Innovation in Medical Education
University of Washington School of Medicine and the WWAMI Program
WWAMI

- UW School of Medicine is the sponsoring institution for WWAMI, the five state regional medical school for Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana and Idaho

- WAMI is a 45-year partnership (Wyoming joined in 1996 as the second “W”) providing high-quality, cost-effective medical education

- Partner universities include Gonzaga University, University of Wyoming, University of Alaska, Montana State University, and University of Idaho
Founding Goals 1971

- Provide access for citizens of the Northwest to publicly supported medical education
- Increase number of primary care physicians and address maldistribution of physicians
- Create community-based medical education
- Expand graduate medical education and continuing medical education
- Avoid excessive capital costs and duplication of resources by using existing educational infrastructure
WWAMI Rural Populations

- Wyoming: 17%
- Alaska: 66%
- Washington: 61%
- Montana: 70%
- Idaho: 59%
WWAMI Partnership

- WWAMI is publically supported medical education
- Each partner state provides funding for medical education in that state similar to other health professions education in that state
- Partner university participates in providing medical education in that state
The WWAMI Model

- Each partner state has an admission committee
- Students complete Foundations Phase at their home state university
- Students able to complete clinical rotations in locations across the region
- GME opportunities across the WWAMI region
## WWAMI Medical Student Return Rates
### 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State-specific student return rate</th>
<th>State-specific WWAMI student return rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wyoming</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alaska</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montana</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Idaho</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wyoming</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alaska</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montana</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Idaho</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

National average - 39%
Ranked within top 5 in the country for Primary Care, Family Medicine, and Rural Medicine Education for more than 23 consecutive years*

*U.S. News & World Report 2018 ‘Best Graduate Schools’ has ranked the UW School of Medicine #1 for Family Medicine and Rural Medicine education for 25/26 years, and #1 for Primary Care education, 23 of the past 25 years