Welcome to the

RHC COVID-19 Testing Technical Assistance Webinar

This webinar is brought to you by the National Association of Rural Health Clinics and is supported by cooperative agreement G27RH39211 from the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). It is intended to serve as a technical assistance resource based on the experience and expertise of independent consultants and guest speakers.

The contents of this webinar are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of HRSA.
Rural Health Clinic COVID-19 Testing Program

National Rural Health Day

November 16, 2020

Lindsey Nienstedt
Public Health Analyst, Policy Research Division
Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP)
Rural Health Clinic COVID-19 Testing Program

National Rural Health Day

November 16, 2020

Lindsey Nienstedt
Public Health Analyst, Policy Research Division
Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP)
Rural Health Clinic (RHC) COVID-19 Testing Funds

- $225M awarded to support over 4,500 RHCs for COVID-19 testing and related expenses
- Approximately $49,000 distributed evenly to each RHC site
- Funds allocated through the Provider Relief Fund mechanism
- Eligible RHCs identified through CMS data
- Most RHCs received payments May 20th
- Technical assistance (TA) available for RHCs
State-by-State Breakdown of Funding

Allocation to Rural Health Clinics for COVID-19 Testing

Recipients of the $2.25 billion Rural Health Clinic (RHC) distribution include each RHC with a unique, active CCN listed in either the CMS Provider of Service file (March 2020) or the CMS Survey & Certification’s Quality, Certification and Oversight Reports (QCOR) before May 7, 2020. Each of these RHCs received a flat amount of just under $50,000. This state-by-state breakdown is an estimate, pending final validation of payments.

HRSA awarded a total $225,000,000 to 4,549 RHCs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Number of Rural Health Clinics</th>
<th>Funding Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>$6,984,832</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alaska</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>$1,632,227</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arkansas</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>$5,193,449</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>265</td>
<td>$13,197,276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>$2,918,224</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RHC COVID-19 Testing Information

RHC Testing FAQs

Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Frequently Asked Questions – Federal Office of Rural Health Policy

Updated: 3/13/2020

We know that many of HRSA’s rural health program recipients and stakeholders are concerned about coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), and in support of your programs and your communities, we encourage you to be proactive in your emergency preparedness planning and to coordinate with partners at the state and local level in emergency response.

Online Resources for Updated Information

- CDC Guidelines on Coronavirus: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provides daily updates on the Coronavirus and guidance for health providers and local public health officials.
- Information for HHS Grant Recipients: Frequently asked questions for multiple programs including Health Centers, National Health Service Corps, EMS/Fire/Poison, and other programs.
- Rural Resource to Coronavirus (COVID-19): The rural health information hub has created a guide to help you learn about activities underway to address COVID-19.

Please continue to check this page for updates and contact your Project Officer directly with any questions not addressed below.

To subscribe to HRSA’s weekly newsletter, sign up for Rural Health Updates through HRSA’s Subscriptions.

We have organized the answers on this page into the following categories:

- Funding and Grant Resources
- Technical Assistance
- Health Care Delivery and Policy information

https://www.hrsa.gov/rural-health/coronavirus-frequently-asked-questions

RHC Testing Terms and Conditions

Terms and Conditions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FFCRA Relief Fund Payment Terms and Conditions - PDF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unfunded Relief Fund Payment Terms and Conditions - PDF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Impact Relief Fund Payment Terms and Conditions - PDF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural Health Clinics (RHC) Relief Fund Payment Terms and Conditions - PDF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skilled Nursing Facility Relief Fund Payment Terms and Conditions - PDF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian Health Service Relief Fund Payment Terms and Conditions - PDF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety Net Provider Relief Fund Payment Terms and Conditions - PDF</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NARHC will update this page with additional resources throughout the COVID-19 Pandemic**

**Rural Health Clinic Testing Fund**

Beginning on May 20th, all rural health clinics received just under $50,000 for COVID-19 testing. The following links to the terms and conditions and the FAQ will provide you some guidance on how to spend this money. We understand that there are some important questions (such as how to treat this money on the RHC cost report) that are not yet answered, and we will update this space when we learn more.

https://www.narhc.org/narhc/COVID-191.asp
Resources provided to participating RHCs include:

- An individualized strategy to build collaboration
- Resources to develop and implement a comprehensive, community centric COVID-19 testing program
- Comprehensive tools to build RHC capacity
- Customized, in-depth, remote technical assistance (TA) to
  - Meet the needs of the RHC and community
  - Grow operational and clinical viability
  - Provide access to subject matter experts
- Assistance with reporting requirements process

