

# Frequently Asked Questions
# RHTP and Florida HIE

**1. What is the Florida Health Information Exchange (Florida HIE)?**

The Florida HIE is a statewide system that enables the secure electronic exchange of clinical information among health care organizations across Florida. It supports care coordination, population health management, and improved patient outcomes.

**2. Why is Florida HIE participation important for RHTP participants?**

The Florida HIE helps organizations access timely patient information, receive care transition notifications, and support the care coordination and population health goals of the Rural Health Transformation Project (RHTP).

**3. What is the minimum Florida HIE requirement for RHTP participants?**

RHTP participants that are required to connect to the Florida HIE must, at a minimum, be able to receive data through the Florida HIE. Receiving data supports access to patient information through admission, discharge, and transfer (ADT) notifications allowing for improved care coordination.

**4. Is bidirectional exchange required?**

No. The minimum requirement is the ability to receive data. However, bidirectional exchange (sending and receiving data) is encouraged whenever feasible because it supports more comprehensive information sharing and a more complete view of patient care.

**5. My organization already participates in the Florida HIE. Do I still need to take action?**

Organizations that already participate in the Florida HIE may have already satisfied the RHTP initial connection milestone. Participants should work with their Regional Lead to determine if additional action is required.

**6. What onboarding documents are required?**

Organizations connecting to the Florida HIE to receive data must complete:



- Participation Agreement
- Substance Use Disorder Acknowledgement

Note: The Notice of Privacy Practices Form is also required for organizations that will be sending data. Additional agreements may be required if a third party or intermediary will be receiving or sending data on your behalf. All agreements must be signed as they are written.

**7. What connectivity options are available?**

The Florida HIE offers several participation options:

- Florida HIE Portal access
- Direct EHR integration
- Secure File Transfer Protocol (SFTP)

Note: Organizations should work with the Florida HIE team to select the option that best aligns with their technical capabilities and operational needs.

**8. Are there costs associated with participation?**

The Florida HIE does NOT charge a fee to contribute data to the Florida HIE and there is no Florida HIE fee for standard EHR integrations. However:

- EHR vendors or intermediaries may charge interface or implementation fees.
- Subscription fees for receiving data may apply.
- Fee waivers are available for eligible provider organizations with average monthly patient panels of 20,000 or fewer using supported connectivity options.

**9. How long does onboarding take?**

Florida HIE onboarding is processed on a first-come, first-served basis. Technical implementation typically takes 4-6 weeks after agreements are finalized.

- Legal agreements are often the longest part of the process.
- Technical onboarding begins after agreements are completed.