

**From:** USAC Rural Health Care Program  
**To:**  
**Subject:** RHC Program News for July 2018  
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Latest news from the RHC Program

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## RHC Program News for July

Here are all the latest news, timely resources, and helpful reminders for the month of July. Included below is important information about the recent FCC 2018 RHC Program Funding Cap Order and helpful tips for FY2018 now that the filing window has closed.

### [FCC 2018 RHC Program Funding Cap Order](#)

June 25, 2018 - The FCC has issued an Order that adopts rules to: (1) increase the annual RHC

Program funding cap to \$571 million and apply it to FY2017; (2) annually adjust the RHC Program funding cap for inflation, beginning with FY2018; and (3) establish a process to carry-forward unused funds from past funding years for use in future funding years. The rules became effective immediately upon publication of the Order in the Federal Register on June 29, 2018.

Read and download the FCC's RHC 2018 Funding Cap [Order](#) and [FAQ sheet](#).

Informational Webinar on the FCC 2018 RHC Program Funding Cap Order

Join us on Tuesday, July 10, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. ET.

[Register Here!](#)

Can't make it? Webinar recording and an FAQ fact sheet will be posted on our website.

*Please note that the webinar will focus exclusively on USAC's implementation of the Order and no FCC representatives will be participating.*

Additional information about what the RHC 2018 Funding Cap Order means for program participants is forthcoming. General guidance for FY2017 and FY2018 funding requests (FCC Form 462 for the HCF Program and FCC Form 466 in the Telecom Program) is below.

**What this means for FY2017:** Due to the increase in the RHC Program funding cap for FY2017, all previously approved FY2017 funding requests will receive 100% of their approved funding amount. The proration that was previously applied to FY2017 funding commitments will be removed, and revised Funding Commitment Letters (FCLs) will be issued. Please discontinue invoicing against the previously issued FY2017 FCLs showing prorated commitments at this time. As noted above, we will share additional information about the issuance of revised FY2017 FCLs shortly, including updated invoicing instructions.

**What this means for FY2018:** As noted in the FCC's RHC 2018 Funding Cap Order, the RHC Program funding cap for FY2018 will be \$581 million, adjusted for inflation. As a reminder, the FY2018 filing window closed on Friday, June 29, 2018. Applicants are unable to submit funding requests at this time.

### **Important Reminders for FY2018**

#### **What to Do if You Receive an Information Request**

As you submit your FCC Form 462 or 466, please upload all required documentation with your forms. FCC Forms submitted with incomplete or missing documentation will not be reviewed, and RHC reviewers will reach out to all account holders (the primary and all secondary and tertiary account holders associated with that HCP) with a request for additional information ("Information Request"). Information Requests are sent to collect any missing documentation, address deficiencies, or to ask clarifying questions about the FCC Form. If you receive an Information Request, you must respond to it within 14 calendar days. Once you respond, the RHC reviewers will work with you, to the extent they can, to ensure that they have all the necessary documentation to complete their review. Failure to respond within the 14 calendar day timeframe will result in an automatic denial, so be sure to meet that deadline!

#### **LOA/TPAs Must Be Up to Date**

In order to be considered eligible for funding in FY2018, [Letters of Agency](#) (LOA) and [Third Party Authorizations](#) (TPA) **must** be up to date through a minimum of FY2018. Be especially mindful if you are an HCP using a consultant, a consortium leader, or a consultant filing on behalf of a consortium leader. Before submitting a form, please check to ensure your authorization documents are up to date.

FCC Forms 462 and 466 submitted with expired LOAs or TPAs will result in applicants receiving Information Requests.

- Download a [Sample TPA](#) or [Sample LOA](#)

- For more information about submitting LOAs, please see the [submission guide](#)

### Questions or Suggestions? Contact Us!

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