



CIO Cheat Sheet – HRSA Regional Telehealth Resource Center Program

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) is the federal agency charged with improving healthcare for the underserved populations, such as “geographically isolated, (or) economically or medically vulnerable.” HRSA offers more than 90 programs with directed funding to more than 3,000 grant awardees. Although HRSA doesn’t have any rulemaking authority it provides funding to the places that need it most through funding opportunity announcements (FOAs).

One grant opportunity available from HRSA, through their Office for the Advancement of Telehealth (OAT), is the Regional Telehealth Resource Center Program (RTRC). The RTRC program is focused on advancing the use of telehealth and other connected technologies within the communities the center helps serve. The telehealth centers are managed by the [National Consortium of Telehealth Resource Centers](#), federally funded through a charter from HRSA, and are charged with the goal to ‘expand the availability of healthcare to underserved populations’ via telehealth. The assistance to providers for these telehealth-centered initiatives and services is generally free of charge.

The OAT expects there to be a large amount of information sharing between all the RTRCs in order to increase total knowledge and expertise in telehealth across the entirety of the healthcare system. National Centers are intended to assist their regional counterparts in both technology and policy aspects of telehealth. For instance, if there is a change in the federal payment policy regarding telehealth, they will update the regional centers so that providers will have the necessary information.

RTRCs have a plethora of duties from information sharing and education to technical assistance. On [HRSA’s website](#), their duties include the provision of training (including travel expense) for an organization that is planning on providing telehealth services. The centers also work to distribute pertinent research results to providers in the area and conduct evaluations to determine the best utilization of telehealth as a targeted solution.

In addition to the National Telehealth Policy Resource Center and the National Telehealth Technology Assessment Resource Center there are twelve RTRCs operating across all 50 states and the District of Columbia, they are organized as follows:

- [Northwest](#) – Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming and part of Utah
- [Southwest](#) – Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado and part of Utah
- [Great Plains](#) – North and South Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin
- [Heartland](#) – Kansas, Oklahoma and Missouri
- [Texla](#) – Texas and Louisiana
- [South Central](#) – Arkansas, Mississippi and Tennessee
- [Southeast](#) – Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina and Florida
- [Mid-Atlantic](#) – Kentucky, West Virginia, Virginia, North Carolina, Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania and D.C.
- [Northeast](#) – New York, New Jersey, Vermont, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Maine
- [Upper Midwest](#) – Michigan, Illinois, Indiana and Ohio
- [California](#)
- [Pacific Basin](#) – Hawaii

Additional Resources Available from the National Consortium of Telehealth
Resource Centers (TRC)

- [Virtual Healthcare Fact Sheet](#)
- [Fact Sheet on Telehealth Reimbursement](#)
- [HIPAA and Telehealth Compliance Guide](#)
- [Guide to Federal Funding Sources for Telehealth](#)
- [Archived Webinars](#)