

# Rural Health Update

Utah Office of Primary Care and Rural Health (OPCRH)

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## OPCRH quarterly update

- ✓ Funds awarded to OPCRH to support the FLEX, SHIP and SORH grants were slightly reduced for the 2013-2014 cycle. "Some adjustments need to be made but we will be okay," said Dr. Don Wood, Director of OPCRH.
- ✓ OPCRH submitted applications for 18 primary care, 8 dental care and 5 mental health shortage area designation to the office of Shortage Designation, HRSA.
- ✓ 26 SPCGP grants were awarded. The allocations for rural health care agencies is over \$500,000 which represents 67 % of the total funds dedicated to the underserved and underinsured in urban and rural Utah.
- ✓ 21 grants were awarded to Utah small rural hospitals for projects related to quality improvement, patient safety, and ICD-10.
- ✓ Dr. Kim Michelson became the new State Dental Director for the Utah Department of Health. For additional information please click [here](#)

## Policy Updates

- Medicare Program; Prospective Payment System for Federally Qualified Health Centers; Changes to Contracting Polices for Rural Health Clinics; and Changes to CLIA of 1988 Enforcement Actions for Proficiency Testing Referral, please click [here](#) to access the Federal Register from 09/23/2013.
- The Bureau of Health professions (BHP) is announcing a change to its Health Workforce Research Center cooperative agreement program. Please click [here](#) to access the Federal Register from 09/11/2013.

## Funding opportunities

- [Rural Health Network Development Program](#): New Approach-Guidance release by September 2013.
- The FY 2014 Students to Service Loan Repayment Program is now open. The 2014 NHSC S2S LRP application cycle closes on November 14, 2013, at 7:30 pm, ET. Please click [here](#) for additional info.

## Events links

- Corps Community Day: "Access Today. Healthy Communities Tomorrow," October 10, 2013. Utah on the map click [here](#)
- Medicare's [Open Enrollment](#) period is October 15- December 7, 2013.
- National Rural Health Day, November 21, 2013 click [here](#) for more info.
- Health Insurance in Utah, October 1, 2013. [Open enrollment](#)

## Topic of the month

- Rural Health Research Gateway: Mental Health Encounters in Critical Access Hospital Emergency Rooms: A National Survey by Maine Rural Health Research Center. Click [here](#) to view document

## Helpful Websites

[NOSORH](#)   [NRHA](#)   [NHSC](#)   [3RNet](#)   [MBQIP](#)   [HCAHPS](#)   [ICD-10](#)   [TASC](#)  
[National Rural Health Resources Center](#)   [Flex Monitoring Team](#)   [Rural Assistance Center \(RAC\)](#)  
[Rural Health Research & Policy Centers](#)   [Federally Qualified Health Centers Center](#)  
[CMS Quarterly Provider Update-Instructions](#)   [HPSA Designations](#)   [Utah Telehealth Network](#)

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