

Social Mission of U.S. Medical Schools

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Key Points

- U.S. medical schools are expanding. Some states and the Federal government have increased support for social mission programs. However, state initiatives are inconsistent and both state and federal programs are limited by tight fiscal budgets.
- Medical school social mission activities are limited and other goals, such as research and developing local economies, are at cross purposes with social mission goals. Schools must develop and prioritize internal commitments to produce a diverse, well-distributed workforce that meets the needs of the country.
- Greater evidence and accountability are needed.

Social Mission of U.S. Medical Schools – Ranking the Schools

- Percent of graduates who:
 1. Are underrepresented minorities
 2. Work in Health Professional Shortage Areas
 3. Practice primary care
- Social Mission Score – a composite index – the sum of standardized values obtained for each measure, with a mean of zero and standard deviation of one
- Data Sources: AMA Masterfile, AAMC and AACOM URM Data (1999-2001 Graduates)

Medical Schools Social Mission

Rank	School	Social Mission Score	% Primary Care	% HPSA	URM School:State Ratio
1	Morehouse (GA)	13.98	43.7 (1.20)	39.1 (1.40)	3.15 (11.38)
2	Meharry (TN)	12.92	49.3 (2.00)	28.1 (0.14)	2.99 (10.78)
3	Howard (DC)	10.66	36.5 (0.19)	33.7 (0.78)	2.71 (9.68)
4	Wright State (OH)	5.34	49.2 (1.98)	28 (0.12)	1.31 (3.23)
5	U Kansas (KS)	4.49	45.2 (1.42)	43.9 (1.96)	0.77 (1.12)