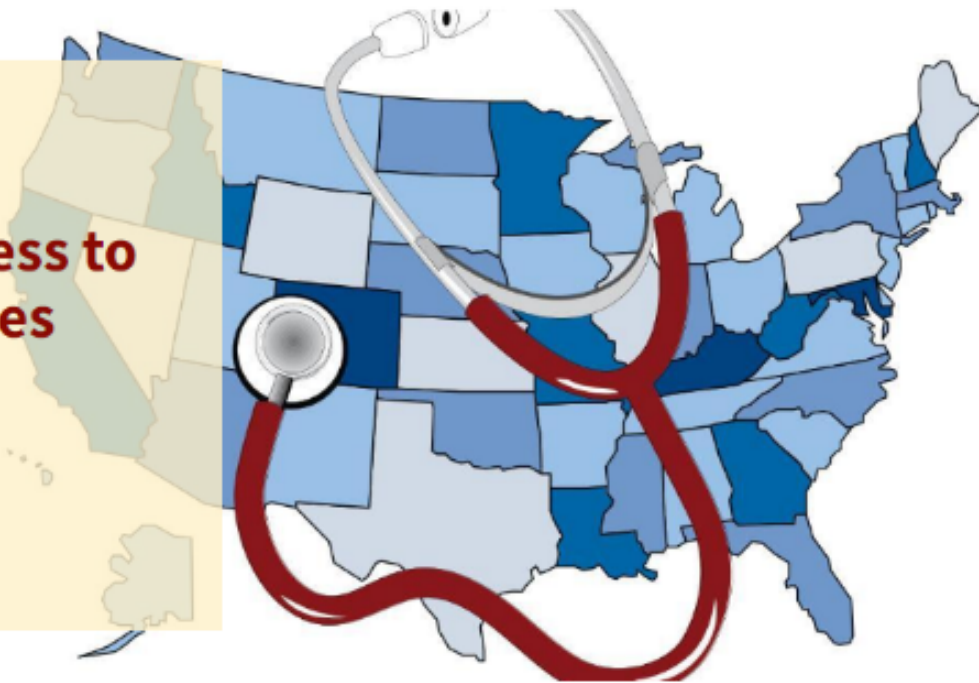


Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

Rural Health Resources

Our work increases access to care in rural communities

Explore our Programs



<https://www.hrsa.gov/rural-health>



U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
HRSA
Federal Office of Rural Health Policy

Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP)

Rural Health Information Hub (RHInhub)

Topic Guides

MORE ON THIS TOPIC

- Introduction
- FAQs
- Chart Gallery
- Resources
- Organizations
- Funding & Opportunities
- News
- Events
- Models and Innovations
- About This Guide

[Rural Health](#) > [Topics & States](#) > [Topic](#)

Rural Healthcare Workforce

Maintaining the healthcare workforce is fundamental to providing access to quality healthcare in rural areas. Rural healthcare facilities must employ enough healthcare professionals to meet the needs of the community. They must have proper licensure, adequate education and training, and cultural competency skills. Equally important, optimizing how health professionals are used and enhancing coordination among them helps ensure that patients are getting the best care possible.

Strategies can include:

- Using interprofessional teams to provide coordinated and efficient care for patients and to extend the reach of each provider
- Ensuring that all professionals are fully utilizing their skill sets and working at the top of their license; that is, practicing to the full extent of their training and allowed scope of practice.
- Removing state and federal barriers to professional practice, where appropriate
- Changing policy to allow alternative provider types, once evidence shows they can provide quality care

Funding Opportunities

MORE ON THIS TOPIC

- Introduction
- Chart Gallery
- Resources
- Organizations
- Funding & Opportunities
- News
- Events
- Models and Innovations
- About This Guide

[Rural Health](#) > [Topics & States](#) > [Topic](#)

Rural Healthcare Workforce – Funding & Opportunities

For additional funding options, please see RHInhub's [Online Library: Funding & Opportunities](#)

Sort By: [Date](#) | [Name](#) | Hide Inactive Funding

[Narrow by type](#) | [Narrow by geography](#) | [Narrow by topic](#)

Indian Health Service Loan Repayment Program

Loan repayment for undergraduate and graduate health professional educational loans in return for full-time clinical service in Indian Health Service programs.

