

Exploring Opportunities to Improve Patient Access to Care through Strategic Changes to Graduate Medical Education A Workshop

March 24-25, 2026
Washington, DC

WORKSHOP AGENDA

PURPOSE

A planning committee of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine will organize and host a [1.5-day public workshop](#) to consider ways to enhance broad patient access to care through strategic changes to GME, including collection and reporting of outcomes data, financial policy reforms, and evidence-based physician workforce planning. With emphasis on primary care, the workshop will feature invited presentations and panel discussions on topics such as:

- Possible strategies to catalyze data-sharing and reporting around common GME outcomes metrics to aid in developing a physician workforce that meets the needs of the U.S. population
- Relevant lessons learned from state leaders who are leveraging significant GME investments to address physician shortages and maldistribution within their states, and
- Potential ways to catalyze consistent, evidence-based GME financing policy actions at the state and federal levels.

BACKGROUND MATERIAL

Mathematica Discussion Paper

Accountability in Graduate Medical Education: Exploring Federal Investment, Policy Momentum, and Strategic Workforce Planning



TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2026

1:00–1:20 OPENING REMARKS

Welcome

Robert Phillips, *Chair*

Founding Executive Director

The Center for Professionalism & Value in Health Care

Sponsor Remarks

Kathryn Phillips

Associate Director, Improving Access

California Health Care Foundation

1:20–2:50 SESSION I: PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION & SCOPE – DEFINING THE LANDSCAPE AND ASSESSING GME OUTCOMES AND WORKFORCE TRENDS

- 1) Assess current GME outcomes, spending, and reporting/analysis
- 2) Analyze workforce patterns and key barriers affecting the expansion of primary care access
- 3) Apply existing data to guide and strengthen policy development.

Facilitator: **Diane Rittenhouse**, *Consultant*
Senior Fellow

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Past Considerations and Recommendations: IOM's 2014 GME Consensus Report and NASEM's 2017 & 2019 GME Outcomes and Metrics Workshops

Debra Weinstein

President & CEO

Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME)

GME Outcomes and Total Spending

Emily Hawes, Planning Committee

Professor & Director

Sheps GME Technical Assistance Center, University of North Carolina Chapel Hill

Yalda Jabbarpour

Director

The Robert Graham Center for Policy Studies

2:50-3:00

BREAK

3:00-4:30

SESSION II: THE ROLE OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT – OPPORTUNITIES, CHALLENGES, AND STRATEGIES TO ENHANCE ACCOUNTABILITY

1) Define what accountability means to the federal government and explore processes that can adapt to evolving physician workforce priorities. 2) Review existing federal authorities that enable accountability tracking in GME and identify potential gaps where new authorities might be required to enhance oversight. 3) Discuss barriers and how to negotiate needed changes if accountability is not present to avoid harming pipeline production/programs.

Facilitator:

Lori Rodefeld, Planning Committee

Director

Wisconsin Collaborative for Rural Graduate Medical Education

Federal Support for GME: CRS Analysis and Policy Considerations

Elayne Heisler

Analyst

Congressional Research Service

Panel Discussion

Candice Chen

Associate Administrator, Bureau of Health Workforce

Health Resources and Services Administration

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Vijay Kannan

Director, Office of Clinical Performance and Health Impact
Indian Health Service

Jake Quinton

Chief Medical Officer, Center for Medicare
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Ryan Scilla

Director, Medical Dental Education
Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of Academic Affiliations

4:30–4:45

CLOSING REMARKS

Robert Phillips, *Chair*

Founding Executive Director
The Center for Professionalism & Value in Health Care

END OF DAY 1

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2026

8:30–8:45

OPENING REMARKS

Welcome & Brief Recap of Day 1

Robert Phillips, *Chair*

Founding Executive Director
The Center for Professionalism & Value in Health Care

8:45–9:15

KEYNOTE

Kyu Rhee

President & Chief Executive Officer
National Association of Community Health Centers

9:15–10:30

SESSION III: ACCOUNTABILITY & OUTCOMES– ASSESSING STATE LEVEL GME EFFORTS TO ADDRESS PHYSICIAN SHORTAGES AND MALDISTRIBUTION

1) Learn relevant lessons from state leaders who are using data and leveraging significant GME investments to address physician shortages and maldistribution within their states. 2) Discuss state-level policies, incentives, and mechanisms that represent a robust distribution of financing, highlighting outcomes and lessons from implemented strategies.

