Rural Health Transformation Program

Updated September 25, 2025

On July 4, 2025, Congress passed the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBA) (H.R. 1), which includes Section 71401. Section 71401 provides funding for a "Rural Health Transformation Program." This section would make $10 billion, in each of fiscal years (FY) 2026 through FY 2030, for a total of $50 billion in funding, available to the 50 states. Under the program, a state would be required to submit an application to the CMS Administrator in order to receive federal funding to carry out specified activities. Please refer to the Sirona memo on the Rural Health Transformation Program for more information.

Some states are releasing requests for public input from health care providers and other stakeholders to inform the development of their respective applications for the federal Rural Health Transformation Program funding.

- **Open RFIs –** Arizona, Connecticut, Hawaii, Idaho, Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont, Washington, West Virginia, Wyoming
- **RFI Submission Ended** – Alaska, California, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Wisconsin
- **Not Published** – Alabama*, Arkansas, Colorado*, Indiana*, Iowa, Kansas*, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Nebraska, New Jersey, New Mexico*, New York
- **Other***
    - Alabama Governor Kay Ivey announced that the Governor's Office has sought and received feedback from providers, stakeholders, and interest groups on the RHTP and has developed a state team to assist with the development and application for the grant. The advisory group includes state representatives, health systems, and state agencies.
    - Colorado published a RHTP Fact Sheet that details the state's engagement with internal and external partners, research into existing programs and priorities, and development of impact analyses. The document does not mention an RFI.
    - Indiana has convened the Indiana Rural Health Transformation Program Grant Application Working Group. The group is a collaborative effort between the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration and the Indiana Department of Health to engage agency, legislative, and rural health stakeholders to identify the best use of funds. The group will meet five times between August 27 and November 13. The meetings will be livestreamed.
    - New Mexico posted an RFP for a rural health transformation program application consultant support service, setting up for an RFI launch.
    - Kansas published a press release announcing a webinar on September 29, 2025 that will outline the state's application process and stakeholder engagement plan.

Below is a tracker of states that have published RFIs.

State	Lead Department	RFI Open Date	RFI Due Date	Additional Information
Washington	Health Care Authority	August 8	September 26	HCA does not include state/department-specific priorities. HCA is looking for projects that are ready to be launched in the near-term and can be sustained after funding ends
Minnesota	Department of Health	September 9	September 26	MN solicits input on four activity areas, as opposed to CMS' 10: • Evidence-based interventions to address disease prevention, chronic disease management, behavioral health, and maternal care • Innovative health care delivery and payment models to improve health outcomes, promote community-based models or regional collaboration among providers, and/or incentivize providers to improve quality and reduce costs • Strategies to recruit and retain health care providers in rural areas • Use of technology solutions to promote efficient care delivery, improve data security, and/or maintain and increase access to care for rural residents The survey asks respondents for a high-level summary of rural health care needs. It also asks respondents to share ideas including stakeholders, implementation timeline, and intended outcomes/success metrics.
Pennsylvania	Department of Human Services	August 15	September 29	Pennsylvania emphasized a focus on maternal health, mental and behavioral health, aging and access, transportation and EMS, and the rural healthcare workforce. As of September 2, 2025 respondents cannot access the survey without a valid PA login.
Rhode Island	Department of Health	September 11	September 29	The survey solicits strategies to strengthen access, quality, workforce, partnerships, and technology through either structured project

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				proposals or general feedback. RIDOH's Strategic Framework serves as a guide for the RHTP, emphasizing: • Addressing socioeconomic and environmental determinants of health • Eliminating health disparities and promoting health equity • Ensuring access to quality health services for all Rhode Islanders, including vulnerable populations
West Virginia	Governor's Office	September 18	September 29	The RFI asks specific questions about the rationale for the need for rural health transformation, examples of successful programs in the state, vision and effective use of rural health transformation funding, and funding and operational issues.
Missouri	Department of Social Services	August 26	September 30	The survey was sent out via email from MODSS. The survey states that because the funds are not permanent, the MO design will focus explicitly on rural provider readiness to participate in value-based models to ensure a sustainable impact. The survey also lists priorities including capacity building for providers, strategic partnerships, and community-level performance and hubs.
Arizona	Office of the Governor	September 5	September 30	The survey asks respondents to detail how they would like to see the State prioritize the use of RHTP funds with an emphasis on improving the provision of rural health care and mitigating the impacts of H.R. 1. The survey asks which federally-outlined RHTP requirements/activities the idea supports. Responses on the Google form must be under 300 words, but respondents can submit supplemental documents to mkramer@az.gov. The survey asks how the idea(s) submitted will mitigate the impacts of H.R. 1, including but not limited to the growth in uncompensated care.
Idaho	Department of Health and Wellness	September 5	September 30	The survey asks respondents to include plans for sustaining funds after the five year period. It emphasizes that priority will be given to concepts that are estimated to use a limited amount of funding for administrative