Geographic coverage: Nationwide

Application Deadline: Aug 15, 2019

Sponsors: Indian Health Service, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

NIDDK Education Program Grants (R25 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Grants to support educational activities that complement and/or enhance the training of a workforce to meet the nation's biomedical, behavioral and clinical research needs. Institutions are encouraged to diversify their student and faculty populations to enhance the participation of individuals from groups identified as underrepresented in the biomedical, clinical, behavioral and social sciences.

Models and Innovations

MORE ON THIS TOPIC

- Introduction
- Chart Gallery
- Resources
- Organizations
- Funding & Opportunities
- News
- Events
- Models and Innovations
- About This Guide

[Rural Health](#) > [Topics & States](#) > [Topic](#)

Rural Healthcare Workforce – Models and Innovations

These stories feature model programs and successful rural projects that can serve as a source of ideas and provide lessons others have learned. Some of the projects or programs may no longer be active. Read about the [criteria and evidence base](#) for programs included.

Sort By: [Date](#) | [Name](#)

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Promising Examples

High Plains Community Health Center Care Teams

Updated/reviewed February 2019

- Need:** Meeting health care demands in a region with a limited number of physicians, where recruiting additional providers is considered impractical.
- Intervention:** Using the additional support of health coaches, implementation of care teams consisting of 3 medical assistants to support each provider.
- Results:** More patients seen per provider hour, with improved patient outcomes and clinic cost savings.

Funded by the
Federal Office
of Rural Health
Policy, HRSA

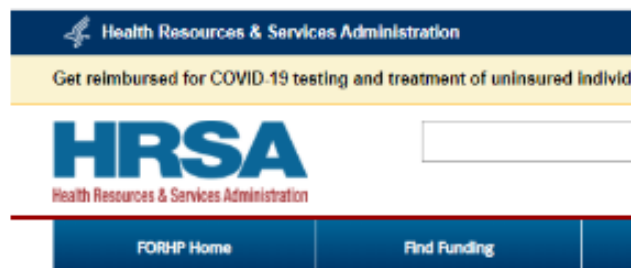


<https://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/>

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Health Policy & Research

Accessible and Through a Rural Lens



Health Resources & Services Administration

Get reimbursed for COVID-19 testing and treatment of uninsured individuals

HRSA
Health Resources & Services Administration

FORHP Home Find Funding

Questions about Policy Updates?

Write to ruralpolicy@hrsa.gov

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Rural Health Policy

Regulatory Review

The Federal Office of Rural Health Policy is charged in [Section 1102\(b\) of the Social Security Act](#) with advising the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services on the effect that federal health care policies and regulations may have on rural communities. Monitoring current and proposed changes, including programs established under titles XVIII and XIX (Medicare and Medicaid), FORHP analyzes their impact on the financial viability of small rural hospitals and clinics, on the ability of rural areas to attract health professionals, and on rural areas' access to high quality care.

Data collection and analysis is essential to understanding the challenges in rural communities, how those communities are impacted by policy, and setting policy for the future. For this reason, the work of the [Rural Health Research Centers](#) informs that of FORHP's policy team and vice versa.

Policy Updates

April 1

[CMS Guidance to Resume Hospital Survey Activities](#) (PDF - 265 KB). As of March 23, 2021, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is lifting the suspension on hospital survey activities, which was put in place due to the public health emergency. Non-immediate jeopardy

Reports

[Guide for Rural Health Care Collaboration and Coordination](#) (2019) (PDF - 2 MB) This Guide describes how rural hospitals, community health centers, local public health departments, and other rural stakeholders can work together to assess and address their rural communities' health needs.

[Interim Report to Congress on Frontier Health Demonstration Project](#) (2018) (PDF - 565 KB)

[Final Report to Congress on Frontier Health Demonstration Project](#) (2020) (PDF - 345 KB) This final Report to Congress expands on the Interim report, with findings from the duration of the 3-year model and recommendations for legislative and administrative action.



Rural Health Research Gateway

ruralhealthresearch.org

The Rural Health Research Gateway is an online library of research and expertise. The website is free to use, searchable, and provides access to the work of the Rural Health Research Centers and Analysis Institutes funded by the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy.

The Rural Health Research Center program is the only federal program that is dedicated entirely to producing policy-relevant research on healthcare in rural areas. The centers study critical issues facing rural communities in a quest to secure adequate, affordable, high-quality health services for rural residents.

This online resource of research connects you to:

- Research and policy centers
- Products and journal publications
- Fact sheets
- Policy briefs
- Research projects
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- Experts
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