

Support Stable Funding

FY2020 Appropriations

Rural health discretionary spending is relatively small but vitally important for maintaining access to care for individuals living in rural America. To better meet these needs, while simultaneously understanding the fiscal constraints demanded by Congress, NRHA requests a modest, across-the-board funding increase of 10 percent (unless another amount has specifically been authorized by law).

	FY 2016 Omnibus	FY 2017 House	FY 2017 Senate	FY 2018 Omnibus	FY 2019 L-HHS/ Defense Minibus	FY 2020 NRHA Request
<i>HHS Programs for Rural Health</i>						
Rural Outreach & Network Grants ¹	63.5	65.5	65.5	65.5	77.5	85
Rural Health Research/Policy	9.4	9.4	9.4	9.4	9.4	10.4
State Offices of Rural Health	9.5	10.5	9.5	10	10	12.5
Rural Communities Opioid Response				100	120	132
Rural Hospital Flexibility Grants	41.6	45.6	41.6	49.6	53.6	59
Telehealth ²	17	19	18	18.5	24.5	27
National Health Service Corps	0	0	0	0	15	16.5
Delta Community Health Systems TA Program						8
Rural Maternal Obstetric Management Systems						25
<i>Title VII and VIII Programs of Particular Interest to Fund</i>						
Rural Residency Development Program				15	10	20
Area Health Education Centers	30.3	30.3	30.3	30.3	39.3	43
Geriatric Programs	38.7	38.7	38.7	38.7	40.7	45
<i>USDA Programs for Rural Health</i>						
Rural Hospital Technical Assistance					0 ³	2

*All numbers in millions of dollars

Source: National Rural Health Association

1. Rural & Community Access to Emergency Devices is funded through this program.
2. Reflects only telehealth funding for the Office for the Advancement of Telehealth, including the telehealth Network Grant Program.
3. In late 2018, USDA developed a pilot of a technical assistance program for rural hospitals. For 2019 the program was funded with discretionary USDA funds at \$300,000 for a small number (10-12) of hospitals with existing USDA loans. The 2018 Farm Bill included committee report included language encouraging USDA to expand on this program. These funds will allow USDA to expand on this much needed program.

