



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

We hope that you all had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday and are hopeful for the new year! - The Virginia State Office of Rural Health

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### COVID-19 Vaccine Updates

#### Virginia Department of Health (VDH) Resources



##### VDH COVID-19 Vaccination Response

Virginia's Unified Command, which oversees the Commonwealth's response to COVID-19, has established a Vaccine Unit to coordinate COVID-19 vaccination efforts. Information about the COVID-19 vaccination program is changing frequently and will be updated below.

[VDH COVID-19 Vaccine Updates](#)

##### VDH COVID-19 Vaccination Response- Updates for Healthcare Professionals

Information on the COVID-19 vaccination is compiled for healthcare professionals and separated into the following six categories, Enrollment, Provider Education, Online Meetings, Long-Term Care Facilities, Patient Education, and Sites Receiving Vaccine and Ancillary Supplies.

[VDH Information for Health Care Professionals](#)



#### Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Resources

The CDC's Vaccine Inquiry Center for all healthcare providers is now available to answer vaccine questions. You may send all inquiries to: [eocevent168@cdc.gov](mailto:eocevent168@cdc.gov).

##### Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) COVID-19 Vaccination Communication Toolkit

Medical centers, clinics, and clinicians can use or adapt these ready-made materials to build confidence about COVID-19 vaccination among healthcare teams and staff. This toolkit also provides resources that can be used to educate patients and answer questions about the vaccines.

[COVID-19 Vaccination Communication Toolkit](#)

[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) COVID-19 Vaccine Training Modules for HCP](#)

A new web-on-demand module, COVID-19 Vaccine Training Module for Healthcare Providers, is now available for healthcare providers who will be administering the COVID-19 vaccine. The training includes information about COVID-19 vaccine emergency use authorizations, vaccine safety, and general information about vaccine storage, handling, administration, and reporting.

### COVID-19 Vaccine Training Modules for HCP

**Additional CDC materials about the vaccine recommendation process, vaccine safety, and the Pharmacy Partnership for Long-Term Care Program:**

- [How CDC is Making Vaccine Recommendations](#)
- [Ensuring COVID-19 Vaccines Work](#)
- [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 \(VTrckS\)](#)
- CDC is also pointing people to this excellent HRSA resource: [COVID-19 Claims Reimbursement to Health Care Providers and Facilities for Testing, Treatment, and Vaccine Administration for the Uninsured](#)

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## Information & Resources for Providers & Healthcare Facilities

**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](mailto:olivette.burroughs@vdh.virginia.gov).

[For More Information and to Apply](#)



**Join the VDH Office of Health Equity for Facts & Faith Fridays this Friday for a virtual discussion on the COVID-19 vaccine!**

**Friday, January 8, 2021 from 2:45 - 4:30 PM ET**

With the exciting opportunity to hear from Dr. Anthony Fauci, the Facts & Faith group has extended the event to all Virginians and belief systems because of their deep commitment to the One-Virginia mission and service to all people. Therefore, we are pleased to invite the interfaith community and the residents served by the Commonwealth's most essential community leaders to register below to participate in a virtual webinar with Dr. Fauci and learn from the nation's top doctor about the COVID-19 vaccine.

[To Register](#)



**VIRGINIA HOSPITAL  
& HEALTHCARE  
ASSOCIATION**  
An alliance of hospitals and health delivery systems

**Registration for the virtual 2021 Virginia Patient Safety Summit by VHHA is now open!**

**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](#)

**Consider joining Unite Virginia, a coordinated care network of health and social care providers.**



Partners in the Unite Virginia network are connected through a shared technology platform, Unite Us, which enables them to send and receive electronic referrals, address people's social needs, and improve health across communities.

Joining the network is free of cost for community-based organizations and many organizations that are considered part of the safety net, like community health centers, tribal clinics, and mental health centers. In addition, our network includes free web-based licenses for county agencies, city governments, hospitals, and health care systems.

