



Rural Hospital Provider Assistance Program

Rachel Moscato, Director Hospital State Division
Sheena Johnson, Deputy Director Hospital State Division
Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP)

Vision: Healthy Communities, Healthy People



Disclaimer

The Rural Hospital Provider Assistance (RHPA) Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) [HRSA-26-105](#) and [HRSA's Application Guide](#) should be your primary resources for application instructions and guidelines.



Background & Purpose

The Rural Hospital Provider Assistance (RHPA) Program is a new formula grant program authorized under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2026, Public Law 119-75, H.R. 7148:

- “...making payments to eligible hospitals for the maintenance of health care providers...”
- “...up to 10 percent of funds...may be used by eligible hospitals for administrative expenses”
- “...amounts to eligible hospitals shall be calculated by dividing available funding equally among such eligible hospitals”



Important Information

- **Application Due Date:** July 27, 2026 at 11:59 PM ET
- **Expected Award Date:** September 1, 2026
- **Expected State Date:** September 30, 2026
- **Project Period:** September 30, 2026 to September 29, 2027 (1 year)
- **Estimated Total Funding:** \$24,750,000
- **Estimated Amount Per Award:** \$148,000



Eligibility

Eligible hospitals must:

- 1) Have no more than 50 acute care inpatient beds;
- 2) Have an **established wage index value** of less than 0.90 as determined by the Secretary of HHS under section 1886(d)(3)(E) of the Social Security Act ([42 U.S.C. 1395ww\(d\)\(3\)\(E\)](#)); and
- 3) Be defined as located in a rural area by the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy.

HRSA published a [Federal Register notice](#) outlining the methodology for determining eligible hospitals.



Why CAHs are Not Eligible

- Since one of the statutory eligibility criteria is having a Medicare wage index below 0.90, and CAHs do not have a Medicare wage index under Medicare's cost-based payment system, most CAHs cannot qualify under this criterion.
- Congress designed the program to address payment disparities experienced by small rural hospitals that are paid under the IPPS payment system.



Application and Award Information

- **Must submit electronic application in grants.gov**
- **Simple Application**
 - Standard Application Forms
 - Project Narrative – basic organization information.
 - Budget outlining general costs
- **If awarded, you will be required to submit:**
 - Final report
 - [Federal Financial Report \(FFR\)](#)



Navigating Grants.gov

Step 1

An official website of the United States government [Here's how you know](#)

 **GRANTS.GOV™**
FIND. APPLY. SUCCEED.

Help | Register | Login

Home | Learn Grants | Search Grants | Applicants | Grantors | System-To-System | Forms | Connect | Support

VIEW GRANT OPPORTUNITY

HRSA-26-105
Rural Hospital Provider Assistance Program
Department of Health and Human Services
Health Resources and Services Administration

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[SYNOPSIS](#) [VERSION HISTORY](#) [RELATED DOCUMENTS](#) [PACKAGE](#)

General Information

Document Type:	Grants Notice	Version:	
Funding Opportunity Number:	HRSA-26-105	Posted Date:	
Funding Opportunity Title:	Rural Hospital Provider Assistance Program	Last Updated Date:	
Opportunity Category:		Original Closing Date for Applications:	
		Current Closing Date for Applications:	
		Archive Date:	
		Estimated Total Program Funding:	
		Award Ceiling:	



U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
HRSA
Federal Office of Rural Health Policy

Navigating Grants.gov

Step 2

VIEW GRANT OPPORTUNITY

HRSA-24-002

Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Program

Department of Health and Human Services

Health Resources and Services Administration

Apply

Subscribe

SYNOPSIS

VERSION HISTORY

RELATED DOCUMENTS

PACKAGE

Select Grant Opportunity Package

PLEASE READ BEFORE APPLYING!

