



2017 STATISTICS: HEALTH PROFESSIONS TRAINEES

In order to carry out the primary patient care mission of the Veterans Health Administration and to assist in providing an adequate supply of health personnel to the Nation, VA is authorized by Title 38 Section 7302 to provide clinical education and training programs for developing health professionals. VA conducts these programs in conjunction with the nation's academic institutions and plays a leadership role in defining the education of future healthcare professionals to meet the changing needs of U.S. healthcare delivery. Health professions trainees contribute substantially to VA's ability to deliver cost-effective, high-quality patient care for Veterans.

VA conducts the largest education and training effort for health professionals in the United States. VA's physician education program is conducted in collaboration with 144 of 149 LCME-accredited medical schools and 34 of 34 AOA-accredited medical schools¹. In addition, over forty other clinical health professions education programs are represented by affiliations with over 1,800 unique colleges and universities. Among these institutions are Minority Serving Institutions such as Hispanic Serving Institutions and Historically Black Colleges and Universities.¹

VA health professions education programs have a major impact on the healthcare workforce in VA. For example, roughly 70% of current VA optometrists and psychologists and 60% of physicians participated in VA training programs prior to employment. VA's involvement in health professions education has thus been shown to be an effective mechanism to support VA's patient care mission.

Official 7 Year Statistics (Paid and WOC):²

	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	AY 2017*
Advanced Fellows	288	297	253	311	383	452	463
Associated Health	24,608	25,122	26,121	26,454	26,410	26,932	25,428
Dental Residents & Students	1,231	1,195	1,397	1,398	986	1,044	849
Physician Residents	36,816	37,809	40,420	41,697	43,004	43,768	43,565
Medical Students	21,502	20,218	21,541	23,031	24,283	25,707	24,683
Nursing Trainees	32,349	32,859	29,067	28,086	28,127	28,845	27,549
Non-Health Profession	N/A	N/A	N/A	368	359	463	412
Grand Total	116,794	117,500	118,799	121,345	123,552	127,211	122,949*

*NOTE: Methodology changed in 2017 data from a Fiscal Year to an Academic Year frame. This results in more accurate data collection and avoids double-counting of trainees.

¹ The listing of allopathic medical schools is from the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) [see: <http://lcme.org/directory>]. For the American Osteopathic Associate (AOA) listing of osteopathic medical schools, see: <http://www.osteopathic.org/inside-aoa/about/affiliates/Pages/osteopathic-medical-schools.aspx>.

² This information is from the Health Services Training Report, completed by each facility annually at the conclusion of each fiscal year and now academic year (AY).

NEW RESIDENCY POSITIONS (301B) AWARDED THRU CHOICE ACT ROUND 4

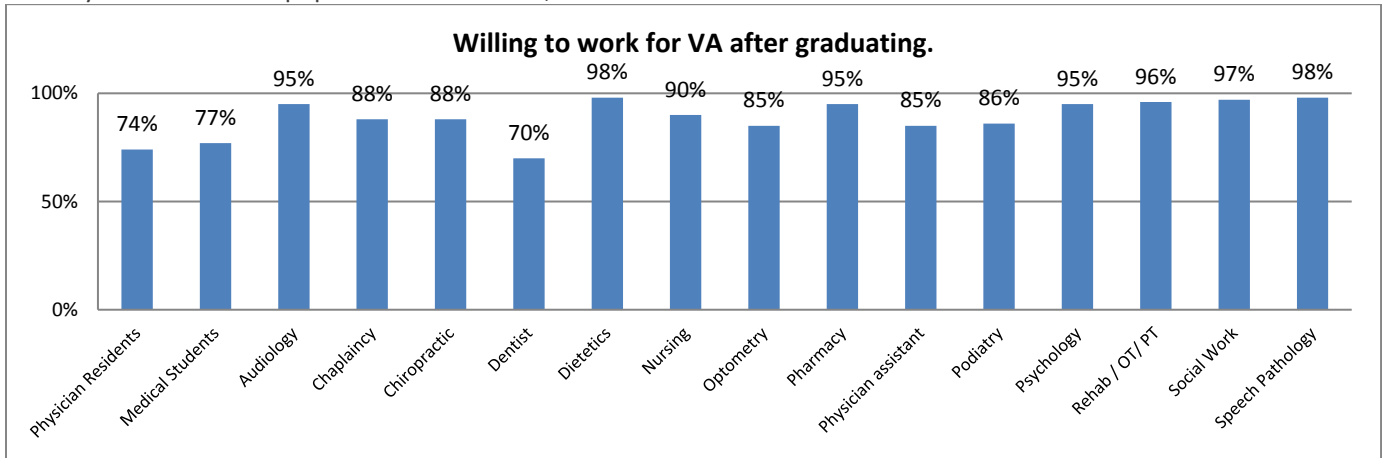
The Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 allowed VA to increase the number of graduate medical education (GME) physician residency positions by up to 1,500 over a ten-year period, with an emphasis on primary care, mental health, and other specialties the Secretary deemed appropriate. Two thirds of positions awarded thus far are in primary care (internal medicine, family medicine and geriatrics) and mental health (psychiatry and sub-specialties).

VACAA GME Expansion by Specialty					
VACAA GME Initiative through 4th Round	Approved Positions				Cumulative 4-yr Totals
	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	
Primary Care	102.42	62.15	70.72	114.10	349.39
Mental Health	57.80	38.20	40.40	31.15	167.55
Critical Needs-other Specialties	44.00	67.64	64.08	80.79	256.51
Total positions by year	204.22	169.99	175.20	226.04	---
Total VACAA Positions Approved					773.45
VACAA GME Expansion by Target Area					
VACAA GME Initiative through 4th Round	Approved Positions				Cumulative 4-yr Totals
	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	
Rural Sites (self-designated)	18.65	21.55	14.95	10.60	65.75
Family Medicine	16.90	7.25	19.50	38.90	82.55
Osteopathic Programs (AOA)	12.70	1.00	4.25	15.50	33.45



LEARNERS' PERCEPTIONS SURVEY - 2016-2017 RESULTS

The Learners' Perceptions Survey (LPS) was developed to measure the perceptions of learners who had a VA clinical training experience, identify areas for improvement in the learning experience, and provide the basis for a national performance measure for VA's Statutory Education Mission. During the last survey, 15,933 trainees completed or partially completed the LPS survey out of a trainee population of over 122,000.



MENTAL HEALTH EXPANSION – THROUGH PHASE VI

The Office of Academic Affiliations, in partnership with the Office of Mental Health and Suicide Prevention, has been engaged in a six-year, phased expansion of mental health training positions in VA. Since 2012, mental health training has expanded by over 750 positions, and several facilities, which did not previously provide training, have initiated programs.

Mental Health Expansion							
Year Funding Awarded	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Total:
Clinical Pastoral Education		10	10		21		41
LPMH Counselor				18	3	4	25
Marriage and Family Counseling				3	5	5	13
Nursing (MH)	12	20					32
Occupational Therapy		1					1
Pharmacy	43	15	5		11		74
Physician Assistant					7		7
Psychiatry ³	34.6	17.9	39.3				91.8
Psychology	62	66	139	42	25	20	354
Social Work	51	17	36		8		112
Total:	202.6	146.9	229.3	63	80	29	750.8

³ Funding for psychiatry residents from 2015 forward was supplied by the VACAA GME expansion and not MHEE.