

Funding Opportunities from the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy

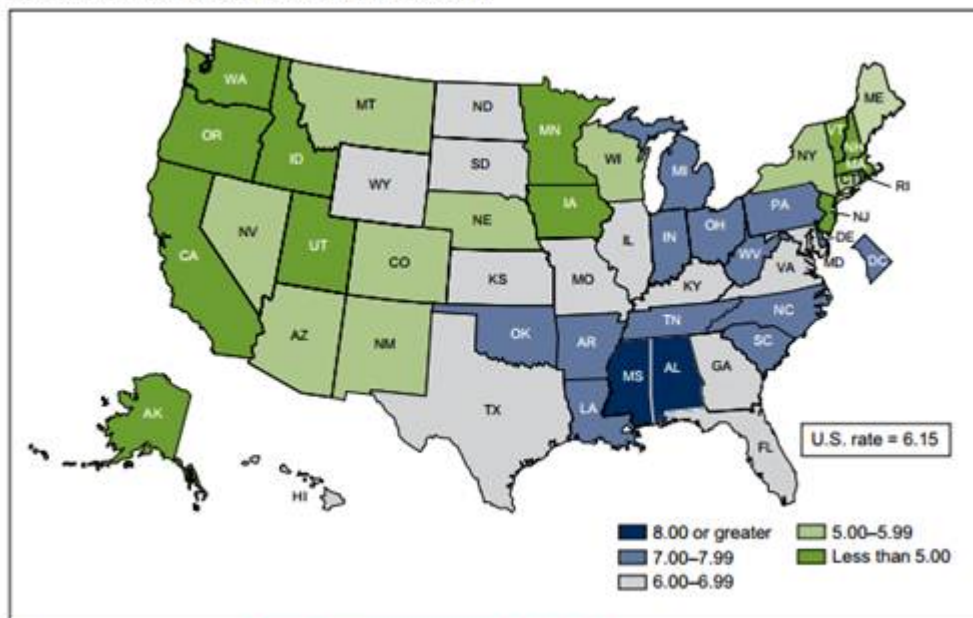
1. Open funding opportunities through HRSA programs include:

Healthy Start - HRSA is **re-opening the competition period for Healthy Start**, a program run by HRSA's Maternal and Child Health Bureau and up to 36 rural communities could be awarded up to \$30 million to improve perinatal care outcomes. This is an important opportunity to increase access to perinatal care and reduce child and maternal health disparities in rural communities; please distribute widely to any rural stakeholders who may be interested in applying. The guidance has changed significantly and the pool of funding is now available to a much broader range of potential applicants. This is a unique opportunity for rural communities seeking to improve perinatal health.

- For community-based organizations, please consider applying.
- For Associations, please share with your members.
- For State Offices of Rural Health, please distribute widely.

See the map below^[1] to see if your state or region has high incidence of infant mortality (note that individual applicants will need to identify the rates of infant mortality and low birth weight for their own communities in 2007-2009 to determine eligibility).

Figure 5. Infant mortality rates, by state: United States, 2010



NOTE: Access data table for Figure 5 at: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/databriefs/db120_table.pdf.
SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Vital Statistics System, mortality data set.

Who: Public or private entities, including community organizations and faith-based groups are eligible to apply. Applicants must be located in communities with rates of infant mortality at least 1.5x the US national average and high rates for other adverse perinatal outcomes (e.g. low birthrate). Please see the funding announcement for all eligibility criteria.

What: Funded projects will focus on activities built on the Healthy Start model:

- Improve women's health, before, during and after pregnancy;

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- Promote quality services, with a focus on required core competencies and standardized interventions;
- Strengthen family resilience, by engaging both parents & addressing some of the stress that underlies many disparities in birth outcomes;
- Achieve collective impact, serving as community hubs that drive collective improvements; and
- Increase accountability through quality improvement, performance monitoring, and evaluation.

When: The project period will be 4 years & 9 months. Current competition submission deadline is March 31, 2014.

Where: Urban, rural, and border communities with significant disparities in perinatal outcomes.

Why: To reduce disparities in perinatal health across America.

