FLEX PROGRAM WORKSHOP

The goal of the Flex Program Workshop is to provide new or existing Flex Program staff an orientation to the Medicare Flexibility (Flex) Program. Each session at the Workshop will be presented by either the Technical Assistance and Services Center (TASC) or a subject matter expert, including speakers from the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) and the Flex Monitoring Team. All of the speakers have vast knowledge and rural experience in the subject area. By the completion of the workshop, participants will have insight about what services TASC provides and how TASC can assist them, and TASC, in turn, will learn more about your State Flex Program.

Additionally, there will be three quarterly follow-up webinars after the Workshop to continue to build knowledge about Flex-related topics. The purpose of the cohort webinars is to continue convening the participants of the Workshop for networking and relationship building, as well as focusing on building skill sets for Flex Program management and coordination.

Topics commonly discussed as part of the Workshop include:

- Introductions, Workshop Purpose and Participant Needs
- History and Direction of the Flex Program
- Impact of Health Reform on Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs)
- Introduction to TASC
- CAH Finance
- CAH Leadership Perspectives Panel
- Building and Sustaining Rural Health Networks
- National Quality Initiatives and the Medicare Beneficiary Quality Improvement Project (MBQIP)
- CAH Blueprint for Performance Excellence
- Operational and Quality Improvement Strategies for CAHs
- Flex Monitoring Team Research
- Emergency Medical Services (EMS)
- Health Information Technology (HIT)
- Community and Population Health
- Program Evaluation Tips
- Best Practices and Hints for Flex Coordinators

The Flex Program Workshop is held twice a year, generally in April and October, in Duluth, Minnesota, which is where TASC is located. There is no charge for the workshop, but State Offices of Rural Health and/or State Flex Programs are required to pay for their own travel.
For more information about the Flex Program Workshop, please contact TASC at tasc@ruralcenter.org or (218) 727-9390.