

WHAT MAKES CHGME DIFFERENT?

Children's Hospitals Graduate Medical Education (CHGME) is the only federal program dedicated to training pediatricians and pediatric subspecialists.

Congress created CHGME in 1999 since children's hospitals weren't eligible for most federal physician training programs.

CHGME ACCOUNTS FOR JUST

1.7%

of total federal spending on Graduate Medical Education (GME),² but it is the backbone of pediatric physician training.

CHGME trains pediatricians and pediatric subspecialists, child and adolescent psychiatrists, pediatric dentists and orthodontists, family medicine doctors, and more.³

>55%

of pediatricians and pediatric subspecialists were trained at CHGME hospitals in academic year 2024-2025.⁴

17,222

residents and fellows were trained with support from CHGME funds in academic year 2024-2025.⁴

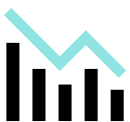
>90%

of some pediatric subspecialists, like pathologists, cardiac anesthesiologists, and rehabilitation pediatricians, train at CHGME-affiliated hospitals.⁵



CHGME funding is dependent on the annual appropriations process and does not always grow each year like Medicare GME funding.⁶

In contrast, Medicare GME payments are mandatory, change annually based on certain factors, including inflation, and do not rely on the annual appropriations process or need to be reauthorized like CHGME does.⁶



The amount of CHGME funding for an individual children's hospital is limited by the size of the annual appropriation. Changes in funding to one hospital affect the funding of other hospitals.⁶

In contrast, Medicare GME is open-ended. Funding levels for each hospital is based on its approved residency training programs, the number of Medicare-recognized residents, and its Medicare inpatient volume.⁶



Did you know?

CHGME hospitals have national reach and system-wide impact

CHGME hospitals serve children and teens in **99.6% of all counties in the U.S. and territories. Forty-five percent of the communities where these children live are rural.**³

They allow trainees from other GME programs, including military medical programs, to rotate through the hospital. Without these rotations, those programs would lose accreditation.

CHGME per resident funding in FY 2026 is just

39%

of what Medicare GME provides for adult-focused training programs.⁸ That gap will continue to widen each year if Congress doesn't adequately fund CHGME.

Since its founding, CHGME-affiliated programs have been responsible for

80%

of the increase in the number of new pediatric subspecialists trained nationwide.¹

Learn more about the continued need for this vital program that supports child health: ChildrensHospitals.org/CHGME

1. Children's Hospital Association's Analysis of select pediatric training programs in the American Medical Association (AMA) GME Database, Academic Year 99-00 and the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) Public Database, Academic Year 2022-2023, July 2025.
2. "Physician Workforce: HHS Needs Better Information to Comprehensively Evaluate Graduate Medical Education Funding," United States Government Accountability Office, March 2018.
3. "Children's Hospitals Graduate Medical Education Payment Program Evaluation Academic Years 2018-2023," p1-7, Health Resources & Services Administration, November 2024.
4. "Children's Hospitals Graduate Medical Education Program Academic Year 2024-2025," p1-2, Health Resources & Services Administration, 2026.
5. Children's Hospital Association's Analysis of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) Public Database, Academic Year 2022-2023.
6. "Children's Hospitals Graduate Medical Education (CHGME)," Congressional Research Service, June 2023.
7. "Federal Support for Graduate Medical Education: An Overview," Congressional Research Service, 2018.
8. "Comparative Analysis of GME Funding Programs for Children's Hospitals and General Acute Care Teaching Hospitals," Dobson DaVanzo & Associates, LLC., March 2026. *Note: Assumes \$395 baseline CHGME funding from 2026 through 2030, less HRSA administrative costs of 5.24%.

ChildrensHospitals.org/CHGME

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