

<b>FY 2024 Appropriations Requests &amp; Allocations</b>					
<b>Discretionary Funding Program</b>	<b>NRHA FY 2024 Request</b>	<b><a href="#">President's FY24 Budget</a></b>	<b><a href="#">HAC FY 2024 Mark Up</a></b>	<b><a href="#">SAC FY 2024 Mark Up</a></b>	<b><a href="#">FY 2023 Omnibus</a></b>
<i>Federal Office of Rural Health Policy Programs</i>					
Rural Health Research & Policy Development	<b>12.1</b>	11	TBD	11	11
Rural Health Care Services Outreach, Network & Quality Improvement Grants	<b>90</b>	95.4	TBD	95	86
Rural Hospital Flexibility Grants	<b>73</b>	64.3	74.3	64.3	64.3
State Offices of Rural Health	<b>18</b>	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5
Rural Maternity & Obstetrics Management Strategies Program(s)	<b>24.6</b>	10.4	TBD	8	8
Rural Residency Planning & Development	<b>14.5</b>	12.7	12.7	12.5	12.5
Rural Communities Opioid Response	<b>165</b>	165	TBD	155	145
Rural Health Clinic Behavioral Health	<b>10</b>	10	TBD	5	N/A
<b>New!</b> Financial and Community Sustainability for At-Risk Hospital Program	<b>10</b>	10	-	-	N/A
<b>New!</b> Rural Hospital Stabilization Pilot Program	<b>20</b>	20	-	-	N/A
<i>Critical HRSA Safety Programs</i>					
National Health Service Corps	<b>125.6</b>	176.6	126	135.6	125.6
Area Health Education Centers	<b>67</b>	47	TBD	47	45
340B Drug Pricing Program/Office of Pharmacy Affairs	<b>17.2</b>	17.2	TBD	12.2	13.2
Telehealth	<b>45.5</b>	45.5	45.1	38	38
Community Health Centers	<b>2b</b>	1.839b	TBD	1.859b	1.859b
<i>Centers of Disease Control and Prevention</i>					
Office of Rural Health	<b>10</b>	-	-	-	5
<i>USDA Rural Development Programs</i>					
Rural Hospital Technical Assistance	<b>5</b>	2	TBD	2	2
Communities Facilities	<b>3.8b</b>	3.3b	TBD	2.8b	3.45b
ReConnect Broadband	<b>700</b>	400	TBD	600	635
<i>* Numbers in millions</i>					

## Fiscal Year 2024 Appropriations Requests

Now, more than ever before, it is crucial that Congress support programs that seek to address severe health care crises in rural America. Rural health care providers, who were already struggling to keep their doors open prior to COVID-19, have been hit hard by the pandemic. Continued relief is needed for rural areas to address the unique needs of rural America through the FY2024 appropriations bill.

Rural health discretionary spending is a relatively small amount but is vitally important for maintaining access to care for individuals living in rural America. **To better meet these needs, NRHA requests a modest funding increase of 10 percent for most core rural health programs.** Additionally, NRHA urges Congress to support the following FY 2024 priority requests to significantly improve rural health care access and affordability:

- **Increase funding for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Office of Rural Health.** Given the devastating outcomes of COVID-19 in rural areas, NRHA worked with Capitol Hill to include the CDC Office of Rural Health in the FY 2023 appropriations bill. The office will enhance implementation of CDC's rural health portfolio, coordinate efforts across CDC programs, and develop a strategic plan for rural health that maps the way forward both administratively and programmatically. NRHA urges Congress to increase funding to \$10 million for implementation and set-up of these essential functions.
- **Support rural hospital infrastructure and sustainability.** Since 2010, 147 rural hospitals have shuttered their doors. To help keep rural hospital doors open, NRHA urges Congress to fund 1.) USDA Rural Hospital Technical Assistance Program at \$5 million; 2.) the Financial and Community Sustainability for At-Risk Hospital Program at \$10 million; and 3.) the Rural Hospital Stabilization Pilot Program at \$20 million.
- **Increase funding for the Rural Maternal and Obstetric Management Strategies (RMOMS) programs.** To improve rural maternal health outcomes, it is critical Congress fully funds all three components of the HRSA RMOMS programs including 1) \$8.8 million to continue established RMOMS grantee program cohorts; 2) \$10 million for the new Rural Obstetric Network Grants Program; and 3) \$6 million for the Rural Maternal and Obstetric Care Training Demonstration.
- **Expand physician training in rural by supporting the Rural Residency Planning and Development Program.** Support the development of new rural residency programs to address the ongoing workforce shortages faced by rural communities. Recent changes in CMS Medicare GME will expand the universe of program applicants but residency programs are needed for individuals to train in rural areas. NRHA urges Congress to increase funding to \$14.5 million for implementation and set-up of these essential functions.
- **Reauthorize the Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Grant Program.** Flex grants are used by states to implement new technologies, strategies, and plans in Critical Access Hospitals. The program provides crucial funding for updating equipment, implementing new sustainable care delivery models, and enhancing the quality of care provided. Included in the \$73 million request is technical assistance funding to support the buildout of the Rural Emergency Hospital (REH) model to ensure these struggling small rural hospitals can transition efficiently to REH status.
- **Expand behavioral health and SUD treatments.** The opioid and mental health crisis has hit rural communities hard. Barriers to treatment and prevention services limit access to care. Rural Communities Opioid Response Program is a multi-year initiative that addresses barriers to treatment for substance use disorder (SUD), including opioid use disorder (OUD). The Rural Health Clinic (RHC) Behavioral Health Initiative increases access to mental health services through rural health clinics and staffing requirements. NRHA urges robust funding for both programs in FY 24: RHC Behavioral Health Initiative (\$10 million) and RCOR (\$165 million).