



# Rural Health Clinic Basics

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Bureau of Facility Standards



# Learning Goals

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At the conclusion of this training you will be able to:

- Discuss what a Rural Health Clinic (RHC) is.
- Discuss the RHC Federal Regulations.



# What is a Rural Health Clinic?

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- A Rural Health Clinic (RHC) is a healthcare facility located within a rural area federally
  - designated as a Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) or
  - a Medically Underserved Area (MUA) and
- Is neither a rehabilitation agency nor a facility primarily for the care and treatment of mental diseases.
- An RHC must provide primary health care, including laboratory services to its patients.



# What is a Rural Health Clinic?

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- In Idaho, RHCs are governed by federal certification regulations.
- Applicable federal certification requirements are found in the State Operations Manual (SOM), [Chapter 2](#), and § 2240, [Appendix G](#)
- Idaho has no state licensure requirements for RHCs



# RHC Federal Regulations

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- Conditions for Coverage
  - Standards
    - Elements



# RHC Conditions for Coverage

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- **Compliance with Federal, State and Local Laws**
- **Location of Clinic**
- **Physical Plant and Environment**
- **Organizational Structure**
- **Staffing and Staff Responsibilities**
- **Provision of Services**
- **Patient Health Records**
- **Program Evaluation**



# CfC for Compliance with State Licensure Law (J-0003)

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- Federal Laws and Regulations
- State and Local Laws
  - Licensure/Certification/Registration of Personnel

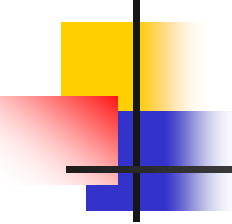


# CfC for Location of Clinic (J-0006)

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- A Rural Health Clinic (RHC) is a healthcare facility located in a rural area federally designated as a Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) or a Medically Underserved Area (MUA)





# CfC for Physical Plant and Environment (J-0019)

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- Physical Plant Safety
- Preventive Maintenance
- Non-medical Emergencies



# CfCs: Organizational Structure & Staffing (J-0029)

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- Organizational Structure: Physician Direction, Policies, Disclosure & Staffing
- Staffing: Time requirements, responsibilities, current licensure/certification

# CfC: Provisions of Services (J-0052)



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- Policy & Procedure
- RHC Services:
  - Diagnostic and Therapeutic Services
  - Lab Services
  - Emergency Services
- Services Provided by Arrangement or Agreement



# CfC: Patient Records (J-0066)

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- Policy
- Maintenance of Records
- Documentation



# CfC: Program Review (J-0076)

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- Annual Evaluation
  - Services: Utilization review
  - Clinical Records: Active and Closed
  - Policies



# Achieving and Maintaining Compliance

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- Ensure staff are familiar with Federal Regulations
- Develop systems to ensure compliance with Regulatory Requirements
- Monitor to ensure adherence to clinic practice standards



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- *Please send your comments or questions to [fsb@dhw.idaho.gov](mailto:fsb@dhw.idaho.gov)*