Contact NOSORH at rhccovidtestinginfo@nosorh.org for additional information!
RHC TA Webinar Archive

https://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/topics/rural-health-clinics/technical-assistance-calls
RHC COVID-19 Testing Program Emails

RHC COVID-19 Testing Technical Assistance Email: RHCCovidreporting@narhc.org
RHC COVID-19 Testing Program Email: RHCCOVID-19Testing@hrsa.gov
RHC COVID-19 Testing Reporting Website

www.rhccovidreporting.com
Policy Considerations

• Second Wave Funding: Issuing COVID-19 Testing Funding to New RHCs

• Updated FAQs

https://www.hrsa.gov/rural-health/coronavirus-frequently-asked-questions
Contact Information

Lindsey Nienstedt  
Public Health Analyst – Policy Research Division  
lnienstedt@hrsa.gov  
Phone: 301-443-2843

Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP)  
Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)  
Web: www.hrsa.gov/ruralhealth/
Connect with HRSA

Learn more about our agency at: www.HRSA.gov

Sign up for the HRSA eNews

FOLLOW US:
Bill Finerfrock
Executive Director
National Association of Rural Health Clinics

202-544-1880
bf@narhc.org
Rural Health Clinics Increase Access to COVID-19 Testing

Recognizing the Power of Rural
Rural Health Clinics – the Backbone of the rural healthcare delivery system

During a hearing before the Senate Finance Committee in 2018, Senator Ron Wyden, (D-Oregon) made the following observation

“… what is really the backbone of rural health care. Literally, from sea-to-shining-sea, and that is RURAL HEALTH CLINICS…”
In April, 2020, HHS Secretary Alex Azar announced that the Department was setting aside $10 Billion in Provider Relief money specifically for rural hospitals and rural health clinics.
Paycheck Protection Program and Healthcare Enhancement Act

Congress Authorizes $225 Million for RHCs for COVID-19 testing and testing related activities. HRSA funded RHC organizations based on the number of certified clinic sites they operate, providing nearly $50,000 per clinic site.
$225 for RHC for COVID Testing

This is the FIRST time that the federal government has allocated money specifically for Rural Health Clinics. It is our hope that this will not be the last.
HRSA awards funding to NARHC for RHC COVID-19 Education and outreach
NARHC has conducted 9 Webinars on COVID related topics since March, 2020

Billing & Coding Telehealth
Lessons Learned Amid COVID from Clinic Managers & Directors
Navigating RHC Covid Reporting Requirements
RHC Cost Reporting During Covid
Covid-19 Testing - What RHCs Are Doing For Their Communities
COVID-19 Testing & Testing Related Activities with CDC Experts
RHC COVID-19 Testing Funds - What You Need to Know
How & What Will Medicare Pay For RHC Telehealth Visits
Surviving COVID-19 as a Rural Health Clinic: New Federal Policies & Programs to Help Keep Your Clinic Open
COVID-19 & Rural Health Clinics

Here is the link to find all of the COVID-19 webinars

www.narhc.org/narhc/COVID-191.asp
COVID-19 Reporting

RHCs receiving COVID-19 Testing/Testing Related funds MUST report information on how this money was used as a condition of taking this money. To date, nearly 3,000 RHCs have reported how they have used this money thus far.

To complete your mandatory reporting, go to

https://www.rhccovidreporting.com/

To help you through the process you can download step by step instructions and watch our webinar on the reporting tool: https://www.narhc.org/narhc/COVID-191.asp
NARHC has partnered with the National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health to magnify the impact of the money the Federal Office of Rural Health has provided to NARHC for RHC Covid-19 Education and Outreach
RHCs, COVID-19 and Telehealth

For the duration of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, RHCs are recognized as the distant site for Medicare telehealth visits.

This authority ends with the Public Health Emergency unless extended by Congress.
FOCUSING
ON THE POWER
OF RURAL

(NOTE: INSERT YOUR ORGANIZATION’S NAME HERE)
Focusing on Partnerships

State Offices of Rural Health:
Your Partners to grow communication, education, collaboration and innovation in rural health.

powerofrural.org | #powerofrural
NOSORH promotes the capacity of State Offices of Rural Health and their stakeholders to improve health in rural America through leadership development, advocacy, education and partnerships.

Unique federal-state partnership, focused on the needs of rural in your state

- A true part of the state:
  - 37 are in state government
  - 11 are within academic institutions
  - 3 are independent non-profits
- Charged with 3 core functions:
  - Information Dissemination
  - Rural Health Coordination
  - Technical Assistance
State Offices of Rural Health

67,000 instances of technical assistance to over 23,000 rural stakeholders in 2018.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, SORH distributed $150 million to 1,771 rural hospitals ensuring continued access to care for millions of Americans.
RHCs are important to SORH!

