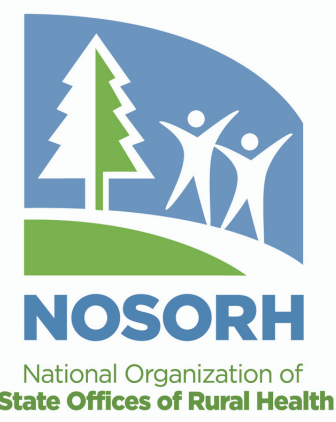


REAUTHORIZATION:

MEDICARE RURAL HOSPITAL FLEXIBILITY PROGRAM

SUPPORTING RURAL HOSPITALS SINCE 1997



What Congress should do:

Reauthorize and modernize the Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Program to help rural communities and healthcare providers rebuild after the public health crisis and focus on improving the health of rural people.

Modernization helps rural communities, hospitals, clinics, and 57 million rural Americans by:

- Providing technical assistance to support the development of rural emergency hospitals.
- Ensuring resources and responses for a rural public health crisis in all 50 states.
- Providing funding for rural communities, certified rural health clinics, and other providers for:
 - Community-based initiatives for health equity
 - Behavioral health
 - Telehealth
 - New models for care
 - New rural emergency hospitals

[Click here to find your State Office of Rural Health](#)

Track record in improving the health of rural people and places:



72% of Critical Access Hospitals (CAH) voluntarily working with the state Flex program saw improvement in at least one quality domain.



Over 1,300 hospitals converted to CAH status.



\$150 million in CARES Act relief was rapidly distributed to 1,717 small rural hospitals by State Flex programs.

What does a modernized program and appropriation support?

PROGRAM	ACTIVITIES	2021 REQUEST
Small Rural Hospital Improvement Grant Program	Continue the work and funding for grants from states to small rural hospitals or networks of hospitals (with less than 49 beds) for operational improvements including improving data collection, quality, and payment bundling.	23.2
Rural Emergency Hospital Technical Assistance	Ensure the implementation of the new Rural Emergency Hospital model with technical assistance from existing State Flex Programs and other stakeholders.	10.0
Rural Provider Modernization Technical Assistance	Expand current Flex technical assistance program to support hospitals, clinics and communities in implementing new sustainable models of care. These models of care will address health equity, social determinants of health, and build collaborative approaches to improve health.	8.0
Rural Provider Modernization Grants	Provide grants to support hospitals, public health departments, clinics, and community-based organizations to plan and implement emerging, sustainable models of care.	13.0
Rural Hospital Flexibility Grants	Continue the work and funding for technical assistance for hospital conversion, quality, operational, financial, population health, EMS, and innovation for CAH.	38.0
Total (in millions)		92.2