



## Health Resources & Services Administration

The **Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP)** administers grant programs to improve rural health care and has HHS-wide responsibility for analyzing policies that affect residents of rural communities.

FORHP was created in 1987 to advise the HHS Secretary on health issues in these communities, including the effect of Medicare and Medicaid on rural citizens' access to care, the viability of rural hospitals, and the availability of physicians and other health professionals in rural areas. In line with the mission of the Health Resources and Services Administration where it is housed, the grant programs administered by FORHP are designed to increase access to care for underserved populations and build health care capacity at both the State and local levels. FORHP comprises of four Divisions which are:

- **Community Based Division (CBD)** – Provides direct support of community organizations for health service delivery and health networks, and encourages collaboration among rural health care providers.
- **Hospital State Division (HSD)** – Supports 50 State Offices of Rural Health (SORH) to support on-going improvements in care, and to rural hospitals through the Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Program (Flex); also supports technical assistance and quality for small rural hospitals including critical access hospitals.
- **Office for the Advancement of Telehealth (OAT)** – Provides funding for telehealth grants and resource centers, as well as supporting efforts to align licensing and portability activities across states.
- **Policy Research Division (PRD)** – Coordinates policy review of regulations impacting rural providers and beneficiaries; funds Rural Health Research Centers and staffs the National Advisory Committee on Rural Health & Human Service.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

### Rural Health Information Hub - [ruralhealthinfo.org](http://ruralhealthinfo.org)

Supported by FORHP, the RHInfoHub is an up-to-date clearinghouse of information, opportunities and resources for rural health care. The site provides an online library, topic guides, toolkits for evidence-based solutions and customized assistance by phone or email for finding resources and referrals.

### Rural Health Research Gateway - [ruralhealthresearch.org](http://ruralhealthresearch.org)

FORHP supports eight Rural Health Research Centers which produce policy-relevant research on access to health care and population health in rural areas. This research is publically available and disseminated through the Rural Health Research Gateway. The site is free to use, searchable, and provides timely analysis of the critical issues facing rural communities.

### Announcements from the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy

A weekly compendium of news, funding opportunities, policy updates, resources and learning events, delivered by email to subscribers. To add your name to the list, send an email to Michelle Daniels at [mdaniels@hrsa.gov](mailto:mdaniels@hrsa.gov), or subscribe through the HRSA website at [www.hrsa.gov/subscribe](http://www.hrsa.gov/subscribe).

For more information about the  
Federal Office of Rural Health  
Policy

Visit the website:

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