Across the continuum of physician education, the gap between how physicians are being trained and the future needs of our health care system continues to widen. The American Medical Association will work to bridge this gap by accelerating change in medical education in the United States.

In keeping with its historic leadership in physician education, the AMA in 2013 launched an $11 million competitive grant initiative aimed at bringing innovative changes to medical education. Through this initiative, the AMA will work to:

- **DEVELOP** new methods for measuring and assessing key competencies for physicians at all training levels to create more flexible, individualized learning plans
- **PROMOTE** exemplary methods to achieve patient safety, performance improvement and patient-centered team care
- **IMPROVE** understanding of the health care system and health care financing in medical training
- **OPTIMIZE** the learning environment

In an outstanding show of interest, we received proposals aimed at initiating these needed changes from 82 percent of the nation’s 141 medical schools accredited by the Liaison Committee for Medical Education (LCME). This tremendous response is a clear sign that medical schools are eager to implement the transformative changes needed to respond to the evolving medical environment.

Thirty-one schools were invited to submit comprehensive proposals for further consideration. A national advisory panel helped the AMA select the final 11 grant awardees, which we announced in June during our 2013 Annual Meeting of the AMA House of Delegates.

The recipient medical schools are:
- Indiana University School of Medicine
- Mayo Medical School
- New York University School of Medicine
- Oregon Health & Science University School of Medicine
- Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine
- The Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University
- The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University
- University of California, Davis School of Medicine
- University of California, San Francisco School of Medicine
- University of Michigan Medical School
- Vanderbilt University School of Medicine

Another critical component of this initiative is the establishment of a learning collaborative with the selected schools so that best practices can be developed, shared and implemented in medical schools across the country.

In addition the AMA continues its work to shape graduate medical education (GME) by working closely with ACGME and residency committees on GME standards, as well as supporting federal and state-level advocacy that addresses GME and work force issues.

By the end of this five-year initiative, undergraduate medical education improvements will have been tested, refined and adopted as mainstream options. The innovations will enable the next generation of physicians to maintain the tradition of professional and clinical excellence within our evolving health care system.