Nearly 4,500 Rural Health Clinics and over 3,300 rural health centers or health center look-alikes provide the backbone of the primary care infrastructure in rural America.

- 86% Offer free or reduced cost care
- 97% Accept new Medicaid or state CHIP patients

Rural Health Care Services Outreach grantees provided direct services to nearly 2 million rural residents in 2018.

#PowerofRural | PowerofRural.org
Connections for Community Care

Partnership:
Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP)
National Association of Rural Health Clinics (NARHC),

Technical Assistance:
provide Rural Health Clinics (RHCs) across the nation with comprehensive, community-centric COVID-19 onsite testing and assistance with required reporting.

Linkages:
NOSORH provides these services in collaboration with the State Offices of Rural Health (SORH) across the country.

#PowerofRural | PowerofRural.org
A strong anchor of transparent information was ensured by announcing the project while advising and providing support to FORHP and NARHC efforts to grow testing activities among RHC. Activities included:

As the project moves forward, the NOSORH team will disseminate information to all 45 SORH that currently have RHCS within their state. The information includes but is not limited to:

- direct communication from HRSA to RHCS regarding mandatory reporting requirements
- the reporting process through the NARHC supported reporting portal
- the HRSA and NARHC FAQs and related tool(s) as they are developed
- facilitate state summaries on RHC reporting (when available)
- Continue outreach to SORH and RHCS (as requested) for individual meetings and assistance

For additional information or if you have questions, please contact us at rhccovidtestinginfo@nosorh.org!
Connections for Community Care

RHC participants receive:

- Resources to assist in the development and implementation of a comprehensive, on-site community-centric COVID-19 testing program
- Tools to build capacity within the RHC
- Customized, in-depth, remote technical assistance to meet the needs of the RHC
- Assistance with data collection process for required reporting activities related to RHC COVID-19 Testing Program funds

For additional information or if you have questions, please contact us at rhccovidtestinginfo@nosorh.org!

#PowerofRural | PowerofRural.org
Thanks to RHCs:

“RHCs are the cornerstone of the rural health safety net and that they know their patients and communities.”

“We are committed to supporting RHCs where they are in caring for their communities, during the pandemic and helping RHCs become equipped to take advantage of every available resource to ensure COVID-19 testing is available to our rural neighbors you care for every day.”

#PowerofRural | PowerofRural.org
Focusing on Healthcare

Rural America is a great place for mission-minded health professionals to provide individualized care.

powerofrural.org | #powerofrural
Virtual LIVE CME/CE Conference

2nd Annual Rural Health Clinical Congress

Saturday, November 21, 2020
Broadcast Starts at 8:00 AM CT

REGISTER NOW

For Clinicians Serving Patients From Rural & Underserved Areas

#PowerofRural | PowerofRural.org
FOCUSING ON INNOVATION

Rural America is fueling an innovative rural health infrastructure.
JOIN US
IN CELEBRATING
OUR STATE’S 2020
COMMUNITY STAR!
#powerofrural

Read their inspiring story at powerofrural.org on 11.19.20

#PowerofRural | PowerofRural.org
Focusing on Solutions

Rural America offers a beautiful and challenging landscape, requiring unique approaches.

powerofrural.org | #powerofrural
Surviving & Thriving

THE POWER OF RURAL IS 100% COMMUNITY

Shouldn’t residents in every rural county have what is required to survive and thrive?

Reserve your seat at the table for this virtual NRHD event:
November 19, 2020 | 2:00-3:15 p.m. EST

#PowerofRural | PowerofRural.org
Happy National Rural Health Day from the 50 State Offices of Rural Health

Thank you for all you do EVERY day!

nosorh.org/nosorh-members/nosorh-members-browse-by-state/

Teryl Eisinger, MA
Chief Executive Officer
(888)391-7258
Upcoming Webinars

• 2pm Eastern Nov. 23rd – COVID-19 & RHC Q&A with Shannon Chambers (SC office of rural health), Nathan Baugh, & a third expert to be named.
  • Ask all your questions! Nothing is off the table! COVID-19 RHC Testing Program, Provider Relief Fund, Paycheck Protection Program, telehealth policy, RHCcovidreporting.com, and more!

• 2pm Eastern Dec. 2nd – HPSA 101 for Rural Health Clinics with Joe Lampard, Alex Johnston, and Lisa Masters

• CEU code CWL5483