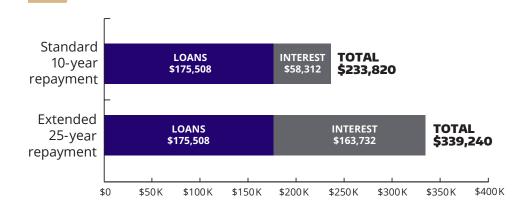
#### **2016 GRADUATES: REPAYING THE LOANS**



#### SCHOLARSHIPS MAKE IT POSSIBLE

When students choose a medical school like the UW School of Medicine, an excellent reputation and a unique regional training program are just two considerations.

Students also weigh the financial assistance schools can offer through scholarships, funds that do not require repayment. And for some students — especially those from disadvantaged backgrounds — medical school is simply out of reach without substantial scholarship support.

As you can see, our students greatly appreciate and benefit from scholarship funds. They need these funds to consider medicine as a career, to come to medical school, to get the most out of their time here, and then to make career choices that will benefit all of us.

#### **INVEST IN THE NEXT GENERATION**

An investment in scholarships is not only an investment in an aspiring physician. It's also an investment in the health of our families, communities, region and world. Gifts of all sizes are welcome and will be very well-used.

For more information about UW Medicine's scholarship program, please contact UW Medicine Advancement at 206.543.5686. Thank you for your interest in our students and our communities.









# SCHOLARSHIPS REPUCING BARRIERS TO MEDICAL SCHOOL FOR OUR REGION'S PHYSICIANS

Good doctors — smart, compassionate, involved — are assets to our communities. And in WWAMI, the five-state region of Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana and Idaho, there are many different kinds of communities: rural and urban, easy-to-reach and remote, and some with too few doctors to serve the population.

At the University of Washington School of Medicine, we're committed to training doctors *from* the WWAMI region *for* the WWAMI region — in all its beauty, complexity and diversity. We're creating a cadre of doctors for your family, your neighborhood and your town or city. It's important work. And you can help.

UW Medicine

### JOIN US AccelerateMed.org

Box 358045, Seattle, WA 98195-8045 206.543.5686 / writemed@uw.edu

Dec. 2017







#### WHAT'S AT RISK?

Our nation is facing a significant physician shortfall. The American Association of Medical Colleges estimates that shortfall to be 104,900 by 2030. More than ever, we need our medical students\* to remain in our region when they start their medical practice.

There are other needs, too. As our nation grows increasingly diverse, we must also ensure that students from a wide range of backgrounds can pursue medicine, and we must train all medical students to provide culturally appropriate care for the communities they go on to serve.

\*The Class of 2017 contains 270 students, learning throughout the WWAMI region: 100 in Seattle, 60 in Spokane, 20 each in Wyoming and Alaska, 30 in Montana and 40 in Idaho.

#### **EDUCATION AND FINANCES**

We'd like to think that anyone who is smart, kind and committed to learning can be a physician, and that they can choose an inspirational career — like practicing family medicine in a rural WWAMI area —based on their passion and interest.

But this is not the case. Medical school is tremendously expensive, presenting a barrier that prevents many people from applying. And students can be deterred from practicing in the areas that need them most — but pay them less — by mountains of medical-school loan debt.

Scholarships, created and maintained by generous donors, help our students tremendously. They reduce the barriers to applying to medical school, they help our medical school foster a sense of commitment to the WWAMI region, and they help students choose the careers that are right for them.

#### **SCHOLARSHIPS VS. LOANS**

For over 45 years, the UW School of Medicine has provided both a high-quality and cost-effective medical education through our WWAMI program. While we are proud that our cost is lower than many of our peer institutions, it remains expensive, more than \$250,000 for four years.

Over the last two decades, thanks to alumni and friends like you, we have achieved remarkable success in expanding scholarships for students: a total exceeding \$80 million in endowed funds for medical-student scholarships in 2017. While these scholarships produce more than \$3 million in scholarship awards every year, the Class of 2016 still had to take out \$30 million in loans. In fact, the median educational debt for 2016 graduates was more than \$175,000.

With repayment timelines that can extend to 25 years, the total (with interest) can grow to nearly \$340,000. The prospect of this long-term financial burden can influence students' choices of specialty, location of practice — even whether to pursue medicine at all.

## COMING HOME

Medical school is the first step in a student's education; residency is the second. Since doctors often wind up living where they do their residency, we're working hard to get them to come back home to WWAMI — to help offset the pending physician shortage.

And it's working. Our graduates return to their home states at a rate above the national median of 39 percent. When taking into account return to each state by all WWAMI students, that rate is even more impressive.

STUDENT RETURN RATES		
	Home State	Any WWAMI State
WA	43%	51%
WY	69%	73%
AK	42%	64%
MT	41%	57%
ID	51%	75%

#### **TALKING ABOUT SCHOLARSHIPS**

"I would like to express my deep gratitude for your generosity. I rely on student loans to fund my education, and your support helps lessen my loan burden and alleviate financial stress so that I can focus on school. I feel fortunate to be at the University of Washington for medical school...because the UW provides meaningful clinical training from the first day." Student Alaina Butler, Federal Way, Wash.

"I believe medicine is more than a career choice in my life — I think it is a calling. I look forward to sharing the knowledge and understanding I am gaining now with people for many years to come. Thank you for your contribution to my education and for partnering with me in my journey towards serving people as a physician." Student John Nuhn, Moscow, Idaho

"I grew up on a ranch, and I knew I wanted to live in a small community like that again...Being able to come home was important to me. Through WWAMI, I could also train in Montana, which was really appealing. After med school, I did a residency in Billings so that I could go back to Lewistown once a month. I really got to see what small-town medicine is like." Graduate KayCee Gardner, M.D. '12 Montana Student, Montana Doctor