

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**Health Resources and Services Administration****Notice of Supplemental Award to the University of Southern Maine Rural Health Research Center**

AGENCY: Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Department of Health and Human Services.

ACTION: Notice of Supplemental Award.

SUMMARY: HRSA announces the award of a supplement in the amount of \$175,000 for a HRSA-funded cooperative agreement awarded to the University of Southern Maine Rural Health Research Center. The supplement will fund a comprehensive region wide assessment of health issues to improve health care in rural areas of the Northern Border Region (NBR) of the U.S.—Grant Number U1CRH03716.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information regarding this request, please contact Jennifer Burges

via email at jburges@hrsa.gov or by phone at (301) 945–3985).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Intended Recipient of Award: University of Southern Maine.

Amount of the Non-Competitive Award: \$175,000.

Period of Supplemental Funding: 9/1/2020–08/31/2021.

CFDA Number: 93.155.

Authority: Section 711(b) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 912(b)(5)), as amended.

TABLE 1—RECIPIENTS AND AWARD AMOUNT

| Grantee/organization name | Grant No. | State | FY 2020 authorized funding level | FY 2020 estimated supplemental funding |
|------------------------------------|------------|-------|----------------------------------|--|
| University of Southern Maine | U1CRH03716 | ME | \$700,000 | \$175,000 |

Justification: The Rural Health Research Center (RHRC) program's purpose is to support high-quality, impartial, policy-relevant research to assist health care providers and decision/policy-makers at the federal, state, and local levels in better understanding the health care challenges faced by rural communities to improve health care in rural areas. RHRC recipients conduct policy-oriented health services research, update trend analyses and existing research, and conduct necessary literature reviews on rural health issues and synthesize the issues into publically available policy briefs designed to improve health care in rural areas.

In fiscal year 2021 departmental appropriations report language, HRSA's Federal Office of Rural Health Policy was directed to fund programs to assist the NBR, which is comprised of the States of Vermont, Maine, New York and New Hampshire. As part of that directive, HRSA intends to work in consultation with the Northern Border Region Commission to fund one RHRC to do a comprehensive region wide assessment of health, health outcomes, health needs, and health assets for the purpose of improving health care in rural areas within the NBR. The only RHRC positioned to do this work is the University of Southern Maine. It is the only RHRC that is located within the NBR states that has the capability to research regional rural health care needs and has experience working with the required data from these states. The

proposed activities are within the scope of their current RHRC grant.

Diana Espinosa,

Acting Administrator.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**Health Resources and Services Administration****National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program; List of Petitions Received**

AGENCY: Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: HRSA is publishing this notice of petitions received under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, of the Public Health Service (PHS) Act, as amended. While the Secretary of HHS is named as the respondent in all proceedings brought by the filing of petitions for compensation under the Program, the United States Court of Federal Claims is charged by statute with responsibility for considering and acting upon the petitions.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information about requirements for filing petitions, and the Program in general, contact Lisa L. Reyes, Clerk of Court, United States Court of Federal Claims, 717 Madison Place NW, Washington, DC 20005, (202) 357–6400. For information on HRSA's role in the Program, contact the Director, National

Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 08N146B, Rockville, Maryland 20857; (301) 443–6593, or visit our website at: <http://www.hrsa.gov/vaccinecompensation/index.html>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Program provides a system of no-fault compensation for certain individuals who have been injured by specified childhood vaccines. Subtitle 2 of Title XXI of the PHS Act, 42 U.S.C. 300aa–10 *et seq.*, provides that those seeking compensation are to file a petition with the United States Court of Federal Claims and to serve a copy of the petition to the Secretary of HHS, who is named as the respondent in each proceeding. The Secretary has delegated this responsibility under the Program to HRSA. The Court is directed by statute to appoint special masters who take evidence, conduct hearings as appropriate, and make initial decisions as to eligibility for, and amount of, compensation.

A petition may be filed with respect to injuries, disabilities, illnesses, conditions, and deaths resulting from vaccines described in the Vaccine Injury Table (the Table) set forth at 42 CFR 100.3. This Table lists for each covered childhood vaccine the conditions that may lead to compensation and, for each condition, the time period for occurrence of the first symptom or manifestation of onset or of significant aggravation after vaccine administration. Compensation may also be awarded for conditions not listed in the Table and for conditions that are manifested outside the time periods specified in the Table, but only if the