

**OFFICE OF RURAL HEALTH/ RURAL HEALTH CENTERS/ OPERATIONAL GRANT  
PROGRAM**

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**State Authorization:** General Assembly of North Carolina, HB 1237, Session Laws -  
1973, Chapter 627, Sections 1 and 2

**Department of Health and Human Services  
Central Administration/Office of Rural Health**

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**Agency Contact Person - Program**

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**Brief Description of Program:**

This program is designed to assist local leaders with the development and implementation of strategies for improving health care access for rural residents. Technical assistance and limited financial resources are provided to underserved communities in developing and maintaining rural health centers. The objective of the Rural Health Centers Operational Grant Program is to make primary health care services available and accessible to residents of rural underserved areas that have previously experienced an insufficiency of such services. Operational funding is provided through the Medical Access Plan (MAP) to help offset the cost of providing primary care medical services and limited integrated behavioral health services to underserved residents in the rural health care center's service area. In addition, it provides funds for planning and implementation as well as innovation projects to move rural health centers towards triple aim and practice transformation which improves access, quality, and cost effectiveness of health care.

**Organizations Funded:**     Private     Local Government     Both

**Source of Funds:**            State 100%            Federal 0%