



Primary Care Workforce

Phone: 1-800-308-5986
<https://idph.iowa.gov/ohds>

Protecting & Improving
the Health of Iowans



A qualified health workforce is central to protecting, improving and sustaining the health of Iowans. The Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) directs or participates in several statewide programs designed to recruit, develop and retain health care professionals in the public health, medical, mental and dental health fields. Critical to success is evaluating existing strategies to address the state's health workforce to determine if they can meet the changing needs of Iowans impacted by the aging of the population, rising incidence of chronic disease, and the ability of newly insured patients to access care.

IDPH commissioned the University of Iowa Center for Health Policy and Research to evaluate state programs. The Iowa Health Workforce Program Analysis was one of the first steps in assuring programs provide Iowans with access to quality health services provided by a competent health workforce. This analysis completed by IDPH was included in a report to the Legislature on December 15, 2016, and can be found at <https://idph.iowa.gov/ohds/rural-health-primary-care/resources>. Additional analysis and research is being conducted and a report was posted in July 2017 on the website.



Did you know? 48 of Iowa's 79 rural counties are fully or partially designated primary health care shortage areas, meaning they have an acute shortage of primary health care professionals.

Why are Primary Care Workforce programs important to protecting and improving the health of Iowans?

- Sixty-three Iowa counties include a Primary Care Health Professional Shortage Area.
- Eighty-nine Iowa counties are Mental Health Professional Shortage Areas.
- Sixty-five Iowa counties are in a Dental Health Professional Shortage Area. Almost half of Iowa's dentists (49%) are over age 50, according to the Office of Statewide Clinical Education Programs dataset January 2017.
- Demand for physicians continues to grow faster than supply. By 2025, demand for physicians will grow faster than supply, leading to a shortfall of between 61,700 to 94,700, according to a reported prepared by the Association of American Medical Colleges.
- Studies indicate that physicians are more likely to remain in the state in which they obtained graduate medical education. According to the study published in the journal *Family Medicine*, nationally, 54.8% of eligible family physicians practice within 100 miles of their training location. Nineteen percent practice within 5 miles, and 46% are practicing within 50 miles of their training location.

▶ Which Iowa Public Health Goals are we working to achieve?

Strengthen the health infrastructure

What do we do?

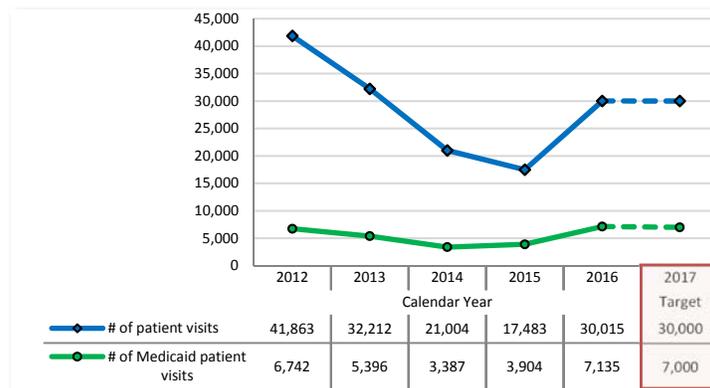
- Lead the Medical Residency Training State Matching Grants Program to increase the number of physicians who complete their residencies in Iowa.
- Administer the National Health Service Corps (NHSC) program for Iowa, providing support to practice sites and clinicians.
- Assist up to 30 physicians to practice in Iowa each year through the Conrad 30/J1 Visa Waiver Program.
- Coordinate public and private efforts to develop and maintain a stable, well-qualified, diverse and sustainable health care workforce.
- Manage grants and contracts related to primary care workforce.
- Manage grants and contracts related to mental and behavioral health workforce.
- Help professionals repay loans through the Iowa PRIMECARRE Loan Repayment Program. Loan repayment awards are made to an average of eight health professionals a year who commit to serve in shortage areas for two years.
- Help communities looking for health care professionals and professionals looking for vacancies through a web-based national recruitment network, 3RNet www.3rnet.org, made free to communities through federal funds.

How do we measure our progress?

1 Number of underserved lowans receiving health care as a result of state health professional loan repayment.

Data Source: Reports from loan repayment grantees.
Note that the 2015 reporting period was for a total of 9 months rather than 12 as in previous years.

How are we doing? Health professionals recruited and retained through the PRIMECARRE Loan Repayment Program serve thousands of lowans each year. Recruitment and retention incentives help Iowa compete for health professionals in short supply; however, restrictions tied to federal regulations mean that only certain health professions are included.



2 Number of new medical residents entered into residency programs.

Source: University of Iowa Office of Statewide Clinical Education Programs

How are we doing? Studies indicate that physicians are more likely to remain in the state in which they obtained graduate medical education. Data indicates that those who both attend medical school and residency in Iowa - 67% of primary care and 48% of non-primary care providers - remain within Iowa. For those residency-trained out of Iowa, only 19% will return. Iowa is investing in the future workforce by expanding access to more residency training slots in to increase the number of physicians remaining to practice within the state. Between FY2014 and FY2017, four new residency programs were established and four residency programs were expanded. Additional new medical residency programs are anticipated for 2019, pending funds allocated. Funds invested in the development of these new programs pay off in dividends for years to come once the programs are self-sustaining.

What can Iowans do to help?

1. All Iowans can learn about the Bureau of Oral and Health Delivery Systems and Iowa's primary care workforce by visiting <https://idph.iowa.gov/ohds>.
2. All Iowans can participate in local community planning for health services and recruitment efforts.

Expenditures

Medical Residency Training State Matching Grants Program: general fund K09-1019. **Direct Care Workers:** general fund: K09-0933/1005/1007. **Mental Health Workforce/Behavior Analyst Grants Program:** general fund: K09-0965/0967/1011. **Workforce Initiative:** K09-1023. **Primary Care Office:** federal funds: 0153-0912. **Dental Loan Repayment:** K09-0983. **PRIMECARRE:** general fund, federal funds, & other funds*; State funds are used for a 1:1 match for the Federal Loan Repayment Grant: K09-0901/1017; 0153-0908

	State Fiscal Year 2016 Actual	State Fiscal Year 2017 Actual	State Fiscal Year 2018 Estimate
State funds	\$3,103,770	\$3,061,436	\$549,454
Federal funds	\$298,556	\$299,654	\$290,841
Other funds*	\$1,459,757	\$139,632	\$0
Total funds	\$4,862,083	\$3,500,721	\$840,295
FTEs	1.82	1.97	1.20

Note: Funding information is intended to provide an overview of funding related to the program area. It does not include all federal and state requirements and/or restrictions for the use of funds. Contact the program area for more detailed budget information.

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3R-Net—Phone: 515-314-6912 ♦ <https://www.3rnet.org/>

PRIMECARRE—Phone: 515-321-7487 ♦ <https://www.idph.iowa.gov/ohds/rural-health-primary-care/primecarre>

Primary Care Office—Phone: 515-423-2690 ♦ <https://www.idph.iowa.gov/ohds/rural-health-primary-care/primary-care>

Primary Care Workforce—Phone: 515-321-7487 ♦ <https://www.idph.iowa.gov/ohds/rural-health-primary-care>