No matter what area of medicine they pursue or where in the world they decide to practice, today’s new doctors must leave school armed with the knowledge, skills and confidence they will need to quickly, effectively and efficiently meet the pressing health care challenges and opportunities of the 21st century. They find all of this in the University of Missouri-Kansas City Graduate Medical Education program, where our mission is to provide and foster excellence, innovation and scholarship in education, research and medical care.

UMKC’s pioneering approach toward educating tomorrow’s doctors doesn’t stop with our medical school, but continues on through our Graduate Medical Education programs. We pride ourselves in offering a collegial, competency-based training experience in an environment that is academically stimulating and clinically challenging.

More than 500 residents and fellows from around the world infuse our highly acclaimed program with energy and enthusiasm as they participate in 50 different areas of study. At our partner institutions — Truman Medical Centers; St. Luke’s Hospital; Children’s Mercy Hospital and Clinics; the Center for Behavioral Medicine; Research Medical Center and the Kansas City VA Hospital — residents and fellows work in a wide array of clinical settings, from safety net hospitals to tertiary care referral centers. As part of UMKC’s urban-serving mission, they see patients at all stages of disease development who represent a true cross section of society. As a result, these young doctors leave our program with a broad exposure to health care, empowering them to effectively practice medicine anywhere, under any circumstance, with any patient population.

Another key attribute of our leading edge program is the tight-knit relationship between our faculty and the residents and fellows. We place a strong emphasis on teaching because we know that in the greenhouse of a strong, collaborative mentoring relationship, residents and
fellows flourish. They build the skills, confidence and experience they will need to effectively serve patients immediately upon completion of our program.

Since its inception, the School of Medicine and the Graduate Medical Education program have been responsive to the pressing issues and needs in health care today. We embrace new opportunities and tackle new challenges so our residents and fellows can gain the real world skills and knowledge they will need in the rapidly changing field of medicine. Now it’s time for us to be responsive again.

THE PROJECT

We have identified several critical areas not being fully addressed in today’s residency and fellowship programs: clinical quality improvement, patient safety and medical practice management. We will once again lead by adding these curricular areas to our Graduate Medical Education program. As a result, our residents and fellows will leave here well prepared to practice medicine in an environment in which they will increasingly be expected to deliver efficient, high quality, cost-effective care.

Over the past few decades the practice of medicine has seen rapid advancements that will likely accelerate in the future. As breakthroughs in technology continue at a blinding pace, the field of medical education must grow and change as well. Today’s doctors need to be prepared to flourish in this dynamic environment.

To ensure our residents and fellows are fully prepared for tomorrow’s challenges, we must enhance three key curricular areas to our Graduate Medical Education program: clinical quality improvement, patient safety and medical practice management. Private funds are necessary to create new curriculum that responds to the very real needs of today’s medical environment, from teaching doctors to providing high-quality yet cost-effective care, to successfully managing a thriving private practice.

FULFILLING THE VISION

The Graduate Medical Education program stands at a critical crossroads. In order to reach its full potential, tomorrow’s physicians must have skills and knowledge in key new areas: patient safety, quality of care and practice management.
Developing leading edge curricula in these areas will further distinguish the UMKC School of Medicine’s Graduate Medical Education program from our peer institutions across the nation, giving us yet another program by which other schools of medicine benchmark.

Providing added educational opportunities also will help us attract top medical school graduates from around the country because the best students are looking for added challenge in these key areas.

This is the time for the School of Medicine to once again rise up and take leadership by embracing these critical needs, advancing the health of our community, region and nation.

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<th>ESTIMATED PROJECT COSTS</th>
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