

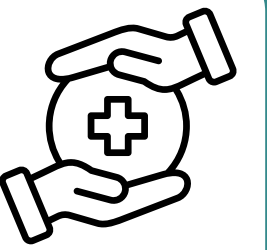
# Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility (Flex) Program

IMPACT, VALUE &  
RETURN ON INVESTMENT

## What is the Flex Program?

The Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility (Flex) Program is a federally funded program that helps Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs) and rural communities deliver quality, sustainable healthcare. Administered by HRSA's Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP), ***Flex is a lifeline for rural America.***

## Why Flex Matters



- ✓ Keeps Rural Hospitals Open
- ✓ Improves Quality and Safety of Care
- ✓ Strengthens Emergency Response
- ✓ Saves Medicare & Medicaid Dollars

## How the Flex Program Works

- ✓ Administered by: State Offices of Rural Health (SORH) in all 50 states
- ✓ Funded by: The U.S. Congress, at \$25–\$30 million annually
- ✓ Funds are used for:
  - Training and technical assistance
  - Financial and quality improvement efforts
  - Emergency medical services (EMS) integration



## Key Impact Stats



- **1,350+ Critical Access Hospitals** supported.
- **98% participate in quality improvement** initiatives.
- Flex funding **reduced hospital operating losses** by up to 30%.
- High Return on Investment: **\$3–\$8 saved for every \$1 invested.**

## WHY CONTINUED FUNDING IS CRITICAL

### Flex is not a handout -

it's a smart investment that saves rural lives, protects federal healthcare dollars, and keeps America's rural communities strong.

Failing to fund Flex would **cost more in Medicare/Medicaid payments, lead to more closures, and leave millions without access to care.**

### Learn More:

HRSA Flex Program: [hrsa.gov/rural-health/hospitals/flex](https://hrsa.gov/rural-health/hospitals/flex)

Flex Monitoring Team: [flexmonitoring.org](https://flexmonitoring.org)

National MBQIP Resources: [ruralcenter.org/tasc/mbqip](https://ruralcenter.org/tasc/mbqip)

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF STATE OFFICES OF RURAL HEALTH  
[WWW.NOSORH.ORG](https://www.nosorh.org)

