
Rural Health Care Monthly Conference Call: August 8, 2013 – 2:00 PM

AGENDA

1. Invoicing
2. New Tool for Determining Rurality
3. USAC as First Payer
4. RHC on the Road
5. Funding Update
6. Question and Answer Session

MINUTES

1. Invoicing

After October 1, 2013, the Rural Health Care (RHC) Program will discontinue the use of paper invoices for service providers. Service providers may now prepare, submit, and track electronic invoices for FY2012 through [My Service Provider Portal](#). To file invoices electronically, you will need an E-File user name and password as well as an entitlement for filing invoices for the RHC Program. A video tutorial about [getting access to E-File](#) is available in the RHC [Online Learning Library](#). For a step-by-step guide to submitting invoices online through the portal, view the new [invoicing tutorial](#) for service providers.

2. New Tool for Determining Rurality

As of July 2013, the RHC Program is using the [Texas A&M website](#)'s geocode location tool instead of the FFIEC website to determine county census tract numbers. The RHC Program will continue to define rurality per the program rules. Visit the RHC [Eligible Rural Areas Search](#) page for instructions on how to determine if your HCP is rural.

3. USAC as First Payer

If you are receiving funding on any of your circuits from other sources, such as the California Teleconnect Fund (CTF), Nebraska Universal Service Fund (NEUSF), or Oklahoma Universal Fund (OUSF), the RHC discount should be applied first. Any additional discounts should be calculated after applying the RHC discount. If you have questions about how to apply the RHC discount, contact the [RHC Help Desk](#) at (800) 229-5476.

4. RHC on the Road

RHC Staff will be exhibiting at the American Telemedicine Association (ATA) Fall Forum in Toronto, Canada on September 8-10, 2013. The forum will showcase specific ways that telemedicine is improving patient care, and we look forward to sharing information about the RHC Program with allied health professionals. You can learn more about the conference [here](#).

Healthcare Connect Fund Training is next month!

Join USAC and the FCC in Washington, DC, for a training about the Healthcare Connect Fund (HCF), the newest component of the RHC Program. This training will provide targeted information about the HCF for both individual and consortium applicants.

If your HCP plans to apply for funding as an [individual HCP](#) for FY2013, you should attend day 1, on September 23. Day 1 training also includes information for Individual HCPs that are considering joining a consortium. If you plan to apply as a [consortium leader](#), attend day 2, on September 24. All participants are welcome to attend one or both days of the training.

Learn more about these events on the HCF [Trainings & Outreach](#) page.

5. Funding Update

For FY2013, we have received nearly 4,700 FCC Forms 465, up nine percent over last year at this time.

For FY2012, we received more than 11,800 FCC Forms 466/466-A, a slight increase over last year's total. We have committed \$52 million in funding so far. More than 30 percent of the forms were submitted in the last months of the funding year, and we are working to process them as quickly as possible. There are \$8 million in outstanding invoices for FY2012.

6. Question and Answer Session