

Request for Applications

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 its \$300 million budget to research, develop and disseminate innovative solutions that connect rural Veterans with the care they need.

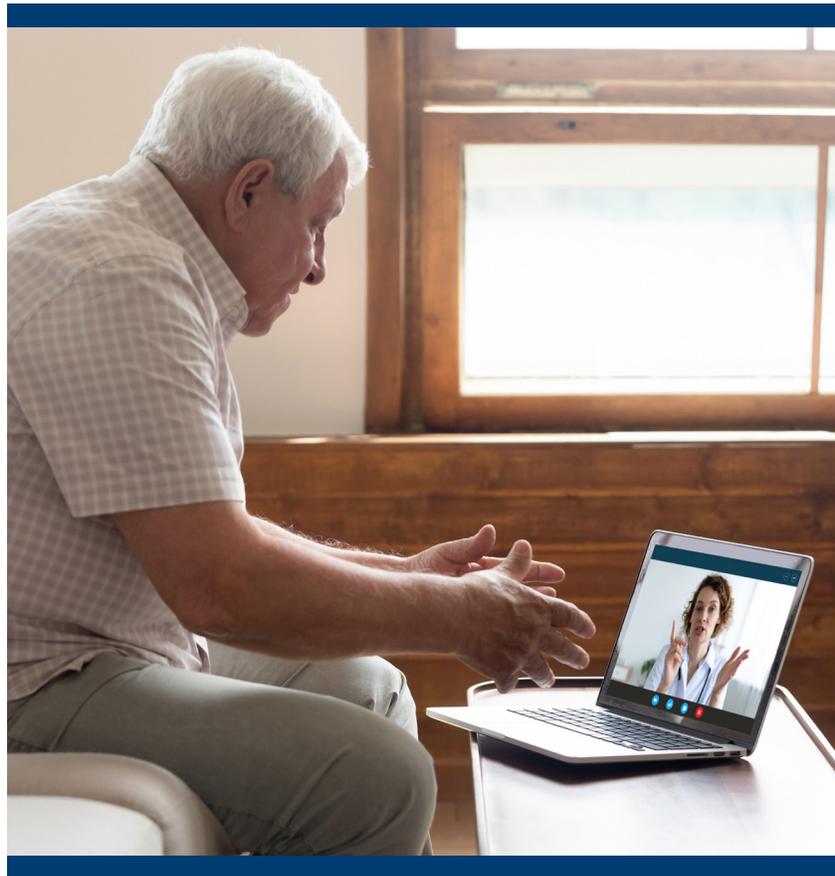
During the Office's annual Request for Applications (RFA), eligible clinicians and staff at Veterans Health Administration (VHA) facilities can apply for seed funding to stand up a new participating site in an ORH-funded [Enterprise-Wide Initiative \(EWI\)](#). EWIs help expand successful VA health care 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. **(Disclaimer:** This link directs to an internal VA site. You must have access to the VA network to view this page.)

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 each program's progress during the lifecycle of ORH funding

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, participant 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 2010, ORH has funded \$2.6 billion in rural-focused health care initiatives ranging from primary and specialty care to mental health and workforce training. 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** delivers medication and chronic disease management services to rural Veterans using pharmacists' expertise through telehealth into Veterans' homes, VA medical centers, or Community-Based Outpatient Clinics.
- ☑ **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 nine VHA sites of care.

For more information about the RFA process, visit:

https://vaww.vashare.vha.va.gov/sites/ruralhealth/Pages/RFI_info.aspx.



Congress established the Veterans Health Administration Office of Rural Health (ORH) in 2006 (38 USC § 7308) to conduct, coordinate, promote and disseminate research on issues that affect the nearly five million Veterans who reside in rural communities. The mandate also requires ORH to develop, refine and promulgate policies, best practices, lessons learned, and innovative and successful programs system-wide. Learn more at www.ruralhealth.va.gov.