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				costs. The state asks respondents to rank the activities under RHTP from most to least important. The state says that "OBBBA funded initiatives should be focused on Idahoans who are lawfully present and are part of one of the following populations: (1) women who are pregnant or recently gave birth; (2) children and persons under the age of 20; (3) older adults residing in a rural county; (4) disabled and/or medically complex youth and adults residing in a rural county."
Maryland	Department of Health	September 9	September 30	The survey asks respondents to outline their approach to improving rural health including information on sustainability, readiness to implement, ability to scale, and evaluation.
Maine	Department of Health and Human Services	September 16	October 1	The survey asks respondents to identify rural health challenges most important for Maine to address within the five-year timeframe. It also asks respondents about existing initiatives that could be built off of within the federal areas prioritized.
New Hampshire	Department of Health and Human Services	September 22	October 2	New Hampshire hosted a summit with rural health care stakeholders on September 4, 2025 to seek input for the states Rural Health Transformation Program application. New Hampshire highlighted priorities about which the state has already heard including: workforce, AI analytics and scribes, RPM and AI analytics, home care, medical transportation, knowledge hubs, telehealth, and more. The survey can be used to submit one initiative per submission. It asks respondents to outline expected milestones, success metrics, and budget.
Ohio	Department of Health	September 16	October 3	Ohio has outlined five strategic goals: • Make Rural America Healthy Again • Sustainable Access in Rural Communities • Rural Health Workforce Development

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				• Innovative Care for Rural Residents • Tech Innovation to Improve Service Delivery to Rural Communities The survey askes respondents to describe long-term strategies to address the topic challenges, key performance indicators, and Ohio-based stakeholders with whom they have discussed ideas.
Connecticut	Department	September 17	October 3	The survey asks open-ended questions about barriers, opportunities, data and evidence, and other comments related to the funding opportunity.
Hawaii	Office of the Governor, Department of Health, Department of Human Services	September 19	October 20	The state published a survey to collect information on community health needs, ideas for potential projects, and comments. The survey does not ask any specific questions, offering a submission portal for a description of an idea, project, or community need.
North Carolina	Department of Health and Human Services	August 14	None	The survey asks for input on priorities and solicits questions or concerns regarding RHTP and NCDHHS' application. There is no close date for this survey.
Vermont	Agency of Human Services	September 15	None	The state published a Rural Health Transformation Fund webpage that includes an "H.R. 1 Contact Form." It offers respondents the opportunity to provide freeform questions/comments.
South Carolina	Department of Health and Human Services	September 23	None	South Carolina held a stakeholder webinar on September 22 to launch the stakeholder input form. The survey solicits initiative ideas and asks questions specific to the NOFO's information request, including partner entities, outcomes, sustainability, and funding.
Wyoming	Department of Health	September 23	None	Wyoming published a form for individuals or organizations to provide general comments or suggestions regarding the Rural Health Transformation Program.
Tennessee	Department of Health	September 25	None	Tennessee published a Rural Health Access for Tennessee's Future website that lists information about the RHTP application and priorities.

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				It provides an email address for stakeholder comments, feedback, ideas, proposals, or suggestions.

RFI Submission Period Ended:

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Mississippi	Division of Medicaid and Mississippi State Department of Health	July 29	August 14	The survey asks about five components: • Improving access to healthcare for rural Mississippians • Improving healthcare outcomes for rural residents • Prioritizing new technology emphasizing preventing and chronic disease management • Building strategic, regional partnerships among providers in rural communities • Enhancing recruitment and training of healthcare practitioners for rural MS For each component, the survey asks about current challenges, short and long-term solutions, and measures of success.
Alaska	Department of Health	July 21	August 22	The Department's priorities include: • Ensuring a foundation of access to primary care and chronic condition management services in Alaskan communities. • Strengthening delivery systems for behavioral health, complex care, and long-term services and supports. • Elevating solutions that focus on prevention in hub communities and rural areas. • Supporting regional coordination and community-based partnerships. • Investing in sustainability beyond the lifetime of RHTP funding.