If you view and complete your application package using Grants.gov downloadable PDF forms, you MUST have Adobe Reader installed. You may receive a validation error using incompatible versions of Adobe Reader. To prevent a validation error, it is now recommended you uninstall any earlier versions of Adobe Reader and install the latest compatible version of Adobe Reader. If more than one person is working on the PDF forms, ALL applicants must be using the same Adobe Reader version. [Click for more information on Adobe Reader Compatibility.](#)

Opportunity Package(s) Currently Available for this Funding Opportunity:

CFDA	Competition ID	Competition Title	Opportunity Package ID	Opening Date	Closing Date	Actions
	HRSA- 26-105	Rural Hospital Provider Assistance Program	PKG0			Preview Apply



Navigating Grants.gov

Step 3

CFDA	Competition ID	Competition Title	Opportunity Package ID	Opening Date	Closing Date	Actions
	HRSA-26-105	Rural Hospital Provider Assistance Program	PKG0			Preview Apply

Opportunity Package Details

Agency Contact Information: Contact i

Who Can Apply: Organization Applicants

PACKAGE FORMS:

[Download Instructions](#)

Mandatory Forms

(Click to Preview)

Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424) [V4.0]
Attachments [V1.2]
Project/Performance Site Location(s) [V4.0]
Project Narrative Attachment Form [V1.2]
Grants.gov Lobbying Form [V1.1]
Budget Narrative Attachment Form [V1.2]
Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs (SF-424A) [V1.0]
Key Contacts [V2.0]
Project Abstract Summary [V2.0]

Optional Forms

(Click to Preview)

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL) [V2.0]

Close



Get Ready to Apply

Applicants must register in 2 different systems:

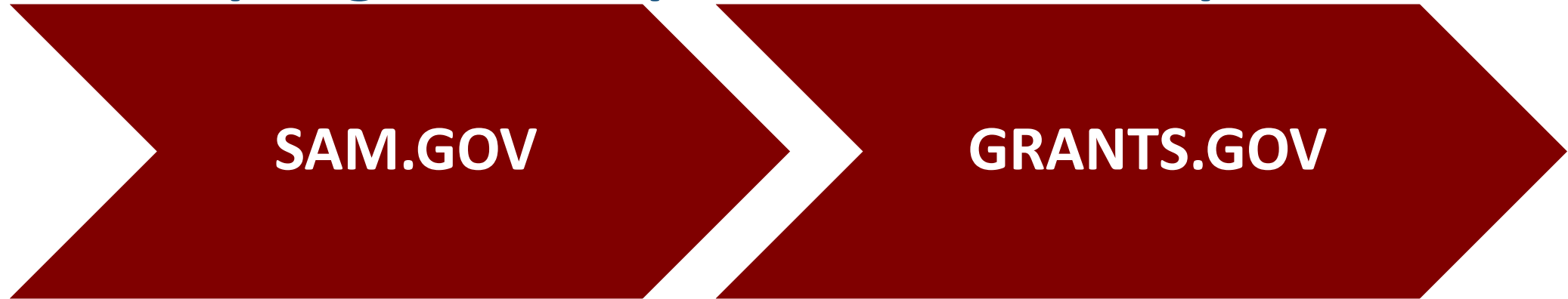
System	Why is it important?	Website	Support
System for Award Management (SAM)	Designating an e-business point of contact. Registering with SAM is required for organizations to use Grants.gov	https://sam.gov/SAM/pages/public/index.jsf	Federal Service Desk https://www.fsd.gov/gsafsd_sp 1-866-606-8220 Monday-Friday, 8 AM to 8 PM ET.
Grants.gov	Submit grant applications	https://grants.gov/register	https://gditshared.servicenow.com/hhs_grants 1-800-518-4726 support@grants.gov 24 hours a day 7 days a week.



Get Ready to Apply

Get Registered

The 2 step registration process can take up to 3 weeks



START NOW!

- [HRSA SF-424 Application Guide](#)
- Registration is FREE!

