

FY 2014 Health Center Outreach and Enrollment Assistance One-Time Supplemental Funding Frequently Asked Questions

Updated January 14, 2014

1. What is the purpose of the FY 2014 Health Center Outreach and Enrollment Assistance one-time supplemental funding?

The purpose of the FY 2014 Health Center Outreach and Enrollment Assistance one-time supplemental funding is to provide support to health centers to meet increased demand for enrollment assistance. These awards build upon HRSA's earlier investment of \$150 million to support outreach and enrollment activities in health centers nationwide.

This one-time supplemental funding is intended to support immediate health center needs consistent with the intent of and allowable costs outlined in FY 2013 Health Center Outreach and Enrollment Assistance supplemental funding, available for review at <http://bphc.hrsa.gov/outreachandenrollment/hrsa-13-279.pdf>.

2. How much funding is being made available through this one-time supplement?

HRSA has awarded approximately \$58 million under this one-time supplemental funding through formula-based supplemental awards to eligible Health Center Program grantees who received outreach and enrollment supplements in July 2013.

3. Was a new formula used for this grant award that was different than the previous outreach/enrollment awards made for 150 million?

Yes, a different formula was used for these supplemental funds that targets these one-time resources primarily to health centers located in federally-facilitated marketplaces in order to bolster limited outreach and enrollment dollars in these states. State-based marketplaces, have access to funding for outreach and enrollment activities through Exchange Establishment and Planning Grants, which have been awarded over the past three years as states have planned their Marketplace implementation efforts.

Specifically, this one time supplemental formula is:

- A base amount of \$25,000 for each health center;
- An additional \$7 per uninsured patient for health centers located in non-state-based marketplaces based on their most recent reporting of uninsured populations served (with a cap of \$250,000).

4. Will this supplemental funding be ongoing?

No. This is one-time funding to support immediate health center needs, consistent with the intent of and allowable costs outlined in FY 2013 Health Center Outreach and Enrollment Assistance Supplemental Funding. Any ongoing expenditures initially supported by these one-time funds beyond FY 2014 must be sustained with other resources

5. Will health centers be required to report additional activities supported by this one-time supplemental funding?

Yes. Health centers will include activities and outcomes supported through this one-time supplemental funding via the Health Center Program Outreach and Enrollment Quarterly Progress Report (QPR) to be submitted through the HRSA Electronic Handbook (EHB) in January 2014, April 2014, July 2014, and October 2014. Additional guidance regarding specific requirements and deadlines is available at <http://bphc.hrsa.gov/outreachandenrollment/>.

6. What are the requirements of health center outreach and enrollment assistance workers supported by this one-time supplemental funding?

Health center outreach and enrollment assistance workers supported by this funding opportunity must:

- Demonstrate and maintain expertise in: eligibility and enrollment rules and procedures; the range of qualified health plan options and insurance affordability programs; the needs of underserved and vulnerable populations; and privacy and security standards.
- Comply with and successfully complete all required and applicable federal and/or state consumer assistance training, as is required for all assistance personnel carrying out consumer assistance functions.

Additional information on training and related requirements, including frequently asked questions, is available at <http://bphc.hrsa.gov/outreachandenrollment/>.

7. How can these funds be used?

Health centers must use these funds to increase their current outreach and enrollment assistance capacity. This may be accomplished by expanding the hours of existing outreach and enrollment assistance workers, hiring new or temporary outreach and enrollment assistance workers, and/or other allowable activities and costs consistent with the FY 2013 outreach and enrollment supplemental guidance (expected within 30 days of award), available for review at <http://bphc.hrsa.gov/outreachandenrollment/hrsa-13-279.pdf>.

All Outreach and Enrollment supplemental funds are to be used to support new outreach and enrollment capacity and must not supplant existing resources.

8. Updated What is the timeframe for use of this one-time supplemental funding?

O/E one-time supplemental funds awarded in December of 2013 are not included in future year commitments. This was one-time funding to support immediate health center needs, consistent with the intent of and allowable costs outlined in FY 2013 Health Center Outreach and Enrollment Assistance Supplemental Funding. Any ongoing expenditures initially supported by these one-time funds beyond the health center's FY 2014 budget period must be sustained with other resources. More information on HRSA's ongoing O/E supplemental funding is located at <http://bphc.hrsa.gov/outreachandenrollment/oefags04012014.pdf>.

9. Do we need to seek prior approval to carry over unobligated O/E funds into our health center's FY 2014 budget period?

HRSA's Division of Grants Management provided guidance to all HRSA grantees regarding carry over of unobligated funds in late December.

Over the last few months of FY 2013 budget periods, the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) awarded several types of administrative supplements to health center grantees for one or more of the following activities:

- Outreach and Enrollment (O/E)
- Migrant Health
- HIV/AIDS
- Base Adjustments

Because each of these awards was funded for a performance period of 12 months or more in FY 2013, these funds are crossing over into the FY 2014 budget period. Therefore, grantees will have unobligated balances at the end of their FY 2013 budget period. HRSA has determined that its current progress reporting mechanisms (Budget Period Renewal; Quarterly Progress Reports; UDS, etc.) provide sufficient information regarding health center grantees' ongoing efforts for each of these activities. Therefore, HRSA will NOT require submission of additional Prior Approval requests to carry over unobligated funds resulting from these supplements. Rather, health centers should report their Unobligated Balance (UOB) on the Annual Federal Financial Report (FFR) and note in the Remarks and Comments section of the FFR what portion of the UOB is the result of one or more of these supplements. No additional HRSA authorization will be required in order to continue spending for these ongoing activities as proposed and previously approved by HRSA.

Please note that supplements issued as a result of the New Access Point (NAP) competitive funding opportunity do not fall within the category described above. Therefore, any requests for carry-over NAP funding MUST be submitted for HRSA approval via the Prior Approval module in EHB.

If you have questions regarding this procedure, please contact the Division of Grants Management Operations contact listed on the last page of your Notice of Award.