



Greetings from the Virginia Primary Care Office & the State Office of Rural Health!

Updated COVID-19 Resources

Virginia Department of Health (VDH) Resources



- [VDH COVID-19 Testing Sites Map](#)
- [VDH Updated Guidance on Testing for COVID-19](#) (Updated 12/14/2020)
- [VDH COVID-19 Vaccination Response](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine Phase by Health District](#)
- [Find out which phase of the vaccination campaign you fall in](#)
- [Contact your Local Health District](#)

COVID-19 Communications Materials

- [The Language of Vaccine Acceptance](#) by de Beaumont
- [Public Health Communications Collaborative- Misinformation Alerts](#)
- [CDC Vaccination Communication Toolkit](#)

Additional COVID-19 Resources

- [CDC Recommended Strategies for Initial COVID-19 Vaccination](#)
- [How CDC is Making Vaccine Recommendations](#)
- [Ensuring the Safety of COVID-19 Vaccines in the United States](#) (includes material about V-SAFE, VAERS, Vaccine Safety Datalink, among other topics)
- [COVID-19 Vaccination Reporting Data Systems](#)
- [CDC Vaccine Tracking System \(VTrckS\)](#)
- [COVID-19 FAQs and Funding for HRSA Programs](#)
- [COVID-19 Claims Reimbursement to Health Care Providers and Facilities for Testing, Treatment, and Vaccine Administration for the Uninsured](#)

Information & Resources for Providers & Healthcare Facilities

New Definition of Rural

FORHP collected comments from stakeholders and issued a Federal Register Notice responding to comments and describing a change to the definition of rural for the determination of geographic areas eligible to apply for or receive services funded by rural health grants. The change will go into effect for new rural health grant opportunities in Fiscal Year 2022. The change does not apply to Fiscal Year 2021 grant opportunities. FORHP will update the Rural Health Grants Eligibility Analyzer when Fiscal Year 2022 grant applications are being accepted to incorporate this change.

[For More Information](#)

[Rural Health Grants Eligibility Analyzer](#)

**The Virginia State Loan Repayment Program (VA-SLRP)
application cycle is now open!**



Application Deadline: March 31, 2021

VA-SLRP is operated by the Virginia Department of Health-Office of Health Equity (VDH-OHE) providing a non-taxed incentive to qualified medical, dental, behavioral health and pharmaceutical (pharmacists) professionals in return for a minimum of two (2) years of service at an eligible practice site in one of the federally designated Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) in a qualified field of practice in Virginia. There is a total of \$2,465,000 in available funding.

For more specific details, please call (804) 864-7431 or email olivette.burroughs@vdh.virginia.gov.

[For More Information and to Apply](#)



**Now Open! 2021 Nurse Corps Loan Repayment Program Application
Cycle**

Application Deadline: February 25, 2021

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) has opened the 2021 Nurse Corps Loan Repayment Program (LRP) application cycle. Nurse Corps LRP offers funding to registered nurses (RNs), advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs), and nursing faculty for payment of their qualifying educational loans. In exchange, recipients honor a two-year service commitment at a health care facility with a critical shortage of nurses or an eligible school of nursing in the case of nurse faculty. Additional loan repayment is available for a third year of service.

This year, Nurse Corps LRP has set aside special funding for nurses and nurse faculty who specialize in women's and behavioral health.

[Application and Program Guidelines](#)

[To Apply](#)

Certified Rural Health Clinic Professional Course

Spring Registration begins Tuesday, February 2, 2021

The National Association of Rural Health Clinics offers this course designed to teach directors, clinic administrators, and other Rural Health Clinic leaders how to operate a successful Rural Health Clinic. Upon course completion and the attainment of an 80% or higher exam score, participants will earn Certified Rural Health Clinic Professional certification.



The course is approximately 30 hours of online coursework with an in person final exam.

[For More Information](#)

Thursday, February 25, from 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

The Virginia Patient Safety Summit is an opportunity to celebrate safety improvement work being done across the Commonwealth and acknowledge the individuals, teams and leaders who make Virginia a great place to receive care. We are pleased to announce that the 2021 Summit is being presented in partnership with the Virginia Nurses Association, the Medical Society of Virginia, and the Virginia Pharmacists Association.

There is NO registration fee for the 2021 Summit! Advanced registration is required, however, in order to receive a participant link for the virtual event and to access the meeting content after the event.

For More Information and to Register



The Tri-Area Community Health at Grayson Highlands celebrates its grand opening!

TODAY, Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

Tri-Area Community Health is excited to serve the citizens of Grayson County at their newest site in Troutdale, Virginia. (6436 Troutdale Highway, Troutdale, VA 24378)

The event will be live streamed on their Facebook page.

