

HBS Update – May 20, 2020

Hello everyone. A lot has happened today (as always). Most RHCs woke up with approximately \$50,000 of new funding for COVID-19 testing and are still trying to sort out all the other tranches of stimulus funding they have received. We recorded a webinar on Monday that discussed these funds and provided tools to keep up with the funding as well as account for the payments in your accounting system as well as what we know about the reporting of the uses of these funds. We have included all the documents and recording from the webinar below.

On Tuesday we had a fantastic session with AAAASF and TCT while we conducted a virtual tour of a Rural Health Clinic. Kate Hill from TCT and Diane Bourque from AAAASF were amazing and really helped our RHCs to retrofit their RHCs in a COVID-19 world and prepare for their initial or resurvey. We have included the recording of the webinar and PDF of the slides below.

Here are the documents and recording of our Provider Relief Funds for RHCs on May 18, 2020

- To Find the recording of the webinar go to the following link: <https://youtu.be/AuV1v4FoVgE>
 - To find the slide presentation for this webinar click [HERE](#)
 - The SBA has released the Loan Forgiveness application which can be found [HERE](#)
 - [Updated PPP Loan FAQ from the SBA](#)
1. [Economic Relief Tracking Tool for RHCs](#)
 2. [Template of Form to Report Quarterly Expenses if you received more than \\$150,000 in payments from the General or Rural Allocation Pool](#)

Here are the documents related to the Virtual-Self Survey with AAAASF & TCT Webinar on May 19, 2020.

- We uploaded the presentation on YouTube at the following location: <https://youtu.be/hVAqVciYGko>
- You can find the Slide Presentation for the webinar [HERE](#)



Telehealth Webinar on May 21st at 11:30 Central Time by North American HMS & InQuiSeek, LLC

On May 21st North American HMS and InQuiSeek, LLC will have a webinar on RHC Telehealth billing and how to use G2025. The webinar will be from 11:30 to 12:30 Central time. Mark Lynn will be a panelist on this session. Please find additional information below.

RHC Telehealth Coding and Documentation Webinar by North American HMS and InQuiSeek, LLC updating RHCs on how to use G2025. Charles James and Patty Harper will be speaking and answering your RHC Telehealth coding and documentation questions related to G2025.

To Register: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8519481592358343950>

HHS PROVIDES \$225 MILLION FOR COVID-19 TESTING IN RURAL COMMUNITIES

<https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/05/20/hhs-provides-225-million-for-covid19-testing-in-rural-communities.html>

Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) provided \$225 million to Rural Health Clinics (RHCs) for COVID-19 testing. These investments will support over 4,500 RHCs across the country to support COVID-19 testing efforts and expand access to testing in rural communities. Rural Health Clinics are a special designation given to health care practices in underserved rural areas by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) that help ensure access to care for rural residents. This funding is through the Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act that President Trump signed into law on Friday, April 24, 2020 which specifically directed these monies to be allocated to RHCs. HRSA funded RHC organizations based on the number of certified clinic sites they operate, providing nearly \$50,000 per clinic site.

“Today’s funding provides rural health clinics with resources and flexibility to boost their testing capabilities to fight COVID-19,” said HHS Secretary Alex Azar. “Further expanding testing capacity, including at RHCs, is a crucial element of safely reopening our country and helping Americans return to work and school. A safe reopening is vital for Americans’ health and well-being, and especially so for those living in rural areas, who may have struggled with access to healthcare long before COVID-19 and found care even harder to access during this crisis.”

“The funding may be used for a wide range COVID-19 testing and related expenses including planning for implementation of a COVID-19 testing program, procuring supplies to provide testing, training providers and staff on COVID-19 testing procedures, and reporting data to HHS on COVID-19 testing activities,” said HRSA Administrator Tom Engels. “Funds may also be used for building or construction of temporary structures, leasing of properties, and retrofitting facilities as necessary to support COVID-19 response.”

HRSA is also awarding \$500,000 to support technical assistance efforts to the RHCs as they expand testing capabilities. This includes activities such as conducting webinars, providing resources and guidance for implementation and management of testing programs.

To view a state-by-state breakdown of this funding, visit: <https://www.hrsa.gov/rural-health/coronavirus/rural-health-clinics-covid-19-testing-fy20-awards>

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RHCs <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1503414633296362/>

COVID-19 Resources: <http://www.ruralhealthclinic.com/covid19>

Emergency Preparedness: <http://www.ruralhealthclinic.com/emergency-preparedness>