



Upstate Hospitals Woo City Physician Residents

On Health

By [ELIZABETH SOLOMONT](#)

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Hospitals in [upstate New York](#) are courting [New York City](#) physician residents in an attempt to counter a growing physician shortage.

At least 25 hospitals and health care organizations are expected to attend an open house and job fair for physician residents on October 21 at the [Sheraton Hotel](#) in Midtown, an event organized by the [Greater New York Hospital Association](#).

Representatives from upstate chambers of commerce and state lawmakers also plan to present information about upstate real estate and schools, as well as loan forgiveness programs and visa waivers for physicians who work in underserved areas.

"The upstate physician crisis is only going to get worse unless we explore creative solutions," the president of GNYHA, [Kenneth Raske](#), said. "If this event persuades even a few residents to practice upstate, it will be a success."

A growing physician shortage has become a priority for the upstate medical community in recent years. In a survey conducted earlier this year by the [Healthcare Association of New York State](#), 99 hospitals statewide reported a collective shortage of 804 doctors. Among 11 hospitals in the [Rochester](#) area, 104 primary care physicians were needed. Of 15 hospitals in central New York, 114 primary care physicians were needed, in addition to 45 general surgeons. Earlier this year, [Senator Schumer](#) introduced legislation to facilitate upstate recruitment efforts and to fund programs that send doctors to underserved regions.