

# About the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy's (FORHP) Hospital State Division

The Hospital State Division works to enhance access to quality care by supporting states with resources to strengthen the rural health infrastructure.

## Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility (Flex) Program

The Flex program provides funding to enable states to assist Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs) in maintaining economic viability and clinical quality through training and technical assistance to impact the following areas:

*Quality Improvement*

*Financial & Operational Improvement*

*Population Health Management & EMS Integration*

*Designation of CAHs in the State*

*Integration of Innovative Healthcare Models*

Within Flex, the **Medicare Beneficiary Quality Improvement Project (MBQIP)** encourages CAHs to report on a core set of measures in order to engage in quality improvement initiatives. The Flex program recipients have access to the following resources:

- **Technical Assistance and Services Center (TASC)** provides comprehensive rural health resources related to the Flex program for grantees and CAHs.
- **Rural Quality Improvement Technical Assistance Center (RQITA)** assists with CAH challenges around data reporting and improvement initiatives through toolkits, newsletters, and other resources.
- **Flex Monitoring Team (FMT)** analyzes CAH data around quality, financial, and community measures and evaluates Flex grant program activities.



## Small Rural Hospital Improvement Program (SHIP)

SHIP provides funds for rural hospitals with 49 beds or fewer for investments in hardware, software and related training efforts to act as a catalyst to assist in the adaptation to changing payment systems and movement towards value, including:

*Value Based Purchasing*

*Shared Savings*

*Payment Bundling*

*Implementation of Prospective Payment Systems*

## Small Rural Hospital Transitions Project (SRHT)

SRHT provides in-depth consultations to small rural hospitals in areas of persistent poverty through educational training and comprehensive onsite consultations, with goals of:

*Financial and Quality Improvements*

*Prepare for New Payment/Care Delivery Systems*

*Prepare to Transition to a Value-Based System*

## State Offices of Rural Health (SORH) Program

The SORH Program enhances the rural health infrastructure by linking state and Federal resources to rural communities in an effort to develop long-term solutions to rural health problems. This nationwide program creates a focal point for rural health issues within each state. All SORHs share the following core functions:

*Collection and Dissemination of Information*

*Coordination of Rural Health Activities*

*Provision of Technical Assistance*

The **National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health (NOSORH)** supports leadership development and partnerships of the SORH, and partners at the national, state and regional levels.

