



NATIONAL
RURAL HEALTH
RESOURCE CENTER

Small Rural Hospital Performance Improvement (SHIP) 101 Technical Assistance Webinar

SHIP TA Team

**National Rural Health
Resource Center**

May, 2018

The Center's Purpose

The National Rural Health Resource Center (The Center) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to sustaining and improving health care in rural communities. As the nation's leading technical assistance and knowledge center in rural health, The Center focuses on five core areas:

- Transition to Value and Population Health
- Collaboration and Partnership
- Performance Improvement
- Health Information Technology
- Workforce



Agenda

- Overview of SHIP Program
- SHIP Application and Award Process
- Hospital Eligibility and Funding
- Funding Priorities
- Purchasing Menu
- Hospital Application Spreadsheet
- Grant Guidance
- Tips for Program Administration
- Technical Assistance and Resource Availability



Overview of SHIP Program

- The Small Rural Hospital Improvement Grant Program (SHIP) is administered through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration's (HRSA) Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP)
- Eligible hospitals are able to apply for funding to assist in the implementation of activities related to:
 - [Value-Based Purchasing Programs \(VBP\)](#)
 - [Accountable Care Organizations \(ACOs\)](#)
 - [Payment Bundling \(PB\)](#)



Hospital Eligibility

- Eligible hospitals
 - Located in the United States and its territories
 - 49 beds or less
 - Non-federal hospitals
 - May be for-profit, not-for-profit or tribal
 - Critical access hospitals are eligible



Hospital Eligibility and Funding Cont.

- Federal funding for SHIP is secured through the State Office of Rural Health (SORH) in each of the 46 states with eligible hospitals
- SORHs solicit applications from SHIP eligible hospitals within their state
- All states participate in SHIP except Delaware, New Jersey, Connecticut and Rhode Island

Application and Award Process

- SORH submits a grant application to FORHP on behalf of hospital applicants in their state
- SORH is the official grantee and serves as the fiscal intermediary for all participating hospitals in their state

Application and Award Process Cont.

- SORH is responsible for:
 - Verifying hospital eligibility
 - Making awards to eligible hospitals if the state is doing individual contracts
 - Receiving the federal funds
 - Ensuring appropriate use of funds through submitting the Federal Financial Report (FFR) to the HRSA Division of Grants Management Operations

Funding Priorities

- Hospitals must fully implement:
 - Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS) - HCAHPS – Must publicly report HCAHPS scores to Hospital Compare
 - ICD-10
 - If hospitals have fully implemented HCAHPS and ICD-10, they can choose other options from the SHIP Purchasing Menu

SHIP Purchasing Menu

- In 2013, FORHP instituted a SHIP Purchasing Menu
- Eligible SHIP hospitals select investments
- Investment activities are broken into three categories:
 - [Value-Based Purchasing Programs \(VBP\)](#)
 - [Accountable Care Organizations \(ACOs\)](#)
 - [Payment Bundling \(PB\)](#)



FY18 Purchasing Menu

Value-Based Purchasing (VBP) Investment Activities

Activities that support improved data collection to facilitate quality reporting and improvement.

- A. Quality reporting data collection/related training (e.g. eCQM implementation)
- B. HCAHPS data collection process/related training
- C. Efficiency or quality improvement training/project in support of VBP related initiatives
- D. Provider-Based Clinic Quality Measures Education
- E. Alternative Payment Model and Merit-Based Incentive Payment training/education

Accountable Care Organization (ACO) or Shared Savings Investment Activities

Activities that support the development or the basic tenets of ACOs or shared savings programs.

- A. Computerized provider order entry implementation and/or training
- B. Pharmacy services implementation
- C. Disease registry training and/or software/hardware
- D. Efficiency or quality improvement training/project in support of ACO or shared savings related initiatives
- E. Systems performance training
- F. Mobile health equipment installation/use
- G. Community paramedicine training and/or equipment installation/use
- H. Health Information Technology Training for Value and ACOs

Payment Bundling (PB) or Prospective Payment System (PPS) Investment Activities

Activities that improve hospital financial processes.