[For More Information](#)



**Checkout "Surviving & Thriving: The Power of Rural is 100% Community," a webinar recording for rural communities.**

The webinar "Surviving & Thriving: The Power of Rural is 100% Community," originally presented by the National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health (NOSORH) on National Rural Health Day, November 19, 2020, features Katherine Ortega Courtney, Ph.D., and Dominic Cappello, authors of 100% Community: Ensuring 10 Vital Services for Surviving and Thriving. They discuss their groundbreaking research & roadmap they've created to help rural counties learn how to work together in new ways to create local systems of health, safety, education, & economic stability. #PowerofRural

A recording of the webinar is available for your viewing. The actual presentation starts at the 10 minute mark and lasts 90 minutes.

[To Access the Webinar Recording](#)

**USDA has published "Rural America at a Glance: 2020 Edition."**

The document provides an overview of social and economic factors affecting rural America, with a

focus on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, and includes data on rural COVID-19 cases and deaths, demographic and healthcare access issues that make rural counties vulnerable, unemployment during the pandemic, and COVID-19 cases in meatpacking-dependent counties.

To Access the Publication

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## State & Regional Resources & Funding Opportunities

The VA-SORH *Innovative Rural Programming* Application Cycle is Open Now!

**Application Deadline: January 8, 2021 by 5 PM ET**



The Virginia State Office of Rural Health (VA-SORH) is pleased to announce that we will be offering awards for *Innovative Rural Programming* for the fiscal year 2021-2022. Awards consist of annual grants that range in value from \$1,000 to \$20,000.

Application  
Announcement

Application

Policy & Procedure  
Manual

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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](mailto:clarissa.noble@vdh.virginia.gov).

To Apply

For More Information

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Rural Communities Opioid Response Program-Implementation (RCORP-Implementation)

**Webinar for applicants: Tuesday, January 26, 2021 from 1-2 PM ET**

**Application Deadline: March 12, 2021**

The Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) will be making approximately 78 awards of \$1 million each to rural communities to enhance substance use disorder (SUD), including opioid use disorder (OUD), service delivery. Over the course of a three-year period of performance, grant recipients will implement a set of core prevention, treatment, and recovery activities that align with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' [Five-Point Strategy to Combat the Opioid Crisis](#).

For More Information and to Apply



**Apply NOW for the next round of Rural Relief Small Business Grants.**

**Application Deadline: tonight, January 5, 2021 at 11:59 PM ET**

As part of our continuing commitment to elevate our impact in rural America, OneLISC is inviting small business owners in rural locations across the country to apply for the LISC-Lowe's Rural Relief Small Business Grants program. We will support small businesses and enterprises affected by Covid-19 across the country, especially those in underserved communities, including entrepreneurs of color, women- and veteran-owned businesses that often lack access to flexible, affordable capital.

[For More Information and to Apply](#)

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### **HRSA Training for Primary Care and Maternal Health**

**Application Deadline: February 22, 2021**

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) will invest more than \$15 million for 26 awards to accredited hospitals, schools of medicine, and affiliated physician assistant training programs to train primary care physicians in maternal health. Faith- and community-based organizations, as well as Tribes and tribal organizations may be eligible to apply. The program has two tracks: one to increase the number of primary care physicians trained in public health and general preventive medicine, and the other to increase maternal health care in rural and/or underserved areas.

[For More Information and to Apply](#)

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### **Nursing Workforce Diversity (NWD) Program**



**Application Deadline: January 19, 2021**

The US Department of Health and Human Services is currently accepting applications for the NWD Program. The purpose of this program is to assist students from disadvantaged backgrounds (including ethnic and racial minorities underrepresented among registered nurses) throughout the educational pipeline in becoming registered nurses. This purpose is accomplished by supporting diploma or associate degree registered nurses as they become baccalaureate-prepared registered nurses, and preparing practicing registered nurses for advanced nursing education.

[For More Information](#)

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### **Rural Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Training Grant**

**Application Deadline: February 16, 2021**

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Center for Substance Abuse Treatment, is accepting applications for fiscal year (FY) 2021 Rural Emergency Medical Services Training grants (Short Title: EMS Training). The purpose of this program is to recruit and train emergency medical services (EMS) personnel in rural areas. SAMHSA recognizes the great need for emergency services in rural areas and the critical role EMS personnel serve across the country.



For More Information and to Apply

"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

