

# GRANT ANNOUNCEMENT

## RURAL PHYSICIAN INCENTIVE REVOLVING FUND PROGRAM

The Arkansas Department of Health, Office of Rural Health and Primary Care, announces the release of funds for the Rural Physician Incentive Revolving Fund program. This initiative was created to enhance recruitment and retention of physicians by encouraging them to locate and remain in the practice of primary care in rural Arkansas.

Applicant physicians must be engaged in a full-time (minimum of 32 hours per week) practice established after July 1999. The practice must be in primary care (family practice, general practice, pediatrics, internal medicine, or obstetrics and gynecology). Applicant physicians must serve Medicaid and Medicare patients and be licensed to practice in Arkansas. The practice must be located in a medically underserved area (as designated by the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services) with a population of 15,000 or less.

Individuals assisted by the Arkansas Rural Medical Practice Student Loan and Scholarship Program or the Medical Community Match Program are eligible for this grant.

This is a competitive grant process. Grants are awarded on the basis of available funds with priority given to those rural communities exhibiting the greatest need. Default penalties exist for physicians unable to fulfill the four-year full time primary care commitment.

Grants totaling \$ 55,000 will be awarded to physicians over a four-year period for continuous service in a qualifying full time rural practice. A grant payment of \$ 25,000 is made at the establishment of a qualifying full time practice. Subsequent payments of \$ 10,000 are made at the end of each year of practice for years two, three, and four.

**Physicians interested in receiving an application should contact:**

**By Mail:**

**Bill Stricklin**

**Arkansas Department of Health**

**Office of Rural Health and Primary Care**

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**The deadline for application submission is 1/18/2008.**