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Facilitator: **Sunita Mutha**, *Planning Committee*
Director
Healthforce Center, University of California San Francisco

Florida Medicaid Deserts and GME Solutions

Christopher Cogle (Virtual), *Planning Committee*
Chief Medical Officer
Florida Agency for Health Care Administration

Building Our Physician Workforce: Missouri Growth of GME

Heidi Miller
Chief Medical Officer
Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services

GME Accountability Strategies: Arizona Case Based, Data Informed Interventions Measuring Effectiveness and Return on Investment

Daniel Derksen
Associate Vice President & Director
University of Arizona Center for Rural Health

Wisconsin Rural GME Development & Support

Lori Rodefeld, *Planning Committee*
Director
Wisconsin Collaborative for Rural Graduate Medical Education

10:30-10:45 **Break**

10:45–11:45 **SESSION IV: GAPS AND NEEDS –STRENGTHENING AND SUSTAINING THE PHYSICIAN WORKFORCE TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE US POPULATION**

- 1) Identify specialties experiencing workforce shortages, particularly in underserved areas.
- 2) Explore strategies to increase the proportion of trainees entering these shortage specialties
- 3) Discuss approaches to ensure equitable geographic distribution of these specialists and identify successful or potential models to build and sustain them.

Facilitator: **Erin Fraher**
Co-Director, Program on Health Workforce Research & Policy
Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services, University of North Carolina Chapel Hill

Panel Discussion

Natasha Bray (Virtual)
Dean

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Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine at the Cherokee Nation in Tahlequah

Daniel Elswick

Professor & Farnsworth Chair for Educational Psychiatry
West Virginia University

Benjamin Jarman

Vice President of Medical Education
Emplify Health by Gundersen

11:45-12:45 LUNCH BREAK

12:45–2:10 SESSION V: BREAKOUT ACTIVITY – IDENTIFYING PROMISING MODELS, POLICIES AND PARTNERSHIPS TO SUPPORT GME STRATEGIC NEEDS

In a breakout activity, workshop attendees split into small groups to enable more candid discussion and deeper engagement. Participants will discuss accountability, identify barriers, share stakeholder perspectives, and propose actionable next steps.

Facilitator: **Diane Rittenhouse, Consultant**
Senior Fellow
Mathematica

Breakout Activity: In-person attendees to see breakout assignment list and room numbers. Virtual attendees can respond to the breakout questions via SLIDO and/or return at 2:10pmET when livestream resumes. Staff will compile SLIDO input for breakout leads/reports.

Breakout 1: What should the GME system be accountable for now and in the future?	
<u>Lead:</u> Kelly J. Caverzagie Chair, Council on Medical Education American Medical Association	<u>Report:</u> Jonathan Jaffery Chief Health Care Officer Association of American Medical Colleges
Breakout 2: What does an ideal accountability system look like? What are the different levels of accountability that are needed?	
<u>Lead:</u> Kathryn Phillips Associate Director, Improving Access California Health Care Foundation	<u>Report:</u> Maura Biszewski Senior Vice President, Osteopathic Engagement American Osteopathic Association
Breakout 3: What are the policy barriers and facilitators for change to the current GME system? What are the innovations needed to overcome the barriers?	

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Lead:

Sarah Hemeida

Assistant Professor, Family & Community
Medicine, UT Southwestern Medical Center
Farley Health Policy Center, University of
Colorado
GME Transformation

Report:

Tracey L. Henry

RWJF Health Policy Fellow
National Academy of Medicine

2:10–3:10

LEADERSHIP ROUNDTABLE

Facilitator:

Robert Phillips, Chair

Founding Executive Director
The Center for Professionalism & Value in Health Care

Breakout Leads Report-Out & Discussion

Planning Committee: Workshop Synthesis & Open Floor

3:10–3:30

CLOSING

Sponsor Reflections

Melinda Abrams

Executive Vice President of Programs
The Commonwealth Fund

Workshop Closing Remarks

Robert Phillips, Chair

Founding Executive Director
The Center for Professionalism & Value in Health Care

3:30pmET

ADJOURN

END OF DAY 2