

Improve Children's Access to Care

Increase funding for CHGME to \$738 million for FY 2024

The future of children's health in our nation is directly tied to the strength of our pediatric workforce. The gap between the federal investment in the Children's Hospitals Graduate Medical Education (CHGME) program—which supports the training of pediatricians at children's hospitals—and the support provided through Medicare graduate medical education (GME) and other programs to adult acute care hospitals is contributing to worsening pediatric workforce shortages. Without action, an access-to-care crisis looms for children.

Children's hospitals ask Congress to provide \$738 million for CHGME in FY 2024

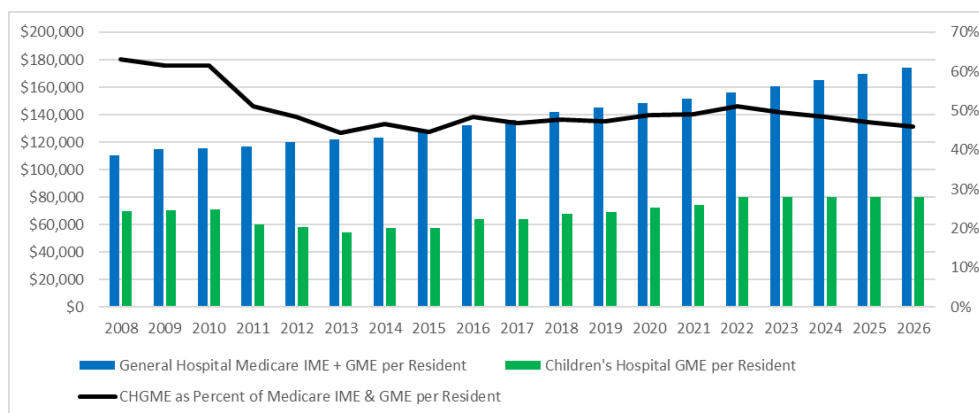
Funding CHGME at **\$738 million for FY 2024** is the critical step needed to help children's hospitals sustain their teaching missions and create a strong pediatric workforce pipeline for our children. The **CHGME** program, created almost 25 years ago, is our most vital national investment in strengthening the pediatric workforce and expanding timely access to care for children.

- It supports the training of half the nation's pediatricians and most pediatric specialists.
- It represents just 2% of total federal spending on graduate medical education (GME).

We are at risk of falling behind on children's health. Workforce shortages persist, most acutely among pediatric specialties such as child and adolescent psychiatry, developmental pediatrics and pediatric genetics and genomics. Alarming, federal funding for CHGME training programs:

- Is only about half of the federal funding the Medicare GME program receives—in 2022, CHGME payments were \$79,813 per pediatric resident compared to \$156,128 per resident trained with support from Medicare GME.
- Will **decline to close to 46% of Medicare GME by 2026** if action is not taken.

CHGME Payments Compared to Medicare GME Payments



Boosting support for the pediatric workforce is even more important as we face the ongoing challenges of the children's mental health crisis and the impacts of RSV and other respiratory viruses on our child patients and their health care providers. CHGME supports the training of the front-line doctors who are key to addressing the needs of children and youth during these emergencies.

Sustaining and growing pediatric training programs at children's hospitals to meet the needs of children requires a robust national commitment. We cannot continue to fall behind—we must protect children's access to care.

Contact Us

Elizabeth Brown, Vice President, Federal Affairs, Elizabeth.Brown@childrenshospitals.org