Get Ready to Apply

Step 1: System for Award Management (SAM)

- Your organization must register with the System for Award Management (SAM).
- Register with SAM at www.SAM.gov
- Establish E-Business Point of Contact (EBiz POC): Individual who oversees all activities for organization within Grants.gov and approves the AOR
- You should receive your SAM in approximately 7-10 business days after registering, including submitting a notarized letter to SAM

The screenshot shows the SAM.GOV homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: Home, Search, Data Bank, Data Services, and Help. The main header features the SAM.GOV logo and a badge stating "Official U.S. Government Website 100% Free". Below the header, the page is divided into two main sections. The left section, titled "The Official U.S. Government System for:", lists various services: Contract Opportunities, Contract Data (Reports ONLY from fpbs.gov), Wage Determinations, Federal Hierarchy (Departments and Subtiers), Assistance Listings, Entity Information (Entities, Disaster Response Registry, Exclusions, and Responsibility/Qualification (was fapiis.gov)), and Entity Reporting (SCR and Bio-Preferred Reporting). The right section, titled "Register Your Entity or Get a Unique Entity ID", provides instructions on how to register and includes two buttons: "Get Started" and "Renew Entity". A "Check Entity Status" button is also present. Annotations with red boxes and arrows highlight the "100% FREE" badge, the "Get Started" button (labeled "New SAM user"), and the "Renew Entity" button (labeled "Existing SAM user"). At the bottom left, there is a logo for the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services. At the bottom right, there is a logo for HRSA (U.S. Department of Health & Human Services Federal Office of Rural Health Policy).

Home Search Data Bank Data Services Help

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The Official U.S. Government System for:

- Contract Opportunities**
- Contract Data**
(Reports ONLY from fpbs.gov)
- Wage Determinations**
- Federal Hierarchy**
Departments and Subtiers
- Assistance Listings**
- Entity Information**
Entities, Disaster Response Registry,
Exclusions, and Responsibility/
Qualification (was fapiis.gov)
- Entity Reporting**
SCR and Bio-Preferred Reporting

Are you searching for Federal Acquisition Supply Chain Security Act (FASCSA) orders?

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Register Your Entity or Get a Unique Entity ID

Register your entity or get a Unique Entity ID to get started doing business with the federal government.

[Get Started](#)

[Renew Entity](#)

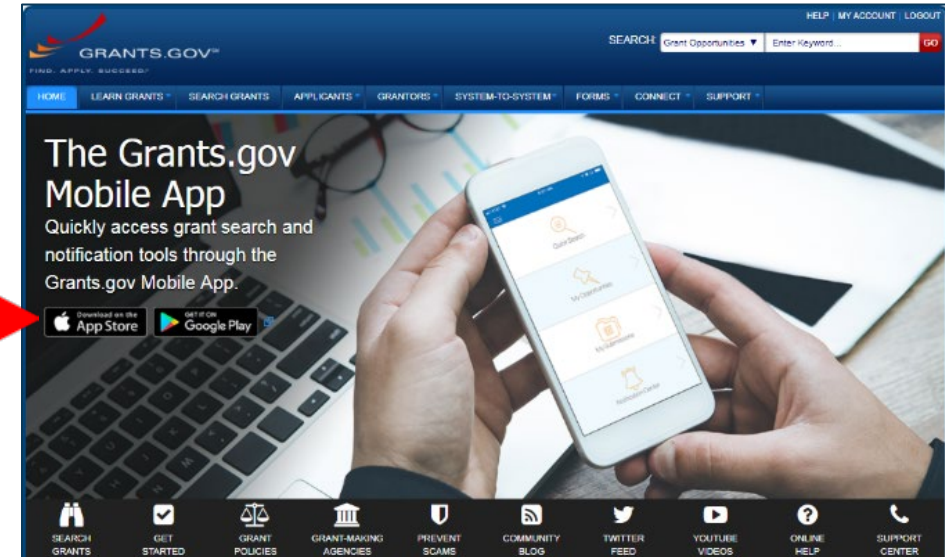
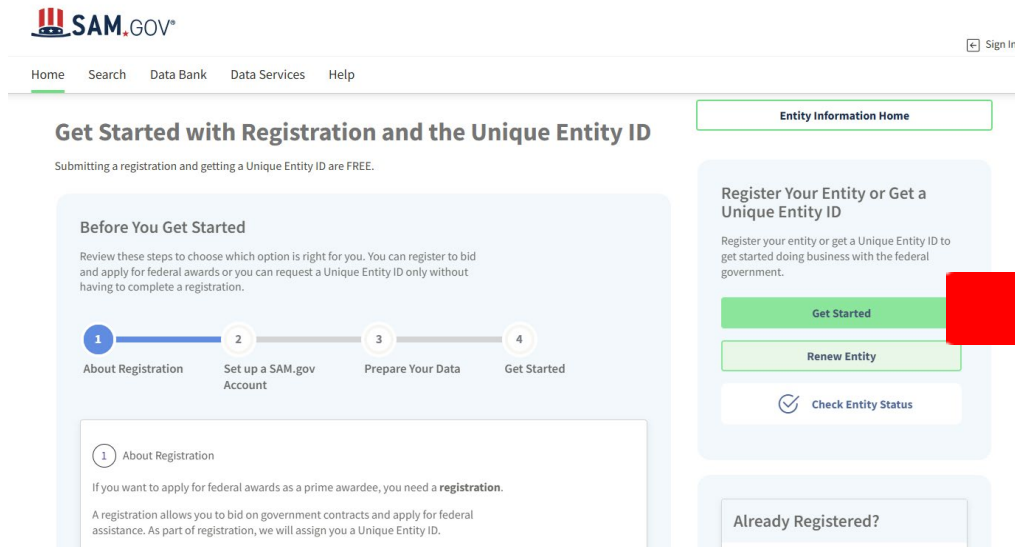
[Check Entity Status](#)

