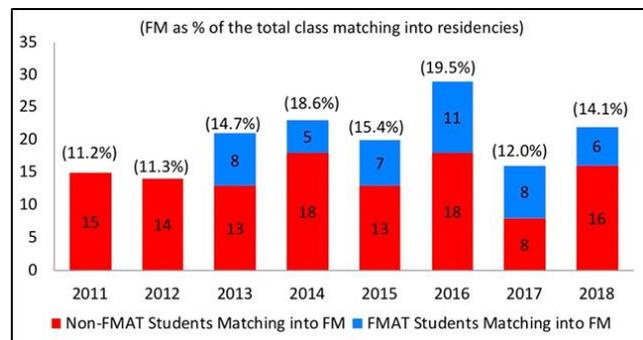
JAMP provides opportunity for economically disadvantaged to enter medical school

- Joint Admission Medical Program participants selected in their sophomore year
- Approximately 100 sophomores are selected annually
- If a student successfully completes the program, he/she receives a guarantee of admission to a Texas medical school

2014-2015												
UG Soph	UG JR	UG SR	MS 1	MS 2	MS 3	MS 4	Total	PGY 1	PGY 2	PGY 3	Total in Residency Training	Total in Residency Training in Texas
100	99	72	76	104	78	48	577	53	38	40	131	101
2015-2016												
100	100	68	71	75	96	79	589	46	53	38	137	100
2016-2017												
101	100	66	69	71	78	88	573	74	46	53	173	114
2017-2018												
100	104	80	68	68	72	68	560	79	74	46	199	117
2018-2019												
100	100	100	79	68	68	83	598	57	79	74	210	130
Projected 2019-2020												
100	100	100	80	79	68	68	595	83	57	79	219	139

TTUHSC's FMAT addresses need for rural physicians

- The Family Medicine Accelerated Track (FMAT) students are guaranteed a residency position in a TTUHSC sponsored program in Lubbock, Amarillo, or the Permian Basin
- FMAT decreases student debt, reduces training-to-practice time, and positively promotes family medicine



UNTHSC's Rural Scholars Program

- Provides selected medical students additional experiences and opportunities to learn in rural areas
- Students are assigned to Rural Family Medicine continuity sites and complete one-day visits to rural hospital emergency departments
- Students spend their third year clerkships at rural sites or international rotations and in their fourth year complete a geriatrics rotation in a rural location.

"For those considering rural medicine, I think the best way to explore an interest in rural medicine is obviously to have exposure in the field. Being from a rural community is helpful, because you're already aware that Dairy Queen may be the only fast food option, and if you're not there by 9:00 PM you're out of luck. While rural medicine does differ from metropolitan medicine in some aspects, I think great medicine is great medicine regardless of the location. I would encourage prospective medical students who are not from a rural community to live in a rural area for at least 2 consecutive weeks and experience questionable cell phone service, Friday night football games, and dirt roads. The Rural Scholars program opened my eyes to the full spectrum of medicine that a qualified, competent physician can practice in rural Texas." -ROME Alumnus

UT MD Anderson and UTHSC San Antonio's participation in Project ECHO

- Project ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) is a telementoring program to extend and improve treatment options for patients in rural and medically underserved areas
- Physician specialists at major healthcare "hubs" partner with rural providers to mentor, guide, and train them using teleconferencing technology
- Project ECHO operates 220 hubs for more than 100 diseases and conditions in 31 countries