

May 10, 2017

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Regents

FROM: David L. Buhler

SUBJECT: Utah Medical Education Council (UMEC) Update

Issue

The Utah Medical Education Council prepares an annual update for the Commissioner on the health care workforce supply and demand which will be presented to the Regents for their information and consideration.

Background

A number of programs presented to the Regents in the past year and at this meeting are designed to prepare health care providers in a variety of health care fields. Many of the programs developed are responding to acute needs in the service area of the institution presenting the proposal. In addition, the Regents recently established a Mental Health Work Group, chaired by Regent Patricia Jones and with Regent Jesselie Anderson as vice chair, to look into the concerns expressed by Utah System of Higher Education (USHE) institutions regarding mental health care needs and the supply of mental health workers to meet those needs. The issue of mental health care needs and responses at the USHE institutions was recognized in a resolution spearheaded by student Regent Ty Aller and supported by the USHE student body councils passed during the 2017 legislative session. It is pertinent to provide this update to the Regents so they can hear first-hand the UMEC analysis of mental health and other health care workforce needs in Utah from UMEC Executive Director, Richard Campbell.

Commissioner's Recommendation

The Commissioner recommends the Board of Regents hear the report and participate in a dialogue about the UMEC data to understand better the health care workforce needs of Utah and inform decisions regarding health care worker preparation programs and to gain insight into the challenges of meeting student mental health care needs given workforce supply and demand.

David L. Buhler
Commissioner of Higher Education

DLB/EJH
Attachment

UMEC Update
December 2016

2016 Workforce Reports

RN Education

- 57% of faculty were over the age of 50.
- Full-time faculty salaries vary between a \$66k average for PhD prepared faculty and \$53k for DNP prepared faculty.

Physical Therapy Workforce

- The UMEC estimates that the current active PT workforce of 1,690 PTs provides a ratio of 56.0 active physical therapists per 100,000 population compared to 64.8 nationally.
- 52% of PTs practicing in the state graduated from one of Utah's PT programs.

Mental Health Workforce (Clinical Mental Health Counselors, Licensed Clinical Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists, and Psychologists)

- UMEC estimates that the current mental health workforce of 6,154 provides a ratio of 209 providers per 100,000 people compared to 311 nationally.
- The majority of the workforce (62.4%, 3,842) is female and the median income for the entire workforce is \$56,000.

Physician Workforce

- The State's primary care provider to 100,000 population is calculated at 68 and the national primary care provider to 100,000 population ratio is 91.
- Hispanics are grossly underrepresented in the state's physician workforce in comparison to their percentage share of the state's population. (1.6% vs. 13.5%)
- The single most common tie a physician practicing in Utah (54%) has to the state is having done a residency or fellowship in Utah. 48% of graduates from the University of Utah Medical School report a Utah address.

2017 Workforce Reports

- RN Education
- RN Demand Study
- APRN Workforce
- Dental Workforce