



**THE UNIVERSITY OF
NORTH CAROLINA SYSTEM**



UNC SYSTEM RURAL RESIDENCY MEDICAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING FUND

Katherine Martin, Vice President of Health Affairs

Emily Hawes, PharmD, Director NCGME Technical Assistance, Sheps Center

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Agenda



Rural Physician Training Landscape and Federal Limitations



Rural Residency Medical Education and Training Fund



Grant Awards and Allocations

North Carolina Needs More Rural Doctors

Figure 1: Retention of 2019 NC Medical Graduates in NC Rural Primary Care Five Years After Graduating

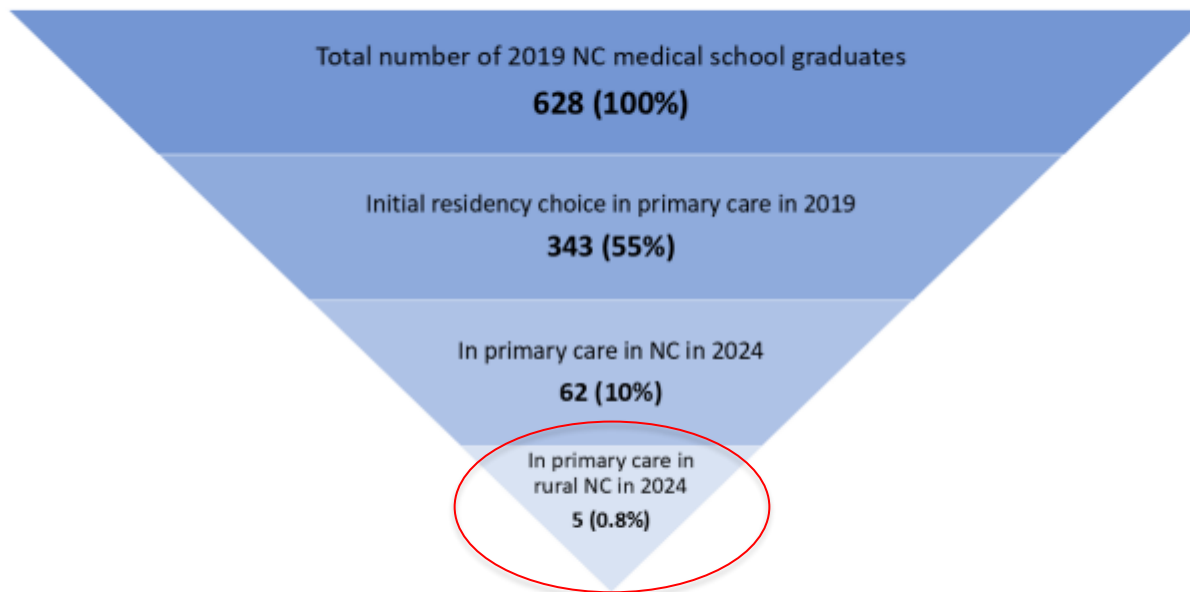


Figure 1: Produced by the Program on Health Workforce Research and Policy, Sheps Center for Health Services Research, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Source: North Carolina Health Professions Data System with data derived from the NC Medical Board and the AAMC, 2024. Rural source: US Census Bureau, Office of Management and Budget, July 2023 and USDA Economic Research Service RUCA codes, 2010. Core based statistical area (CBSA) is the OMB's collective term for metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas. Here, rural areas include counties in micropolitan statistical areas, counties outside of CBSAs, and census tracts with a RUCA code of 4 or greater.