New SAM user

Existing SAM user

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
HRSA
Federal Office of Rural Health Policy

Get Ready to Apply SAM and Grants.gov



- Organization data and EBiz POC information are transferred from SAM to Grants.gov
- People within the organization are able to register with Grants.gov and then add a profile to associate with organization

How to Apply

Step 2: Grants.gov

REGISTER

1 Informative status

For opportunity notifications or the Grants.gov newsletter you do not need a profile. Create an account through the "Get Registered Now" button below to get started.



Registering with Grants.gov

One account to manage all your profiles, applications, and subscriptions.

Applicants

1. Complete the **required form fields**.
2. **Confirm** your email address.
3. **Add** an organization applicant profile or an individual applicant profile after registering.

Learn more on the [Applicant Registration page](#).

Grantors

1. Complete the **required form fields**.
2. **Confirm** your email address.
3. Ask your **agency point of contact** to associate your email address with the agency.

Learn more on the [Grantor Registration page](#).

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[Report Fraud](#)

Additional Help

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[Frequently Asked Questions](#)



GRANTS.GOV > Register

REGISTER

Please enter your information below to create a new Grants.gov account. Required fields are marked with an asterisk (*). For information on how Grants.gov protects your information and when it is shared, read the [Grants.gov Privacy Policy](#).

Contact Information:

*First Name:

Middle Initial:

*Last Name:

*Email Address:

*Primary Phone Number:

Mobile Phone Number:

Enter your U.S. mobile phone number for the ability to request a one-time password reset code by text message.

Confirm Mobile Phone Number:

Grants.gov Account Details:

You will need this username and password to link your Grants.gov account to Login.gov. Afterward you will use Login.gov to log in to Grants.gov.

*Username:

*Password:

Your password must contain at least fifteen characters, including:
at least one uppercase letter (A-Z); at least one lowercase letter (a-z);
at least one number (0-9); and at least one special character (! @ # \$ % ^ & *) or a space.
Your password cannot contain your username.

*Confirm Password:

Communications:

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Contacts and Support

For program questions:

RuralHospitals@hrsa.gov

Grants.gov help:

<https://grants.gov/support> or 1-800-518-4726

SAM.gov help:

<https://sam.gov/help> or 1-866-606-8220



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