Legislation enabling a statewide medical education system was enacted by the Iowa legislature in 1973. The Code of Iowa assigns to the Dean of the Carver College of Medicine the responsibility of administering this statewide program. The backbone of the statewide system is a network of community-based family medicine residency programs. The College provides administrative, educational, and technical support to the individual residency programs, all of which are formally affiliated with The University of Iowa.

RESIDENCY PROGRAMS

The statewide residency network comprises eight family medicine residencies in seven Iowa communities: Cedar Rapids, Davenport, Des Moines (2), Iowa City, Mason City, Sioux City, and Waterloo (See Figure 1).

Figure 1.

ENROLLMENT

The current combined enrollment across the three years of residency is 151. Forty-seven residents will complete their final year of training in 2015.

STUDENT INTEREST

Seventeen U.S. medical student applications are submitted for each first-year position offered in the statewide network. Residents enrolled in the eight programs represent fifty-eight medical colleges. During the past five years, 13% of UI medical graduates have entered family medicine residencies, which remains above the national average for USMDs during that period. Student interest in family medicine careers has declined across US medical schools in recent years. As a result, recruitment of medical students for residency positions is extremely competitive in Iowa and across the nation.

PATIENT CARE

A significant number of Iowans receive their family medical care at the offices of the family medicine training programs. The total number of patient visits at the family medicine centers was nearly 179,000 in 2013-14.
PRACTICE LOCATIONS

Fifty-four percent of the 2014 residency graduates entered practice in Iowa. During the past 40 years, more than three out of five graduates (62%) have entered practice in Iowa. Forty-four percent of the graduates selecting Iowa sites have chosen communities with populations under 10,000. One-fourth of the total have located in the metro areas where the training programs are based. Iowa towns where graduates are currently practicing are shown in Figure 2.

![Figure 2. IOWA FM GRADUATES PRACTICING IN IOWA (828)](source: Office of Statewide Clinical Education Programs, UI Carver College of Medicine, June 2015)

VISITING PROFESSOR PROGRAM

Carver College of Medicine faculty conduct over 100 teaching visits annually at the sites of the affiliated community-based family medicine programs. These teaching visits supplement instruction by full-time residency faculty and volunteer community physicians at each site.

PROGRAM COSTS AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT

The aggregate costs of the Statewide Family Medicine Training Network were $44,554,050 in 2013-14. The 2013-14 appropriation for family medicine education was $1,788,265. From that appropriation, individual training programs received a total of $1,430,612 in training grants and $357,653 in education support and administrative services. The principal sources of support for the training network (and the broader statewide medical education system) are funds from the sponsoring community hospitals and from patient services, which in combination pay 93% of the cost.