Academic Health Systems Committed to Academic Missions Despite Minimal Medicare GME Cap Growth

Analysis of the latest Medicare cost report data for academic health systems indicates that Direct Graduate Medical Education (DGME) intern and resident FTE counts have steadily increased year over year, greatly outpacing growth in approved DGME caps, which determines Medicare funding limits. Out of the 227 AAMC-member academic health systems and teaching hospitals, 90% are over the cap. Further, 95% of hospitals that were over their cap by at least 100 FTEs were AAMC members, training an average of 185 FTEs over the cap. These academic health systems continue to contribute to medical education, scientific research and community collaborations and account for the majority of resident FTEs above the cap.



2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021

Data Source: AAMC's analysis of FY2021 Hospital Cost Reporting Information System (HCRIS) data, July 2023 release. Note: DGME counts include allopathic and osteopathic residents. Includes redistributed slots under Section 422, Section 5503, and Section 5506. DGME counts are unweighted FTEs. © AAMC. May not be reproduced without permission.

