

MONTANA WWAMI: Health Partnership for a Region



WWAMI is a partnership of the University of Washington School of Medicine and the states of Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana and Idaho.

Mission

The WWAMI program is dedicated to delivering medical education and health resources that foster an outstanding workforce to improve healthcare quality and access for the region.

TRUST

(Targeted Rural and UnderServed Track)

The Montana WWAMI TRUST program started in 2008 with the goal of creating a rural/underserved physician workforce for Montana. The program involves a targeted admissions process and linkage with a rural/underserved preceptor and continuity community, culminating in a 24-week learning experience in the student's third year. The Montana WWAMI class includes 30 students with 10 of those being TRUST students each year.

WWAMI Results:



638 GRADUATES
IN PRACTICE

Return Rate

Montana WWAMI practicing
or practiced in Montana

271/662 (41%)

Return on Investment

Total graduates from all WWAMI states
practicing/practiced in Montana

378/662 (57%)

Medical Student Education

1st and 2nd year: Students attend Montana State University-Bozeman/Bozeman Health for basic sciences and introduction to clinical medicine.

3rd year: Approximately 140 students participated in clerkships in Montana in 2015-2016. The number of clinical faculty in Montana is approximately 370. 3rd year required clerkships and locations in Montana are:

Family Medicine: Billings, Bozeman, Butte, Lewiston, Libby, Missoula & Whitefish. **Internal Medicine:** Billings, Bozeman, Dillon, Great Falls & Missoula. **OB/GYN:** Billings, Bozeman(2), Helena, Kalispell & Missoula. **Pediatrics:** Billings, Bozeman, Great Falls, Helena & Missoula. **Psychiatry:** Billings, Bozeman, Helena & Missoula. **Surgery:** Billings, Bozeman, Kalispell & Missoula. **WRITE (WWAMI Rural Integrated Training Experience)/TRUST (Targeted Rural and Underserved Track) communities include:** Butte, Dillon, Glasgow, Hamilton, Hardin, Lewiston, Libby, Livingston & Miles City.

4th year: Students will participate in required and elective clinical rotations in the following areas and locations in Montana:

Emergency Medicine: Billings & Bozeman. **Neurology:** Billings, Great Falls & Missoula. **Chronic Care/Rehab:** Billings. **Anesthesia:** Missoula & Billings. **Dermatology:** Billings. **Family Medicine Sub-I:** Billings & Missoula. **Medicine Sub-I:** Billings. **Nephrology:** Billings. **Ophthalmology:** Missoula. **Orthopedics:** Billings. **Otolaryngology:** Missoula. **Palliative Care:** Billings, Bozeman. **Radiology:** Billings. **Rural Surgery:** Libby. **Urology:** Billings.

Research

WWAMI is involved in the UW Institute of Translational Health Sciences and was awarded a supplemental grant to increase translational and clinical research capacity in Montana and throughout the WWAMI region. Faculty at MSU conduct biomedical research which is funded by the NIH, NSF, and NASA. WWAMI is engaged in healthcare workforce research.



MONTANA WWAMI FACT SHEET

Pre-Med & MCAT

The Montana MCAT Prep Summit was held on October 26, 2016 in Missoula. Approximately 55 participants attended the event. The next conference will be held in the Fall of 2018. The Pre-Med Summit takes place opposite years; that gathering occurred in Fall 2017.

Graduate Medical Education Residencies

Montana Family Medicine Residency:
Billings - 8 residents per year
70% of grads remain within the state

Family Medicine Residency of Western Montana (started in July 2013):
10 residents per year
In years two and three of training 7 residents train in Missoula and 3 residents in Kalispell

Billings Clinic Internal Medicine Residency (started in July 2014)
8 residents per year

For more information:

Jay Erickson, M.D.
*Assistant Dean for Regional Affairs,
UWSOM Assistant Clinical Dean,
Montana WWAMI*
406-862-3810

Martin Teintze, Ph.D.
*Director & Assistant Dean
WWAMI Foundations Phase at Montana
State University*
406-994-4411

FY 2016 FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF WWAMI

State appropriations	\$5,456,443 (UW: \$4,074,753; MSU: \$1,381,690)
Total expenditures spent in Montana	\$3,071,323 (56%)
Average state funding per WWAMI student per year	\$47,132
Average Montana WWAMI medical school debt per student	\$173,595
National Average medical school debt per student (publicly funded)	\$180,610
National Average medical school debt per student (privately funded)	\$203,201



Montana AHEC (Area Health Education Center)

- The five regional AHEC centers are participating in a **Department of Labor grant for health professions education**, and are engaged in a very robust workforce planning effort with regional hospitals and clinics.
- Montana AHEC obtained a federal grant for the **MT GME Council activities**, planning and organizational development.
- Montana AHEC provides camps and outreach programs with Montana high schools, including Tribal schools, to **encourage rural and underserved youth to pursue health careers**. It also manages federally funded workforce projects in care coordination with community health workers, oral health, allied health, health information technology, and an Robert Wood Johnson Foundation nursing initiative. Recent camp efforts focus on youth behavioral health.
- Montana AHEC received a grant from the **MT Healthcare Foundation** to develop curriculum, training, policies, and sustainable funding for community health workers.
- Montana AHEC sponsors **Meet the Residents and Health Professions** student events in Missoula and Billings.
- **HOSA-Future Health Professionals' Student Organization** (hosted by Western Montana AHEC) has been increasing membership and chapters across the state with the most recent chapter in Miles City.