

Welcome to the

**RHC COVID-19 Testing and
Mitigation (RHCCTM)**

Technical Assistance Webinar

This webinar is brought to you by the National Association of Rural Health Clinics and is supported by cooperative agreement G27RH39211 from the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). It is intended to serve as a technical assistance resource based on the experience and expertise of independent consultants and guest speakers.

The contents of this webinar are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of HRSA.



Let's Talk About: Mitigation

COVID-19 Testing and Mitigation Fund (RHCCTM)



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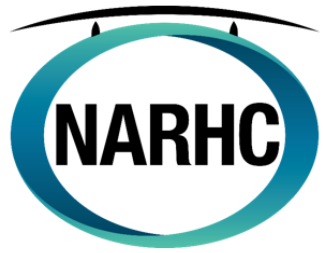
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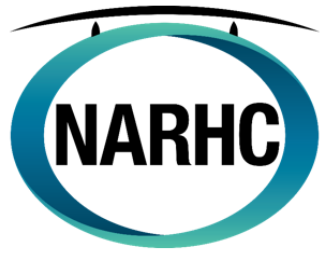
NOSORH and Connections for
Community Care Contractor



Will this be recorded? Can I get slides?



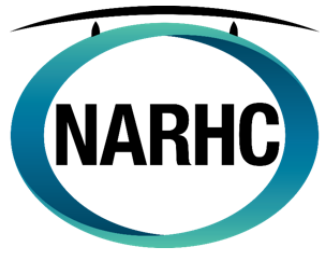
- Yes!
- All of our Technical Assistance webinar recordings, slides, and transcripts are available here:
- https://www.narhc.org/narhc/TA_Webinars1.asp
- www.NARHC.org > Resources > TA Webinars



Name of Grant/Allocation	Date	Amount	Who is eligible?	Reporting Requirements and Other Links
COVID-19 Testing and Mitigation	Awarded June 2021	\$100,000 – Spent between January 1, 2021, and December 31, 2022	All Rural Health Clinics, no application necessary	Terms and Conditions RHCcovidreporting.com Reporting Instruction Webinar
Vaccine Confidence Grant Program	Application Due: June 24, 2021 Notice of Award Mid-July Program End Date: June 30, 2022	Anticipated \$50,000 for one year	All Rural Health Clinics were eligible to apply	The Federal Financial Report (SF-425), submitted electronically through the Payment Management System will be required no later than October 30, 2022 for the budget period ending June 30, 2022.
Direct Vaccine Distribution	Ongoing – Available Now	Direct shipments of the COVID-19 Vaccine (Pfizer, Moderna, and/or Johnson and Johnson)	All Rural Health Clinics	Program Overview Request Form



Name of Grant/Allocation	Date	Amount	Who is eligible?	Reporting Requirements and Other Links
<p>COVID-19 Testing</p>	<p>Awarded May 2020</p> <p>Funds must be spent by Dec. 31, 2021</p>	<p>\$49,461.42</p>	<p>All Rural Health Clinics, no application necessary</p>	<p>Terms and Conditions FAQs Webinars RHCcovidreporting.com Step-by-Step Instructions Instruction Webinar</p> <p>Reporting must be completed by the end of the month following the month in which expenses were generated.</p> <p>Ex. Nov. 2020 reporting must be completed before the end of Dec. 2020</p>
<p>Provider Relief Funding</p>	<p>Awarded April, May, December 2020</p> <p>Funding received in Period 1 must be used by June 30, 2020</p>	<p>Varying amounts</p>	<p>Health care providers, including targeted allocations for rural providers</p>	<p>Provider Relief Fund Portal New Guidance</p>



Bookmark This Page



- <https://www.hrsa.gov/coronavirus/rural-health-clinics>

A screenshot of the top portion of the HRSA website. The header is dark blue with the HRSA logo and navigation links. Below the header is a yellow banner with a message about COVID-19 reimbursement. The main content area features the HRSA logo, a search bar, and a navigation menu with dropdown arrows for Grants, Loans & Scholarships, Data Warehouse, Training & TA Hub, and About HRSA.

