

Internal VHA Funding Requests

Nearly 3 million Veterans who live in rural areas rely on the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for health care. While rural communities offer a host of benefits, many also suffer from a lack of qualified clinicians and limited medical facilities.

To combat this disparity, VA's Office of Rural Health (ORH) utilizes the rural health budget to research, develop, and disseminate innovative solutions that connect rural Veterans with the care they need.

During the Office's annual Request for Applications (RFA), eligible clinicians and staff at Veterans Health Administration (VHA) facilities can apply for seed funding to stand up a new participating site in an ORH-funded [Enterprise-Wide Initiative \(EWI\)](#). EWIs help expand successful VA health care efforts to sites that serve rural Veterans.

Applications to fund a new site are submitted through the [New ORH Management and Analysis Database \(NOMAD\)*](#) and must receive approval from the appropriate VA medical center director and Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) director before it is considered for funding.

To streamline the RFA process, ORH utilizes an advanced project management tool to:

- **Review** funding applications
- **Approve** and adjust funding requests
- **Oversee** the implementation of new programs
- **Monitor** program's progress during funding lifecycle

ORH's thorough data-driven approach is used to determine which proposals offer the greatest benefit to rural Veterans.

After a new EWI site is approved and launched, participating sites may reapply for ORH funding to sustain the program for a total of three fiscal years. The Office also provides guidance to site program managers to help them navigate the sustainability of their sites beyond ORH's initial three-year funding period.

Since 2012, ORH has funded \$3.1B in rural focused health care initiatives ranging from primary and specialty care to mental health and workforce training.



* **Disclaimer:** This link directs to an internal VA site. You must have access to the VA network to view this page.

ORH's annual funding supports the implementation of new EWIs that offer a variety of resources, such as:



Home-Based Primary Care

Expands home-based Patient Aligned Care Team services to rural areas.



Clinical Pharmacy Specialist Providers

Uses pharmacists' expertise to deliver medication and chronic disease management services to rural Veterans via telehealth into Veterans' homes, VA medical centers, or community-based outpatient clinics (CBOCs).



Veterans Affairs Farming and Recovery Mental Health Services (VA FARMS)

Provides Veterans with agricultural vocational training and behavioral health care services from licensed providers at seven VHA sites of care.



Mobile Prosthetic and Orthotic Care (MoPOC)

Helps to restore function, mobility, and independence for rural Veterans with limb loss and movement disorders by bringing artificial limb and bracing care to their communities.

For more information about the RFA process, visit: https://vaww.vashare.vha.va.gov/sites/ruralhealth/Pages/RFI_info.aspx.

The Office of Rural Health (ORH) works to see that America's Veterans thrive in rural communities. To support the health and well-being of rural Veterans, ORH and its Veterans Rural Health Resource Centers establish and disseminate initiatives that increase access to care for the 2.7 million rural Veterans enrolled in the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' health care system. Key focus areas include programs that address workforce shortages, transportation, primary care, mental health, telehealth, and specialty care.