Please note that there are three separate grant applications: Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3. Level 1 grantees will work to create change at the individual level, Level 2 grantees will work to create change at the community level, & Level 3 grantees will serve as a resource for state, regional, & national action. Entities may only apply for 1 of the grants. Please see the table below for a further description of the differences between the Healthy Start (HS) grant levels:

Level 1 Grantees	Level 2 Grantees	Level 3 Grantees
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 34 awards of up to \$750,000 each • Support the implementation of essential HS program activities needed to achieve the five elements of the HS Model : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Improve women’s health, before, during and after pregnancy; ➤ Promote quality services, with a focus on required core competencies and standardized interventions; ➤ Strengthen family resilience, by engaging both parents and addressing some of the stress that underlies many disparities in birth outcomes; ➤ Achieve collective impact, serving as community hubs that drive collective improvements; and ➤ Increase accountability through quality improvement, performance monitoring, and evaluation. • Level 1 grantees are responsible for outcomes at the individual level. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four awards of up to \$1,200,000 each • All Level 1 activities • Applicants applying for Level 2 funding will also engage in additional services & activities, such as Fetal-Infant Mortality Review and Perinatal Periods of Risk • Level 2 is responsible for community level effect. • This program will be accountable to reach the entire community, thereby <u>driving collective impact</u> and supporting community level change. • Minimum program participants/year: 800 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four awards of up to \$2,000,000 each • All Level 1 and 2 activities • In addition to the Level 1 and 2 activities, this level also supports the provision of expanded maternal and women’s health services and supports the development of a place-based initiative that will serve as the backbone or hub organization for achieving collective impact. • Serve as a resource site for state, regional, and national action in support of other HS grantees and organizations working to improve perinatal outcomes. • Serve as leaders and participate in the development of state/regional/ national programs and policies. • Participate with other Level 3 Leadership and Mentoring HS grantees, & the Supporting Healthy Start Performance Project, in the development & implementation of a HS Collaborative Innovation & Improvement Network (HS CoIIN) • Minimum program participants/year: 1000

For more information and to apply, visit: <http://www.hrsa.gov/grants/apply/assistance/healthystart/>

- Healthy Start Initiative: Eliminating Disparities in Perinatal Health (Level 2)
Apply by: Monday, March 31, 2014
[Healthy Start Initiative: Eliminating Disparities in Perinatal Health \(Level 2\) \(HRSA-14-120\)](#)
- Healthy Start Initiative: Eliminating Disparities in Perinatal Health (Level 1)
Apply by: Monday, March 31, 2014
[Healthy Start Initiative: Eliminating Disparities in Perinatal Health \(Level 1\) \(HRSA-14-121\)](#)
- Healthy Start Initiative: Eliminating Disparities in Perinatal Health (Level 3)
Apply by: Monday, March 31, 2014
[Healthy Start Initiative: Eliminating Disparities in Perinatal Health \(Level 3\) \(HRSA-14-122\)](#)

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State Loan Repayment Program – The State Loan Repayment Program (SLRP) makes grants to states to assist in operating their own state educational loan repayment programs for primary care providers working in Health Professional Shortage Areas within their state. This is a great opportunity for rural communities to offer incentives that will assist in the recruitment and retention of primary health providers in their areas. Currently all states except Arkansas, Connecticut, Florida, Idaho, Maine, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Vermont and Wyoming are participating in SLRP.

- Apply by: Tuesday, April 29, 2014
<http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=251810>
- National Health Service Corps Loan Repayment Program
Apply by: Thursday, March 20, 2014
[2014 National Health Service Corps Loan Repayment Program Application](#)
- Poison Center Support and Enhancement
Apply by: Monday, March 17, 2014
[Apply](#)
- Black Lung/Coal Miner Clinics Program
Apply by: Friday, March 14, 2014
<http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=250805>
- Black Lung Centers of Excellence
Apply by: Friday, March 14, 2014
<http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=250806>
- Supporting Healthy Start Performance Project Funding Opportunity
Apply by: Monday, March 3, 2014
[Apply](#)