

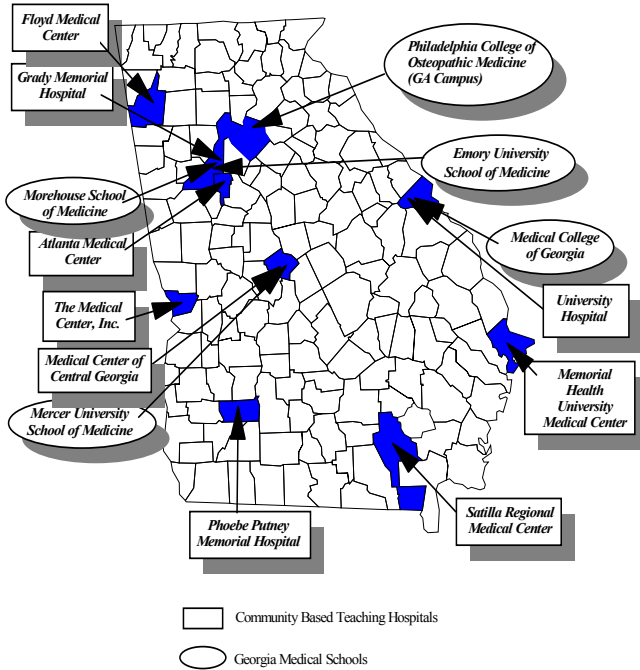


Georgia Board for Physician Workforce

Fact Sheet on Georgia's Teaching Hospitals: Training Physicians and Providing Healthcare to Georgians

January 2007

Georgia's Medical Schools and
Community Based Teaching Hospitals



Graduate Medical Education Overview

Graduate medical education, or residency training, typically occurs at a teaching hospital and prepares a physician to practice a specific specialty. Residency training takes a minimum of three years to complete and follows graduation from medical school. Research has shown that graduates tend to establish practice within a 50-mile radius of where they completed residency training.

In terms of structure, most residency programs are sponsored by teaching hospitals; however, other health care institutions such as a medical school may also sponsor programs. Teaching hospitals in Georgia range from hospitals with a single residency program to large academic medical centers sponsoring more than 50 residency programs.

Why is it important to sustain Georgia's teaching hospitals and graduate medical education programs?

Teaching hospitals and resident physicians are an integral part of Georgia's healthcare system. Approximately 2,000 resident physicians actively care for patients throughout their residency training. In addition, teaching hospitals contribute the following:

- train physicians for Georgia;
- provide specialized healthcare services;
- care for a disproportionate share of Georgia's uninsured, under-insured, Medicaid, and Medicare populations; and,
- serve as trauma centers (the majority of Georgia's teaching hospitals are designated trauma centers).

Graduate Medical Education Funding Sources

The largest source of funding for graduate medical education is the federal government, which provides funding to pay for Medicare and Medicaid's share of medical education costs. Teaching hospitals have seen steady declines in federal reimbursement for medical education as a result of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997. Other major sources of funding include: state government, teaching hospitals, medical schools, research and education grants, and fees generated by teaching physicians who see patients. The GBPW's **FY 2007 budget** for graduate medical education totals **\$6,712,221** in state funds.

Georgia's Graduate Medical Education Training Capacity

- The number of accredited residency positions in Georgia has increased by 14% over the last 6 years (from 1,776 approved positions in 2000-2001 to 2,025 approved positions in 2006-2007).

Number of Current Residency Positions and Number of Recent Graduates By Teaching Institution

Teaching Institution	Total Number of Approved Residency Positions ⁽¹⁾ 2006-2007 Academic Year	Total Number of Filled Positions ⁽²⁾ 2006-2007 Academic Year	Total Graduates in 2005*
Emory ⁽³⁾	1072	1023	284
Medical College of Georgia	429	403	128
Morehouse School of Medicine ⁽⁴⁾	137	135	35
Memorial Health Univ. Medical Center	118	107	25
Medical Center of Central Georgia	92	92	25
Atlanta Medical Center	92	89	26
The Medical Center, Inc.	40	37	11
Floyd Medical Center	21	21	7
Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital	19	17	7
Satilla Regional Medical Center	6	4	2
Total	2026	1928	550

Source: Figures were supplied by the individual teaching institutions.

* Figures do not include off-cycle graduates.

⁽¹⁾ The number of approved positions reflects nationally accredited slots. This number oftentimes varies from the number of filled positions because residency programs may not fill all their positions, graduates may finish off-cycle, or the sponsoring institution may not currently be offering a particular (fellowship) program.

⁽²⁾ The number of filled positions at any given time may change throughout the year.

⁽³⁾ Approximately 80% of Emory's resident physicians rotate through Grady during their training.

⁽⁴⁾ Of the 137 residency positions at Morehouse, all but 8 rotate through Grady during their training. The 8 residents who do not rotate through Grady are from the Public Health Program.

- A significant percentage of graduates from Georgia's residency programs are staying in the state to practice. For example, the 5 year retention rate for graduates of Georgia's Residency Programs is 62%. (This figure includes MCG's Family Medicine Program, but excludes the other GME programs sponsored by MCG, which receive funding through the Board of Regents.)

What value does Grady Memorial Hospital provide to the state?

- Grady is Georgia's largest teaching hospital and is staffed exclusively by doctors from Emory University School of Medicine and Morehouse School of Medicine.
- Approximately 54% of all **resident physicians** in the state complete a portion of their training at Grady.
- According to Grady's website, 25% of all **physicians practicing medicine in Georgia** received some or all of their training at Grady. This statistic demonstrates that Grady trains physicians which serve the entire state – not just the metro Atlanta area.

Georgia's Resident Physicians and Medical Students Number and Percent Rotating Through Grady

	Emory	Morehouse	Total	Percentage of Statewide Total
Number of residents trained annually at Grady (regardless of the rotation length) ¹	909	127	1036	54%
Total number of medical students trained annually at Grady ²	450	200	650	36%

Sources: (1) GBPW Residency Capitation Reports and Calculations; (2) Data from Grady

*For more information, please contact the Georgia Board for Physician Workforce at
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