Health Resources & Services Administration Bureaus & Offices | Newsroom | A – Z Index | Contact Us

Get reimbursed for COVID-19 testing and treatment of uninsured individuals. [Learn more »](#)

HRSA

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[Home](#) > [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Information](#) > Expanding COVID-19 Response in Rural Communities through Rural Health Clinics

Expanding COVID-19 Response in Rural Communities through Rural Health Clinics

To expand access to vaccines and ensure equity in COVID-19 response in rural communities, the Health Resources and Services Administration is working with Rural Health Clinics (RHCs) across the nation to strengthen vaccine allocation and confidence, and to expand COVID-19 testing and mitigation.

RHCs are a special certification given to health care practices in underserved rural areas by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). More than 4,600 Rural Health Clinics (RHCs) in 45 states make up a key part of the rural health care infrastructure and help address health equity gaps in medically underserved rural communities to improve health outcomes for rural residents.

Rural Health Clinic (RHC) COVID-19 Programs

In response to the coronavirus pandemic, three new programs are available to help RHCs meet community needs and improve rural health care services:



Relief Funding Timeline

<https://www.hrsa.gov/coronavirus/rural-health-clinics/testing/important-dates>



RHC COVID-19 Testing Funding

RHC COVID-19 Testing and Mitigation Funding

Date	Event
Jan. 27, 2020	Earliest date funding can be applied to allowable expenses
May 2020	First distribution of \$49,461.42
Nov. 2020	Testing Program registration and reporting due
Dec. 2020	2 nd distribution of \$49,461.42 to eligible RHCs not included in May payment
Dec. 31, 2021	Testing Program funds must be expended
Jan. 31, 2021	Last month required to report on Testing Funding

Date	Event
Jan. 1, 2021	Earliest date funding can be applied to allowable expenses
June 2021	First distribution of \$100,000
July 31, 2021	Testing & Mitigation Program registration and reporting due
Aug. 2021	Additional funding round for RHCs who did not receive June funding, subject to availability and eligibility
Dec. 31, 2022	Testing & Mitigation Program funds must be expended
Jan. 31, 2022	Last month required to report on Testing & Mitigation Funding



I didn't receive my COVID-19 Testing and Mitigation Funding (\$100,000 per RHC) – What should I do?



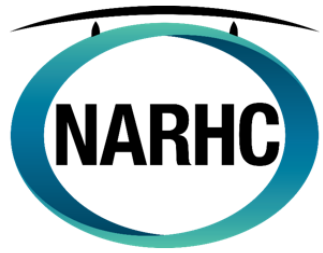
- Be compliant and up-to-date on [RHCCovidReporting.com](https://rhccovidreporting.com) as of April 18, 2021
- Certified and listed on QCOR as RHC before April 18, 2021
 - Email rhccovidreporting@narhc.org or rhctestinfo@nosorh.org with your TIN and CCN if you still believe you should have received funding. Any explanation you can offer will also help such as:
 - Did you receive testing funds last year?
 - Did you receive some funding but not for all your RHCs?
 - We will investigate the issue



What are the reporting requirements for RHCCTM Funding?



- RHCcovidreporting.com
- Report total test and positive test numbers MONTHLY until the end of the relevant funding timeline
 - If you received RHC COVID-19 Testing and Mitigation Funding you must report June 2021-December 2022 data.
 - If you received RHC COVID-19 Testing Funding ONLY you must report May 2020-December 2021 data.
 - If you received BOTH, you must report May 2020-December 2022 data.



RHCcovidreporting.com



- Create an account associated with one email address per each TIN entity that was paid through the program
- Create a profile
- Report tests monthly
- Contact RHCcovidreporting@narhc.org if you have issues registering

Rural Health Clinic
COVID-19 Reporting Portal

Home FAQ Logout

You must register to use this site for your RHC Covid-19 Testing Report

First Name *

Last Name *

Email Address *

Enter Email

Confirm Email

Password *

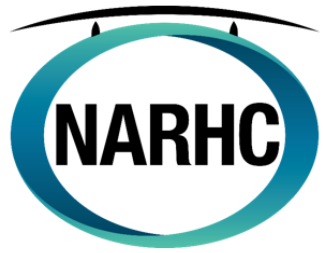
Eight characters minimum One lowercase letter One uppercase letter
One number One special character

Confirm Password

reCAPTCHA

I'm not a robot  [Privacy](#) [Terms](#)

Register



Attest to Terms and Conditions and Accept or Reject Funding



- Within 45 days of receipt of payment via ACH or within 60 days of check payment issuance by visiting <https://covid19.linkhealth.com/#/step/1>.
- Not returning the payment or attesting to the receipt of funds within this timeframe will be viewed as acceptance of the terms and conditions.
- We encourage you to KEEP the funding!



