

FAST FACTS: ARIZONA SMALL HOSPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Since 2002, the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) has funded the **Arizona Small Rural Hospital Improvement Program** (AzSHIP) in the Arizona Center for Rural Health (AzCRH).

AzSHIP includes 14 of Arizona's 17 federally designated Critical Access Hospitals. CAHs have <25 beds, are >35 mi from another facility, and operate a 24/7 emergency department. Funds (\$11,000 per hospital) are used for fiscal and quality improvement in three investment categories; Value-Based Purchasing (VBP), Accountable Care Organizations (ACO) or Shared Savings, and Payment Bundling or Prospective Payment Systems (PB/PPS).

In 2025, AzSHIP will focus on tracking project progress in the below categories.

In Value Based Purchasing: seven CAHs will invest in improving their Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems patient satisfaction scores and six CAHs will invest in implementing data tools and workflows to streamline the collection of core Medicare Beneficiary Quality Improvement Program measures.

In Accountable Care Organization / Shared Savings: two CAHs will invest in procuring community paramedicine hardware, one CAH in tele-pharmacy hardware, two CAHs in cybersecurity risk assessment and software.

In Payment Bundling or Prospective Payment Systems: six CAHs will invest in customized ICD-11 coding training and software.

Overall, participating Arizona CAHs plan to invest more in telehealth hardware and health information technology training, such as cybersecurity risk assessments compared to prior years.

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Arizona Hospitals Participating in SHIP

Design: Ann Barr (Updated 3/24/25)



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