**Purpose:** To establish a minimum data-use skill set for State Offices of Rural Health

**Structure:** One face-to-face meeting (optional) and 8 two-hour webinars with supplemental reading and homework assignments

**Participants:** Any SORH staff

**Timeline:** Face-to-face kickoff at the annual NOSORH meeting in Boston, September 7–8, 2016; Webinars every other Tuesday: September 13 – December 20, 1:00-3:00 EST

**Objective:** Each session has been planned to accomplish specific learning goals which will build the SORH data skill set

**Logic:**
increased knowledge + application → increased confidence → increased use of knowledge → increased # of SORHs using data in meaningful ways → higher-quality SORH programming
Webinar Schedule

Session 1 / September 13
Beyond the Information Age and Into the Filtering Age
What is data and why do we need an Institute to learn about it? Join us as we introduce the purpose, the expected outcomes, and an overview of the content of the Institute. We’ll also review data-related terminology, the importance of high-quality data, and the challenges of obtaining and working with rural data.

Session 2 / September 27
Asking Questions and Collecting Data: Part 1
Identifying the questions you’re trying to answer is an important first step in using data. In this session, we’ll examine the process of identifying questions and determining what data is needed to answer those questions. Ways to find the data if it exists and tools that can help will be provided.

Session 3 / October 11
Collecting Data: Part 2
You’ve identified a question, but sometimes the answers you seek are unavailable. Finding the answers to questions may require collecting your own data. Participants will learn about different ways to collect data as well as best practices for survey design and administration.

Session 4 / October 25
Organizing Data and Analyzing: Part 1
Avoid analysis paralysis by organizing your data in a meaningful way. In this session, we’ll explore tips for organizing your data and then move on to some basic analysis processes, discussing what they are, how to do them, and when it’s appropriate (and not) to use them.

Session 5 / November 8
Analyzing: Part 2 and Interpreting
But what does it all mean? In this session, we’ll continue the analysis discussion and then examine how to interpret the analyzed data. We’ll describe things to look for in the data and techniques for identifying appropriate comparisons.

Session 6 / November 22
Crafting a Message
You’ve got the answer to your question — now it’s time to figure out the most effective way of sharing your discovery. Participants will learn techniques for making data understandable and actionable and tips for identifying the best communication format for different audience types. The strategic use of text vs graphics or a combination of text and graphics will be also be discussed.

Session 7 / December 6
Visualizing Data
Building on what was learned in Session 6, participants will explore data visualization options and how to match those options to their communication needs. Data visualization tools will be demonstrated and basic design principles on color, fonts, and scale will be discussed.

Session 8 / December 20
Putting It All Together
In this session, we’ll take the breadth of knowledge participants have acquired during the Data Institute and apply it to a reality-based rural health-related scenario. Participants will engage in a practical application of the data-use process, beginning with a question and ending with an actionable, data-driven story.
Registration

Registration Fee $500
Registration for the Rural Health Data Institute ends on August 12.
Class size will be limited to offer one-on-one assistance.
Register today to take advantage of this one-of-a-kind training.

To register, go to https://www.regonline.com/RHD2016
For more information, contact Kassie Clarke at kassie@nosorh.org or 503-504-0900.

Technology and System Requirements
Webinars will be conducted using WebEx. All webinars will be recorded. You will view a presentation online while listening to the narration via phone. WebEx requires a plug in installation and updated JavaScript, which is free for download. Follow this link to see WebEx system requirements to best utilize WebEx software. The URL for the webinar and phone number will be the same for each session. Recordings of the presentations, including narration, will be available for playback within 24 hours of the event.

Please note: Plan to test technology compatibility prior to the start of the Institute. Some organizations have policies around installations or have firewalls which may require some adaption to allow the use of WebEx. If you use a work computer to participate in this program, please contact your IT support to inquire about installing WebEx. To avoid limited access or technology issues, ensure your organization and/or equipment are compatible with these requirements. Please contact Kassie Clark (kassie@nosorh.org), if you need assistance.

Certificate of Completion
Participants will be required to take a brief quiz after each webinar session. A Certificate of Completion will be awarded to participants at the conclusion of the Institute after attending and completing the quiz for 75% of the webinars and the development of a final data visualization project.