

Today with MacRae
May 19, 2020

1. Submission is due on June 6 for FQHCs that received funding for testing under the CARES Act.
2. Testing funding will soon be available for FQHC-look alike, including tribal FQHCs. Applications are due on June 2.
3. There will be a technical assistance training for this application on May 21 at 12:00 EST.
4. Service Area Competition – Anyone with a FY 20-21 application with a two-three year project period gets a 12 month extension of funding.
5. Reporting deadlines are delayed and reports are budget reports are streamlined. This applies to FQHCs and look-alikes.
6. The application deadline to apply for Federal Tort Claims Act protection has been extended to July 13.
7. Quality improvement – 2020 Quality Improvement awards will be made based upon submitted data. There will be changes in 2021 as a result of COVID.
8. There will be information coming out on the status of applications for Patient Centered Medical Homes shortly. FQHCs will have the opportunity to correct any incorrect information in the digest. You will have until July 5 to correct any mistakes.
9. PCMH training will take place in a virtual platform. Stay tuned for more information in the digest.
10. HRSA will be postponing operational site visits through the end of September (an additional two months).
11. Quarterly progress reports – Starting July 1, HRSA will begin to ask for quarterly progress reports on each of the various COVID-19 funded activities. Staff and patient safety will be key under any of these funding opportunities. HRSA will also be asking about testing – what have you been undertaking with regards to testing. The third area will be what you are doing to expand capacity. The fourth area HRSA will be requesting information about is telehealth and how you have been able to use your resources to expand capacity. And finally, the ability to do minor A&R to support these activities. Progress reports are designed to demonstrate your progress on spending resources in appropriate categories and your ability to demonstrate that spending occurred appropriately.
12. Guidance will be forthcoming with regards to how to expend funds without double dipping.
13. You cannot do contract tracing with HRSA funds if you are doing it on behalf of another entity. And you can only do it on individuals who are patients of the health center. You can do it, but you need to do it with other resources. So, for example, you can do it with funds that have been appropriated for State Health Departments. So, it would have to be done as another line of business and not as a HRSA-funded activity unless you are contact tracing health center patients.
14. 130,000 patients tested each week. Number of positive tests are rising each weekly. The majority of patients are People of Color.
15. There is an upcoming webinar on telehealth from 2:00-3:30 EST.
16. Thursday, June 4 from 2-3:00 p.m. EST – Today with Macrae will be forward looking. How do we restart our clinics in a way that makes the most sense.
17. You can use testing funds to do antibody testing.