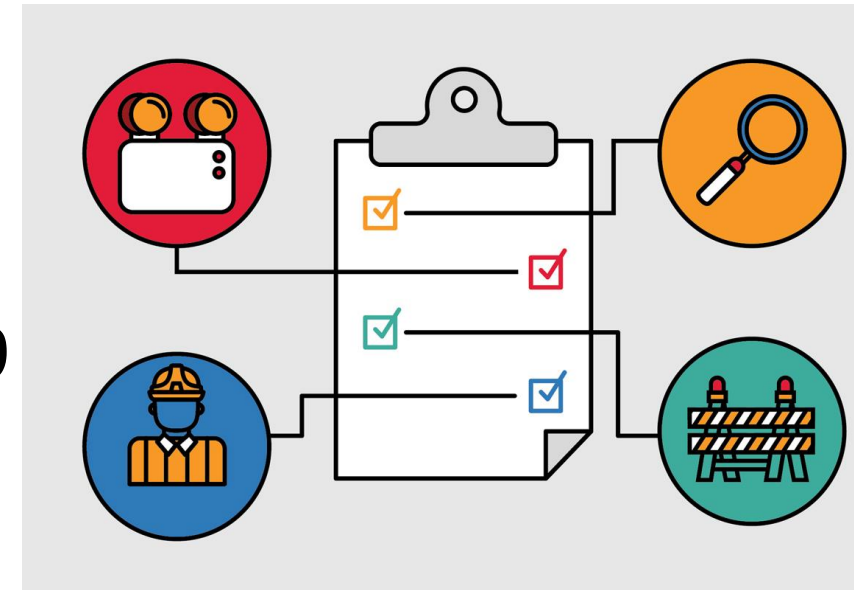


What is Mitigation? How can I use the RHCCTM Funding?



<https://www.hrsa.gov/coronavirus/rural-health-clinics/testing/allowable-expenses>

- Direct *remaining* expenses or indirect expenses related to:
 - **Testing**
 - **Mitigation**
 - **Testing Related**
 - **Mitigation Related**
- All things testing + efforts to prevent COVID-19 transmission
 - Case investigation, education, screening, digital technologies, post-COVID conditions management, retrofitting facilities to support testing and mitigation, and much more





Unallowable Expenses



- Direct provider-to-patient vaccine administration (shot-in-arm)
- Expenses for which you are otherwise reimbursed (no double counting)

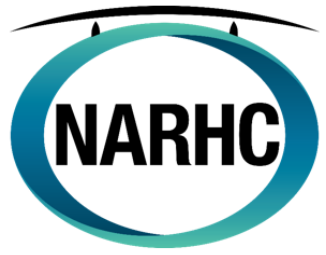


Insurance and Reimbursement

<https://www.hrsa.gov/coronavirus/rural-health-clinics/testing/insurance-reimbursement>



- You may apply funds to the remaining expenses or indirect costs attributable to COVID-19 testing, mitigation, and testing and mitigation related expenses, after netting the other funds received or obligated to be received which offset those expenses
 - You may use any reasonable method of estimating the expenses or indirect costs attributable not covered by other payments
 - You should maintain appropriate records and cost documentation to support these estimates
- **You ARE NOT accountable for program income earned after the period of support**



What is a “reasonable method?”



- Simplest form:
 - Total expenses related to COVID testing minus total reimbursement for COVID testing during the period of support.
- Resources:
 - [Estimation Methods](#)
 - [Other Methods](#)





Top 5 with Shannon



- Can you provide some examples of maintaining healthy environments for mitigation examples?
 - Wipeable covers on electronics- Credit card machines, tablets, screens
 - Portable air cleaners, pleated air filters
 - HVAC system allows for more outdoor air circulation and operates properly.
 - Touchless sensors- toilets, sinks, doors, hand-dryers, water fountains, temperature screening
 - Use Disinfectant products that are from [About List N: Disinfectants for Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) | Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) | US EPA](#)
 - PPE Expenses- Gowns, gloves, Facemasks, etc.