- A. ICD-10 software
- B. ICD-10 training
- C. Efficiency or quality improvement training/project in support of PB or PPS related initiatives
- D. S-10 Cost Reporting training/project
- E. Pricing Transparency Training



Purchasing Menu Examples (VBP)

- Value Based Purchasing Activities
 - Quality reporting data collection or related training
 - Efficiency training such as Six Sigma or Lean
 - Provider-based clinic quality improvement reporting and scores
 - Software or training to prepare staff for payment based on quality



Purchasing Menu Examples (ACO/Shared Savings)

- Accountable Care Organizations or Shared Savings Investment Activities
 - Computerized provider order entry education and implementation
 - Pharmacy services implementation such as equipment, dispensing systems and/or investments that develop remote pharmacy services
 - Disease registry training such as educational training and/or purchases for software or hardware to support development and implementation
 - Community Paramedicine training
 - Mobile health equipment installation



Purchasing Menu Examples (PB/PPS)

- Payment Bundling or Prospective Payment Systems Investment Activities
 - ICD-10 software and training
 - S-10 cost reporting training
 - Pricing transparency training



Why Form Networks for SHIP?

- Provide education and outreach
- Channel communication
- Pool resources and streamline administration
- Share best practices and benchmarking



Successful SHIP Networks

- [Georgia's SHIP Network Activities](#)
 - Rural Hospital Strategic Pricing Initiative
 - Building on HCAHPS and Preparing for ED-CAHPS
 - Provider Documentation Training and Compliance Audits
 - Using the Medicare Cost Report to Estimate Service Line Profitability
- [Texas' SHIP Network Activities](#)
 - Hand Held Ultrasound Project with 67 SHIP Hospitals Participating

Successful SHIP Networks

- [Alaska's Pooling of SHIP Funds](#)
 - Extra funding used for QIO to help with Alaska's Quality Measures to:
 - Identify required measures for reporting
 - Review definition and measurement
 - Understand clinical implications
 - Ensure no duplication of work by Hospital Association



Supplemental Ideas and Resources

- [SHIP State Grant Supplement Ideas and Resources](#)
 - Hierarchical Condition Coding Education
 - Value-Based Payment Education: Alternative Payment Models
 - Data Analytics Training
 - Lean Projects Related to SHIP Menu Categories
 - Pricing Transparency Training



Hospital Application Template

Value-Based Purchasing (VBP) Investment Activities Activities that support improved data collection to facilitate quality reporting and improvement. Refer to SHIP RESOURCES and SHIP 2018 ALLOWABLE INVESTMENTS.	Activity(ies): Hospital	Activity(ies): Network/ Consortium	Hospital to briefly describe the Activity.
A. Quality reporting data collection/related training (e.g. eCQM implementation)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
B. HCAHPS data collection process/related training	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
C. Efficiency or quality improvement training/project in support of VBP related initiatives	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
D. Provider-Based Clinic Quality Measures Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
E. Alternative Payment Model and Merit-Based Incentive Payment training/education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

FY18 State Spreadsheet

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	
1	FY18 SHIP Hospital Funding List														
2	A. General Information														
3	CMS Certification Number (CCN)	HOSPITAL NAME	ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP	COUNTY	Administrator/ CEO Name	Administrator/ CEO Email	Hospital SHIP Project Director Name	Hospital SHIP Project Director Email	CAH? (Y/N)	Bed Size: 49 Beds or Less	Cost Report Period	
4															
5															
6	123456	EXAMPLE: Charity Hospital (Delete this row before you submit the application)	200 Hospital Rd.	Tiny	LA	67981	Madison	John Doe	ceo@charity.org	Sally Smith	cto@charity.org	Y	35	July - June	
7															
8															
9															
10															
11															
12															
13															
14															
15															
16															
17															
18															
19															
20	Total Hospitals											1			
21															



Tips for Program Administration

- Application Planning
 - Perform an environmental scan between state hospital programs to find gaps that SHIP could fill
 - Encourage networks to provide services for all SHIP hospitals
 - Work with hospitals to identify appropriate benchmarks and project deliverables

