



Reauthorize and Expand CHGME

What is the Children's Hospital Graduate Medical Education program?

CHGME reimburses freestanding children's teaching hospitals for some of the costs they incur in training the next generation of pediatricians and pediatric specialists. CHGME is administered by the Health Resources and Services Administration.

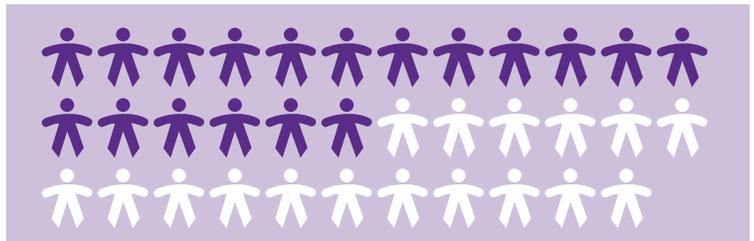
Why do children's hospitals need CHGME?

Hospitals that primarily treat adults receive federal Medicare Graduate Medical Education payments from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Medicare GME payments are based, in part, on the number of Medicare patients the hospital serves. As Medicare covers elderly adults, children's hospitals receive little to no Medicare payments. To address the shortage of pediatric physicians, Congress created the CHGME program in 1999.

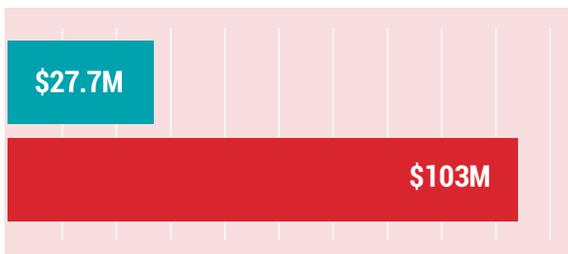
What does the CHGME program fund?

CHGME pays for the training of **43% of all general pediatrics residents and over half (55%) of all pediatric subspecialty residents and fellows** in the country.

Pediatric residents trained by CHGME vs. General pediatric residents¹



CHGME Funding vs. Hospital Spending



In Texas, seven children's hospitals receive and depend on CHGME funding to train pediatricians and pediatric specialists. In FY 2021, five of those hospitals **received \$27.7 million** but **spent \$103 million** to train thousands of residents and fellows. These residents include physicians who will serve adults but who need pediatric experience.

In most cases, the only place that a pediatric specialist can be trained is at a children's hospital. The medical specialty training that occurs solely at children's hospitals in Texas includes:

Trained solely at a children's hospital

- Pediatric hospital medicine
- Pediatric rheumatology
- Pediatric sports medicine
- Pediatric orthopedics
- Pediatric otolaryngology
- Pediatric Rehabilitation
- Pediatric Urology

Trained almost exclusively at a children's hospital

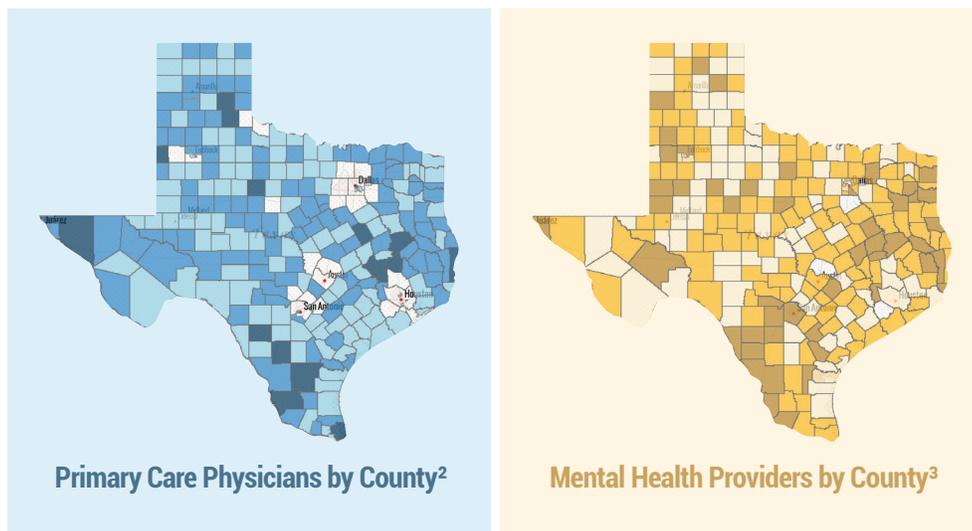
- Pediatric transplant hepatology
- Pediatric pathology
- Pediatric radiology



Almost all of Texas is medically underserved by primary care physicians and mental health providers.

Of the 254 counties in Texas, **235 (92.5%) are primary care shortage areas**. Mental health shortages are worse with **251 of 254 counties (99%) designated as mental health shortage areas**. Congressional investment is vital to help address these shortages to ensure that our children have access to primary care and mental health services.

Availability of Primary Care Physicians and Mental Health Providers by Texas County



As counties shade darker in color, the higher need for physician services.

What is needed from Congress?

The CHGME program must be reauthorized this year and, as part of that reauthorization, expanded and revised to compensate children's teaching hospitals appropriately.

The CHGME program expires this year. Congress must take action to reauthorize it. As CHGME covers less than 30% of the annual training expenses that children's hospitals in Texas incur, the program must be expanded. To provide children's hospitals the same funding that adult hospitals receive to train residents, children's hospitals are asking that Congress increase the funding from the current \$385 million per year to \$738 million.

When Congress reauthorizes the program, children's hospitals are also asking that the additional funding be allocated to those hospitals that have expanded their training programs since the last authorization. Under this proposal, hospitals currently receiving CHGME would not receive less funding, but the hospitals that have expanded their training programs would see their funding increase over the baseline. Several children's hospitals in Texas would benefit from this allocation methodology. **We need Congress to act so that our most important Texans--our children--have access to the highest-quality specialized care.**

Did you know?

- In Texas, there are **1,325 filled residency and fellowship positions** for pediatric physicians.
- Of general pediatrics residencies, **almost 80%** of those positions are at a children's hospital.
- For pediatric subspecialties, children's hospitals train **almost 73%** of those physicians.
- For other specialties, like child psychiatry, children's hospitals train **more than 76%** of those physicians.



Reauthorizing and expanding the CHGME program will ensure a sustainable workforce of pediatricians that are capable of providing specialized care to children in Texas.

1. Children's Hospitals Graduate Medical Education (CHGME) payment program. Children's Hospitals Graduate Medical Education (CHGME) Payment Program | Bureau of Health Workforce. (n.d.). Retrieved February 3, 2023, from <https://bhw.hrsa.gov/funding/apply-grant/childrens-hospitals-graduate-medical-education>

2. ArcGIS Experience Builder (n.d.). Health Professional Shortage Areas. Retrieved February 2, 2023, from <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/49b893caa0174cb395d6d0e882f19b35>

3. ArcGIS Experience Builder (n.d.). Health Professional Shortage Areas. Retrieved February 2, 2023, from <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/49b893caa0174cb395d6d0e882f19b35>



**CHILDREN'S
HOSPITAL
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