Top 5 with Shannon



- Can we replace or re-cover beds, chairs?

Yes!! – Re-covering worn, upholstered furniture is acceptable.

If you have beds that have tears, rips or cracks then you will need to correct those issues as those are infection control concerns.

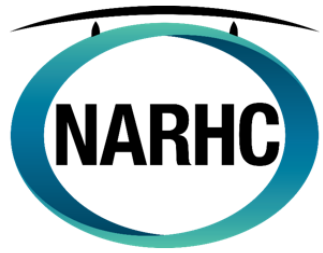
- Can we replace the carpet?

- Yes

- Carpeting is harder to keep clean, especially after spills of blood and body substances.

-Health care setting/facility- Retrofitting facilities as necessary to support mitigation and infection control-[Allowable Expenses | Official web site of the U.S. Health Resources & Services Administration \(hrsa.gov\)](#)

[Guidelines for Environmental Infection Control in Health-Care Facilities \(cdc.gov\)](#)



Top 5 with Shannon

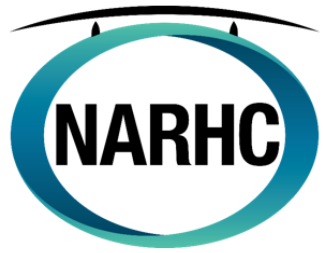


- Can I buy a freezer/refrigerator ?

YES!

Currently storage is under:

- Supplies to provide COVID-19 testing includes, but is not limited to:
Storage (e.g., refrigerator, freezer, temperature-controlled cabinet)



Top 5 with Shannon

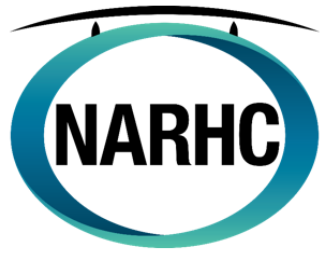


- Can we pay our staff retention payments?
 - Yes- Offering hiring bonuses and retention payments.

Other Workforce expenses-

- Training providers
- Reporting Data
- Childcare/Transportation/Temporary housing

[Allowable Expenses | Official web site of the U.S. Health Resources & Services Administration \(hrsa.gov\)](https://www.hrsa.gov/allowable-expenses)



Top 5 with Shannon



- Can I purchase Telehealth equipment? Can I purchase Telehealth software?

Yes

Digital technologies to strengthen the Recipient's core capacity to support the public-health response to COVID-19;

[Rural Health Clinic COVID-19 Testing and Mitigation Program Terms and Conditions \(hrsa.gov\)](https://www.hrsa.gov)



Data 2000 Waiver Payment Program BONUS TOPIC!



- DATA 2000 Waivers
- \$3k per clinician who received their DATA 2000 waiver in 2019 or after. Only about 650 payments will be made, first come, first serve
- Apply (available 6/30) through the HRSA Electronic Handbook system
- FAQ: <https://help.hrsa.gov/display/public/EHBSKBFG/DATA+2000+Waiver+Training+Payment+Program+FAQs>
- VIDEO: <https://help.hrsa.gov/display/public/EHBSKBFG/Video+-+DATA+2000+Waiver+Training+Payment+Program?fbclid=IwAR1vj10H52NJGaTKXukdc7MikPkfAuuK2CshNW8MQ-6PbjX095TjO7mAMhs>



Special Enrollment Period



- Special Enrollment Period for residents of the 36 states that use HealthCare.gov.
- Through August 15, 2021 individuals can sign up for or change health insurance, no qualifying life event required.
- We encourage you to engage with your patients and community to help ensure that **no one who is eligible is left out, left behind, or left on the sidelines of the Marketplace.**
- Visit [HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov) for more information





Questions?



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-
- CEU for Certified Rural Health Clinic Professionals (CRHCP) ONLY:
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Thank You!

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