

Overview of Federal Stimulus Funds Available for HIE

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Overview

- \$2B to the Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT
 - – \$20M to NIST for R&D program
 - – \$300M for health information exchange support (grants, loans, and technical assistance)
- Funds available only after ONC submits operating plan
 - based on the Federal Health Information Technology Strategic Plan,
 - description re how funds will be allocated across HHS
- www.hhs.gov/healthit/resources/HITStrategicPlan.pdf

Section 3011 - Immediate Funding

- **“Immediate Funding to Strengthen the Health Information Technology Infrastructure”**
- To allow for and promote the electronic exchange and use of health information consistent with the goals outlined in the)ONC strategic plan
- For the acquisition of health IT that meets standards and certification criteria adopted before the date of enactment of this title
- Invest funds through the ONC, HRSA, AHRQ, CMS, CDC, and HIS, to support such initiatives as:
 - A health information technology architecture
 - Development of certified EHRs
 - Training and dissemination of information on best practices to integrate health IT
 - Tools to promote telemedicine and
 - Provide \$300 million to support regional or sub-national efforts towards HIE

Section 3012 - Health Information Technology Implementation Assistance

- Directs the Secretary, through the ONC, to establish a health IT extension program to provide health IT assistance services to be carried out through HHS
- Create a Health IT Research Center to provide technical assistance and develop or recognize best practices to support and accelerate efforts to adopt, implement, and effectively utilize health IT that allows for the electronic exchange and use of information
- Provide assistance for the creation and support of regional centers to provide technical assistance and disseminate best practices from the Center
- Each regional center shall aim to provide assistance and education to all providers in a region
- Financial support to any regional center may not exceed more than 50 percent of the capital and annual operating and maintenance funds
- Unspecified portion of \$2 billion

Section 3013 - State Grants to Promote Health Information Technology

- National Coordinator shall establish a program to facilitate and expand electronic movement and use of health information among organization according to nationally recognized standards
- Grants to States or qualified State-designated entity - \$300 million
- State must agree to match
 - FY11, not less than \$1 for each \$10 of federal funds provided under the grant;
 - FY12, not less than \$1 for each \$7 of federal funds provided under the grant, and
 - FY13 and each subsequent fiscal year, not less than \$1 for each \$3 of federal funds provided under the grant.
- For fiscal years before FY11, the Secretary may determine the extent to which there shall be required a non-federal contribution from a state receiving a grant
- Uses:
 - Enhancing broad and varied participation in HIE projects
 - Solutions to barriers to HIE
 - Assisting consumers to use HIT
 - Supporting public health agencies use of HIT

Section 3014 – Competitive Grants

- “ Competitive Grants to States and Indian Tribes for the Development of Loan Programs to Facilitate the Widespread Adoption of Certified EHR Technology”
- National Coordinator may award competitive grants to eligible entities for the establishment of programs for loans to healthcare providers
- Funding must be allocated for certified EHR technology
- An eligible entity shall establish a certified EHR technology loan fund and specify the intent to use funds
- Unspecified portion of \$2 billion
- Match \$1 for each \$5 of grant from private funds
- Requires application and strategic plan

Section 6001- Wireless and Broadband

- Nat'l Telecommunications and Information Admin (NTIA) \$4.7 billion and Rural Utilities Services (RUS) \$2.5 billion
- Deploy wireless and broadband in rural areas
- 80/20 Match
- Wireless providers; governments; anyone else
- States submit list of priorities
- Uses: loans, loan guarantees and grants

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