Who Should Fund Medical Education?

Last year, nearly 2000 doctors could not practice medicine because there were no residency training programs open to them. The U.S. already has a shortage of 16,000 doctors despite 17 new medical schools and 7,000 more doctors being trained each year as a result. But many may not be able to practice because they can’t get residency training.

One physician-in-training blames decreased federal spending and warns that a $11 billion budget cut has been proposed. But here’s the question. Why is the federal government involved in medical training and how much less expensive and more accessible could medical school and training be if it wasn’t?