South Carolina Rural Incentive Grant Program

About the Program
To address the maldistribution of healthcare providers in South Carolina, the Rural Incentive Grant Program provides financial incentives to qualified healthcare providers who contract to practice in rural and underserved areas for up to 4 years.

Physicians
- Practicing in counties with populations less than 50,000 = up to $25,000 per year
- Practicing in rural areas of other counties or working in federally qualified health centers in urban areas = up to $15,000 per year

Advanced Practice Providers
Nurse Practitioners, Nurse Midwives & Physician Assistants
- Practicing in counties with populations less than 50,000 = up to $12,500 per year
- Practicing in rural areas of other counties or working in federally qualified health centers in urban areas = up to $7,500 per year

Eligibility
- Primary care physicians (family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, OB/GYN) as well as general surgeons and psychiatrists
- Nurse practitioners, nurse midwives, and physician assistants
- Must practice in an outpatient setting in an underserved area*
- Must work 40 hrs/week to qualify for full-time incentives, 20 hrs/week for part-time incentives
- Must be a U.S. citizen
- Have practiced in the community for less than 5 years
- Cannot have previously received an award from the Rural Incentive Grant Program or Rural Physician Loan Repayment Program
*see map on page 2

Example Funding Scenarios
A full-time family medicine physician practicing in Kingstree could receive $25,000/year for 4 years.
A full-time family medicine physician practicing in Dillon could receive $15,000/year for 4 years.
A full-time nurse practitioner practicing in Union could receive $12,500/year for 4 years.
A full-time nurse practitioner practicing in Seneca could receive $7,500/year for 4 years.

This information is for illustrative purposes only. Funding levels are determined based on each applicant’s practice location(s).

How to Apply
Apply online at www.scahec.net/recruitment

Required Materials:
- Completed Application
- Curriculum Vitae
- Completed Practice Site Profile

Applications are due by 11:59pm on March 15. The application cycle opens in the fall of each year.

Applicant Scoring
Preference is given to applicants based on:
- Level of Community Need
- Specialty
- Retention Factors
  e.g., education and/or training in SC, rural residency, SC AHEC IPC or AHEC Scholars completer, connection to the community
- Underrepresented Minority
- Committee Recommendation

Questions? Contact:
Kristin Cochran, MHA
Recruitment & Retention Programs
cochrak@musc.edu
843-792-6977
www.scahec.net/recruitment
South Carolina Rural Incentive Grant Program | County Designations

First Priority: Geographic HPSA*
Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Chesterfield, Colleton, Fairfield, Hampton, Lee, Marlboro, Union & Williamsburg

Second Priority: Counties with population less than 50,000
Abbeville, Calhoun, Chester, Clarendon, Dillon, Edgefield, Jasper, Marion, McCormick, Newberry & Saluda

Third Priority: Counties with population more than 50,000
Must practice in a rural area or urban FQHC to qualify
Cherokee, Darlington, Georgetown, Greenwood, Kershaw, Lancaster, Laurens, Oconee & Orangeburg

Fourth Priority: Counties with population more than 100,000
Must practice in a rural area or urban FQHC to qualify
Aiken, Anderson, Beaufort, Berkeley, Charleston, Dorchester, Florence, Greenville, Horry, Lexington, Pickens, Richland, Spartanburg, Sumter & York

*Geographic Health Professions Shortage Areas (HPSA), rural and non-urbanized determinations are made based on SC DHEC’s Office of Primary Care and U.S. Census data.

Please contact Kristin Cochran at cochrak@musc.edu or 843-792-6977 to determine the eligibility of a specific site address.