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NEWS BRIEF | 03.18.10

HHS contributes \$161.7 million to support health information exchange (HIE)

On March 15th, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), announced distribution of \$161.7 million to 16 states to promote state-level health information exchanges. Factoring in previous contributions of \$385 million to 40 states, all states have now received government funds for HIE implementation and adoption.

The ONC will provide guidance and support to each state through the process. As a condition of the funding, each state must establish privacy and security guidelines, state level directories and technical services that support HIE interoperability.

[View the HHS Press Release >>](#)

Office of Rural Health and Policy (ORHP) releases rural workforce development funding opportunity

ORHP recently announced a one-time funding opportunity to support the recruitment and retention of emerging health professionals. Approximately twenty grants will be awarded totaling \$4 million. The deadline to submit an application is April 20, 2010.

[Get information on eligibility or fill out an application >>](#)

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Health IT Standards Committee comments on vagueness of Interim Final Rule (IFR) on security

The Health IT Standards Committee believes the contents of the current Interim Final Rule (IFR) on security are too vague. The committee suggests that some requirements are unclear and recommends that each standard be accompanied by a detailed implementation guide outlining the minimum criteria.

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[Read the article at Government Health IT >>](#)

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