Featured Programs With a Proven Track Record of Producing Rural Physicians
The RTT Collaborative – Updated July 6, 2020

The RTT Collaborative (or “rural training collaborative” for short) is invested in providing students interested in rural training with good information regarding their options. A “rural program” is an accredited program in health professions education and training in which students and/or trainees spend the majority of their time training (more than 50%) in a rural place. For a more complete description and an article about rural residency program definitions click here or visit the RTT Collaborative website.

However, there are a significant number of rurally-focused programs that do not meet the RTT Collaborative definition outlined above and yet produce many rural doctors. The RTT Collaborative each year awards special recognition to any residency program, urban or rural, in any specialty that has a history of placing graduates in rural community practice. Any program can be recognized for the percentage and/or number of graduates who, on a 3-year rolling average, have established an initial place of practice in a rural community and/or who are in rural practice 3 years following graduation.

The following 19 programs have applied for and achieved a level worthy of recognition over the three graduating classes from 2017 to 2019 (a rolling average over 2-3 years of >3 residents per year or a graduation rate of >35% to rural practice, above the documented average for RTTs):

- Baptist Health Family Medicine Residency, Madisonville, KY – 55.56% and 3.33 rural graduates per year
- Family Medicine Spokane Rural Training Track Program, Colville, WA – 75%
- Fox Valley Family Medicine Residency, Appleton, WI – 40%
- Firelands Regional Medical Center Program, Firelands Regional Medical Center, Sandusky, OH – 41.67%
- Hidalgo Medical Services Family Medicine Residency Program, Silver City, NM – 80%
- Hood River RTT, Hood River, OR – 80%
- Maine-Dartmouth Family Medicine Residency, Augusta, ME – 53.13% and 5.67 rural graduates per year
- North Colorado Medical Center Wray Rural Program, Wray, CO – 100%
- OHSU-Cascades East Family Medicine Residency, Klamath Falls, OR – 78.26% and 6 rural graduates per year
- Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences/Tahlequah, Tahlequah, OK – 69.23% and 3 rural graduates per year
- Osteopathic Medical Education Consortium of Oklahoma (OMECO/Talihina) Program, Talihina, OK – 87.5%
- Self Regional Healthcare/Greenwood Program, Greenwood, SC – 63.33% and 6.33 rural graduates per year
- University of Arizona South Campus, Tucson, AZ – 48% and 4 rural graduates per year
- University at Buffalo Rural Program, Olean, NY – 50%
- University of Kansas (Wichita) / Via Christi Hospitals Wichita Program - Family Medicine – 50% and 9 rural graduates per year
- University of Minnesota (Duluth) Program, Duluth, MN – 60% and 5 rural graduates per year
- University of New Mexico Santa Fe Rural Program, Sante Fe, NM – 41.67%
- University of North Dakota (Minot) Program, Minot, ND – 57.89% and 3.67 rural graduates per year
- VCU Bon Secours Blackstone Family Practice Residency, Blackstone, VA – 66.67%

The top producers by percentage or number of rural graduates per year are bolded and underlined. If a program is not listed, it could be that the program has less than 3 years of graduates to report or has simply not applied for recognition this year. Encourage them to apply next year!

For an interactive map of rural programs in Family Medicine in the United States, visit the Student section of The RTT Collaborative website: https://rttcollaborative.net/rural-programs/residency-map/ for questions please contact Dr. Longenecker, Executive Director, The RTT Collaborative at longeneck@ohio.edu.