Federal Barriers Limit Rural Residency Program Growth

Health Care Setting

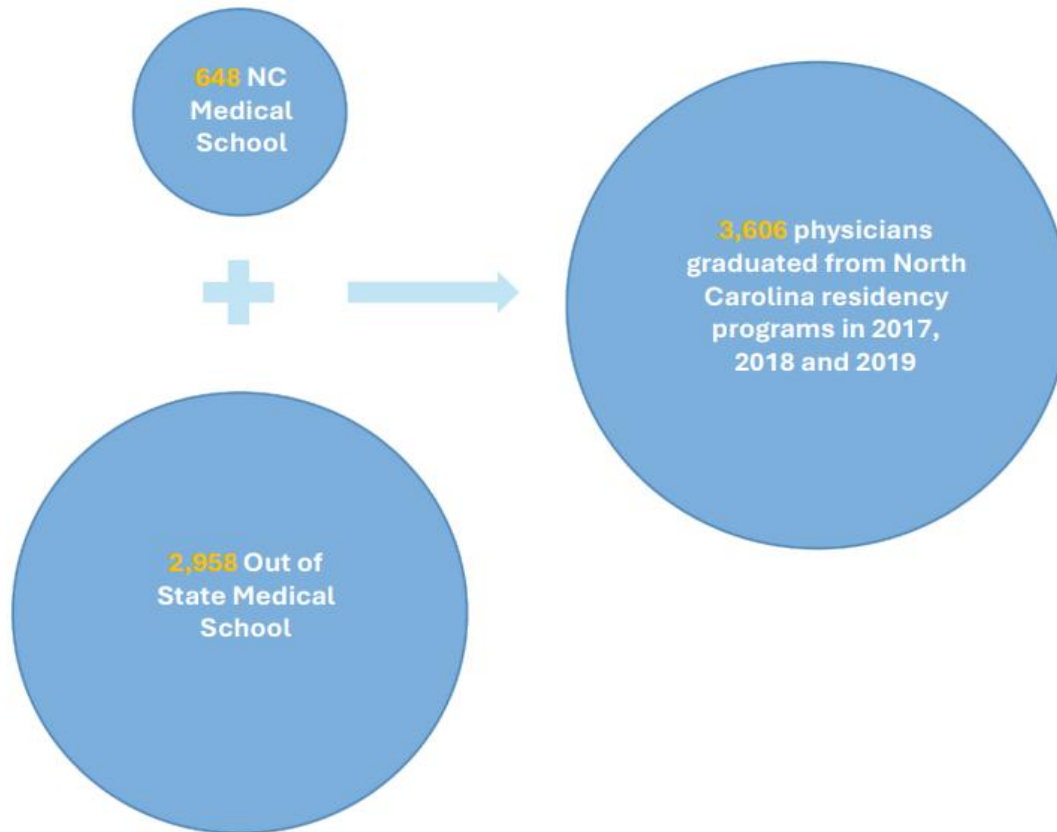
- Many rural hospitals do not receive full residency training reimbursement.
- Health care setting can impact reimbursement.

Geographic and rural training time limitations

- Federal definition of “rural” limits rural training opportunities.
- > 50% residency training time required for federal training reimbursement.

82% of Physicians Practicing in NC Completed Medical School Outside of North Carolina

Figure 6. Medical School Location of Physicians Graduating from an NC Residency in 2017, 2018, and 2019



UNC System Rural Residency Medical Education and Training Fund

- 2023 Appropriations Act: \$23.5 million

131 Rural Residency Medical Education and Training Fund Provides funds and budgets receipts from the ARPA Temporary Savings Fund for the UNC BOG to establish the UNC System Medical Education and Training Fund. Funding provided for this purpose shall support training and residency programs associated with ECU Health, UNC Health, and UNC constituent institution medical schools and health affairs programs.	Requirements	\$ 11,250,000NR	\$ 8,000,000R
			4,250,000NR
	Less: Receipts	\$ 11,250,000NR	\$ 4,250,000NR
	Net Appropriation	\$ -	\$ 8,000,000
	FTE	-	-

Family Medicine	Pediatrics	Psychiatry
Internal Medicine	General Surgery	OBGYN

FY 2023-26 Allocations

Institution	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25	FY 2025-26
UNC School of Medicine	\$6,390,000	\$6,990,000	\$4,800,000
ECU Brody School of Medicine	\$4,260,000	\$4,660,000	\$3,200,000
UNC Sheps Center – GME Technical Assistance Team	\$600,000	\$600,000	

FY 2026-27: Transition to Grant Program

- **October 2025:** Grant program webinar launch
- **January 20, 2026:** Grant application deadline
- **April 2026:** Grantee announcements
- **Goal:** strengthen rural health care workforce
- **Funding availability:** \$8 million recurring

4 Grant Types

Grant Type	Max Grant Period	Max Award Amount	Grant Renewal
Development	Up to 3 years	\$750,000	No
Expansion	Annual renewal, dependent on outcomes	\$150,000 per resident per year	Yes
Sustainability	Annual renewal, dependent on outcomes	\$150,000 per resident per year	Yes
Innovation	Up to 2 years	\$200,000	No

THANK YOU