To View Event

State & Regional Resources & Funding Opportunities

The Small Rural Hospital Improvement (SHIP) Program Application Cycle is Open Now!

Application Deadline: January 29, 2021 by 5 PM ET



In order to participate in the new SHIP grant period beginning *June 1, 2021*, each hospital will need to complete the following application. Please submit only one application per hospital. To help facilitate the awards process, the SORH will submit one SHIP application on behalf of all eligible hospital applicants to the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP). The SORH will award equal funding to each eligible hospital.

Should you have any questions or need help making meaningful selections in your application please contact Clarissa Noble at clarissa.noble@vdh.virginia.gov.

To Apply

For More Information

to 1,000 medical-grade N95 respirators to free clinics, FQHCs, and frontline service providers for free to help build stock. Complete a donation request form to receive free N95s.

[For More Information](#)

HRSA Challenge Competition to Address Declining Vaccination Coverage and Well-Child Visits

Submissions open: TODAY, January 19, 2021

HRSA's Maternal and Child Health Bureau has launched the Promoting Pediatric Primary Prevention (P4) Challenge competition to respond to declining rates of childhood vaccination coverage and well-child visits due to COVID-19. CDC data show that these declines might leave young children and communities vulnerable to vaccine-preventable diseases such as measles.

The P4 Challenge will award \$1 million in prizes for innovative approaches to increase access to and utilization of well-child visits and/or immunizations services within primary care settings. Partnerships with state and local organizations are encouraged, and submissions must include a primary care provider who delivers health services to children.

HRSA expects to select up to 50 Phase 1 winners and up to 20 Phase 2 winners.

[For More Information and to Apply](#)

NIH Research to Address Vaccine Hesitancy Among Disparity Populations

First Estimated Application Deadline: February 5, 2021

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) seeks applications for research highlighting the important need for community-engaged research to address vaccine hesitancy, uptake, and implementation among populations who experience health disparities. NIH-designated U.S. health disparity populations include Blacks/African Americans, Hispanics/Latinos, American Indians/Alaska Natives, Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders, socioeconomically disadvantaged populations, underserved rural populations, and sexual and gender minorities.

[For More Information](#)

Appalachian Regional Commission Issues Request for Proposals (RFP) for Economic Diversification Investments in Region's Coal-Impacted Economies



Application Submission begins Tuesday, February 16, 2021

Required Letters of Intent are due Friday, March 5, 2021 by 5 PM ET

The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) released a Request for Proposals for applications for the 2021 POWER (Partnerships for Opportunity and Workforce and Economic Revitalization) Initiative. POWER seeks to diversify economies in communities and regions affected by job losses in coal mining, coal power plant operations, and coal-related supply chain industries due to the changing economics of America's energy production. ARC is making funds available through the POWER Initiative for regional investments to develop a competitive workforce, foster entrepreneurial activities, develop industry clusters, strengthen substance abuse response, and expand broadband in coal-impacted areas.

Interested applicants can receive virtual, technical assistance through the application workshop,

Understanding POWER 2021 on Tuesday, February 2 at 11 AM ET which is free to attend, although registration is required by 5 PM ET on Friday, January 29, 2021.

[For More Information](#)

[Application Workshop Registration](#)

Extended Deadline- The Community Health Access and Rural Transformation (CHART) Model

Letter of Intent Deadline (Optional): Feb 17, 2021

Application Deadline: March 16, 2021 (extended)

A voluntary payment model designed to meet the needs of rural communities. The CHART Model will test whether aligned financial incentives, increased operational flexibility, and robust technical support promote the capacity of rural healthcare providers to implement effective healthcare delivery system redesign on a broad scale.

There will be an applicant webinar on Thursday, January 21, 2020 from 3 - 4:30 PM ET. Submit questions in advance by using the field at the end of the [registration form](#) or by emailing CHARTModel@cms.hhs.gov.

[For More Information and to Apply](#)

Volunteer Opportunity: Literacy Kits with United Way of Southwest Virginia



United Way of
Southwest Virginia

Lit Kits help Southwest Virginia's youngest children become proficient readers and gives them a strong start to success. Reading proficiency by third grade is the most important predictor of high school graduation and career success. Yet every year, more than 80% of low-income children miss this crucial milestone.

Your organization is invited to partner with United Way of Southwest Virginia in the Campaign for Grade-Level Reading by creating and distributing literacy kits (lit kits). Host a United Way of Southwest Virginia lit kit project at your workplace or in your community!

[For More Information](#)

"Like" us on Facebook to receive live updates on Virginia rural health issues and important messages from our community partners on your Facebook News Feed.



[Visit the VA-SORH Facebook Page](#)



