

NYU’s free medical-school tuition could funnel more doctors to primary care

<p>Notes & Cues:</p>	<p>Article:</p> <p>Medical school costs a lot of money that a lot of people don’t have. That often means students do a bit of cost-benefit analysis: Is it worth it to take on hundreds of thousands of dollars of debt now for the possibility of making hundreds of thousands of dollars a year later?</p> <p>New York University’s School of Medicine is trying to remove that calculation as a factor in students’ career decision making. The school announced yesterday that it will provide all new, future, and current students a full-tuition scholarship—financial need and merit aside, meaning wealthy students and low-income students alike will receive it. The scholarship doesn’t cover the rest of the costs associated with college—housing, food, child care—but it takes \$55, 018 a year out of the picture.</p> <p>“This decision recognizes a moral imperative that must be addressed, as institutions place an increasing debt burden on young people who aspire to become physicians, ” Robert Grossman, the school’s dean, said in a statement. “A population as diverse as ours is best served by doctors from all walks of life, we believe, and aspiring physicians and surgeons should not be prevented from pursuing a career in medicine because of the prospect of overwhelming financial debt.” The school will need to raise \$600 million to fund the project—\$450 million of which it says has already been raised.</p> <p>“Tuition-free medical education goes beyond the merit and financial scholarships, and debt cancellations that other academic centers have traditionally favored, ” Rafael Rivera, the associate dean for admissions and financial aid at the medical school, said in a statement. “More importantly, ” he continued, “it addresses both physician shortages and diversity.”</p>
<p>Summary:</p>	