



Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2026: Rural Health Summary

FY 2026 Department of Health and Human Services Appropriations:

Federal Office of Rural Health Policy programs:

- Rural Hospital Flexibility Program: \$70,277,000, including \$22,942,000 for the Small Hospital Improvement Program and \$1,000,000 for "the purchase and implementation of telehealth services and other efforts to improve health care coordination for rural veterans between rural providers and the Department of Veterans Affairs."
 - FY 24/25: \$64,277,000
- State Offices of Rural Health: \$13,500,000
 - FY 24/25: \$12,500,000
- Rural Health Outreach Services: \$110,975,000
 - FY 24/25: \$100,975,000
- Rural Communities Opioid Response Program: \$145,000,000
 - FY 24/25: \$145,000,000
- Rural Residency Planning and Development Program: \$14,000,000
 - FY 24/25: \$12,700,000
- Rural Hospital Stabilization Program: \$14,000,000
 - FY 24/25: \$4,000,000
- Rural Health Research and Policy Development: \$11,076,000
 - FY 24/25: \$11,076,000
- Rural Maternity and Obstetrics Management Program: \$15,000,000
 - FY 24/25: \$12,000,000
- Rural Hospital Provider Assistance Program: \$25,000,000
 - This is a new program that would make payments to eligible hospitals for the maintenance of health care providers. Eligible hospitals are those that (1) have no more than 50 inpatient beds, and (2) have an established wage index value of less than 0.90.
 - Up to 10% of funding can be used for hospital administrative expenses.
 - Available funding would be split equally between eligible hospitals.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:

- CDC Office of Rural Health: \$6,000,000
 - FY 24/25: \$5,000,000



Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)-wide programs:

- Office for the Advancement of Telehealth: \$45,550,000
 - FY 24/25: \$42,050,000
- National Health Service Corps: \$130,000,000
 - FY 24/25: \$128,600,000
- Area Health Education Centers: \$47,000,000
 - FY 24/25: \$47,000,000
- Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training: \$114,000,000
 - FY 24/25: \$193,000,000
- Nursing Workforce Development Programs: \$305,472,000
 - FY 24/25: \$305,472,000
- Oral Health Training: \$43,673,000
 - FY 24/25: \$41,000,000
- Community Health Centers: \$1,857,772,000
 - FY 24/25: \$1,850,000,000
- Office of Pharmacy Affairs (340B): \$12,238,000
 - FY 24/25: \$12,238,000

Rural health extenders:

- Medicare-dependent hospital designation extended through December 31, 2026
- Low-volume hospital payment adjustment extended through December 31, 2026
- Medicare telehealth flexibilities extended through December 31, 2027
- Medicare rural ambulance add-on payments extended through December 31, 2027
- Hospital at home extended through September 30, 2030
- Medicaid disproportionate share hospital cuts are delayed through September 30, 2027
- Mandatory funding for Community Health Centers (CHCs), National Health Service Corps (NHSC), and Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education (THC GME) extended:
 - CHCs: \$4,600,000,000 for FY 2026 and \$1,159,452,055 for October 1, 2026, and December 31, 2026
 - NHSC: \$350,000,000 for FY 2026 and \$88,219,178 for October 1, 2026, and December 31, 2026



- THCGME: \$225,000,000 for FY 2026, \$250,000,000 for FY 2027, \$275,000,000 for FY 2028, and \$300,000,000 for FY 2029