Tips for Program Administration

- Tracking and Monitoring SHIP Hospital Investments
 - Host a webinar with SHIP hospitals to reinforce expectations at the start of the grant period
 - Disperse SHIP funds through annual contracts with the payment to the hospital (or network/consortia) made in two equal payments
 - Payment 1: upon contract execution
 - Payment 2: upon receipt and approval of mid-year expense and/or final activity report



Tips for Program Administration

- Tracking and Monitoring SHIP Hospital Investments, continued...
 - Choose a random selection of hospitals for site visits to review purchases, documentation and progress
 - Create a [project management database](#) or spreadsheet to [record projects](#) submitted on the hospital application form and use this information for site visits
 - Tip: If you are contracting with a health system, contact the health system auditors to ensure the grant amounts, contract numbers and projects recorded within the health system match what the hospitals are reporting back to you



Tips for Program Administration

- Network/Consortia Specific
 - Require vendor/contractor to have quarterly check-ins with the SORH. This will help to ensure progress is being made on the network project.
 - Choose a random selection of network hospitals to review service delivery and network Via phone call or onsite. This will also help to ensure progress is being made on the network project.



Tips for Program Administration

- Non-compliant hospitals/networks:
 - Do not follow SHIP investment priorities
 - Do not complete projects
 - Deviate from SORH-approved activities
 - Do not meet all program requirements, including submission of required documentation for reimbursement by SORH
- SORH response to non-compliance:
 - Only provide reimbursement for SORH-approved, completed activities
 - Do not include non-compliant hospitals in next fiscal year's SHIP funding request, based on circumstances
 - Withhold reimbursement/request refund for incomplete activities and unspent funds.

SHIP Coordinator Technical Assistance



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[Coordinator Technical Assistance \(TA\)](#)

[SHIP Hospital Resources](#)

SHIP Coordinator Technical Assistance

The National Rural Health Resource Center provides technical assistance ([TA](#)) to the 46 [State Offices of Rural Health \(SORH\)](#) that coordinate the [Small Rural Hospital Improvement Grant Program \(SHIP\)](#) through a technical assistance cooperative agreement with the Health Resources and Services Administration's Federal Office of Rural Health Policy ([FORHP](#)).

SHIP Coordinator Quick Links

- [SHIP Coordinator Resources](#)
- [State Examples](#)
- [SHIP Coordinator Webinars](#)
- [SHIP Grant Guidance Resources](#)



SHIP Coordinator Resources

[SHIP Coordinator Resources](#) (webpage)

- [Tips for SHIP Program Administration](#) (PDF - 2 pages)
- [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#) (PDF - 8 pages)
- [Performance Narrative Best Practice](#) (PDF - 10 pages)
- [SHIP Quarterly Reporting Form](#) (Word - 1 page)
- [SHIP 2018 Hospital Application Template Form](#) (Word - 4 pages)
- [FY18 State Spreadsheet of SHIP Applicants](#) (Excel - 1 page)

Let Us Be Your Resource Center

The screenshot shows the homepage of the National Rural Health Resource Center. At the top right, there is a link for "VISIT RURAL HEALTH INNOVATIONS >". Below this, the center's logo is on the left, and navigation links for "Feedback" and "Login" are on the right. A row of social media links includes "Facebook", "LinkedIn", "On Center Blog", and "Twitter". A search bar is located below these links. A dark teal navigation bar contains the menu items: "SERVICES", "PROGRAMS", "EVENTS", "RESOURCE LIBRARY", and "ABOUT". A light green notification box with a checkmark icon contains the text: "We're updating our website! You will notice enhancements to the look and feel of our site. These updates and changes will occur in stages over the next few months. (Dismiss)". The main content area features the text "Collaborating and innovating to improve the health of rural communities." on the left and a circular image of hands holding soil on the right. At the bottom left, a button reads "Learn more about The Center >".

Use [The Center](#) websites as a resource.



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Get to know us better:

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