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Montana	Department of Public Health and Human Services	August 11	August 22	The state emphasizes that this is one-time funding, so proposals that require ongoing funding without a robust sustainability plan will not be prioritized for review.
Utah	Department of Health and Human Services	August 13	August 22	Utah will launch workgroups of stakeholders to share input, develop priorities, and shape state investments. The survey asks respondents to identify priorities from the federal guidelines but there is also a section for additional comments, suggestions, or specific project ideas that should be considered in the state's Rural Health Transformation Plan.
Georgia	Department of Community Health	August 11	August 29	Priority will be given to suggestions that meet the following criteria: ▪ Support for rural providers with "rural" being defined as a population of 50,000 or less ▪ Short term projects (able to be accomplished within 24 months, or projects that include discrete components that can be implemented in 24-month increments) ▪ Not anticipated to create ongoing obligations from the state beyond the end of the defined allocation ▪ Suggestion meets at least one of the statutorily-required activities
Wisconsin	Department of Health Services	August 11	September 3	The survey asks for responses to identify priorities and detail a proposed use of funds, including a sustainability strategy.
Oklahoma	Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH), Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA), Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse	August 28	September 5	The survey asks respondents to identify priorities based on federal guidance. It also asks for a detailed proposal including success metrics, budget, additional staff required, and a sustainability plan.

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	Services (ODMHSAS), and Oklahoma Department of Human Services (OKDHS)			
Texas	Health and Human Services Commission	August 4	September 9	Texas' guidelines state that comments must: • Focus on projects or initiatives that are one-time costs or projects that can be sustained without additional state or federal funding. • Focus on rural Texans who are lawfully present and (1) women who are pregnant or recently gave birth; (2) persons under the age of 20; (3) older adults residing in a rural county; or (4) persons who are uninsured. • Promote innovation • Be federally and state compliant • Align with all Texas statutes and riders • Promote efficiency Funding will be allocated to providers that are in counties with a population of 68,750 or fewer or who meet the Texas Medicaid definition of rural hospital or rural health clinic.
Oregon	Oregon Health Authority	August 20	September 12	The survey focuses more on short-term ready-to-launch projects. Does not discuss sustainability in depth. The survey seeks to identify unmet needs specifically, but it also asks about eligible initiatives in depth.
North Dakota	Health and Human Services	August 13	September 12	The survey asks respondents to prioritize CMS-designated activities and provide ideas for how the funds could best support the respondent's rural community.

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				North Dakota is expecting to receive approximately $100 million per year, totaling $500 million over five years.
California	Department of Health Care Access and Information	September 5	September 16	The survey asks respondents to rank the activities allowed under RHTP based on their importance to strengthening rural health care, select the leading factors of rural hospital closures and provider service reductions. It asks respondents to identify critical lines of services, viable strategies to preserve the RHTP activities, and impactful long-term funding strategies. It then asks about specific activity proposals and resources. California hosted a Rural Health Transformation Program Kickoff Webinar on September 4, 2025.
Florida	Agency for Health Care Administration		September 16	The Agency is requesting ideas in the following three areas of focus: • Development of new health care delivery strategies, including alternative payment models that enhance access to care and address gaps (e.g., mobile health care delivery, value-based payment strategies, etc.); • Adoption of technology solutions that promote and advance the delivery of care in rural areas, including solutions that prevent and or manage chronic diseases (e.g., remote patient monitoring, telehealth, hospital at home, etc.); • Strategies for recruiting and retaining a clinical workforce to serve in a rural community for at least five years.
Delaware	Governor's Office	August 26	September 19	The Delaware Governor's Office is administering the RFI. All content and questions are in line with federal guidance and the state does not include its own priorities.
Virginia	Office of the Governor and Secretary of Health and Human Resources; Virginia	August 27	September 22	Governor Glenn Youngkin signed Executive Directive Twelve, directing the Department of Health and Human Resources to develop a Rural Health Transformation Plan using a needs assessment, national best practices, investment strategies, listening sessions, and engagement with external partners regarding work requirements.

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	Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS); Virginia Department of Health			Written RFI proposals should include a measure of success and sustainability plans and should be submitted via email to ruraltransformation@governor.virginia.gov.
Michigan	Department of Health and Human Services	September 2	September 22	The survey asks respondents to rank federal activities by priority. The survey includes pathways for Medicaid beneficiaries to provide information about current and anticipated access to care and rural providers to provide information about the impact of H.R. 1 funding cuts on care delivery. Michigan DHHS includes sustainability, workforce, and access (especially for Medicaid and rural patients) as guiding principles.
Nevada	Nevada Health Authority	August 20	September 22	The state is looking for concepts that will avoid fiscal cliffs at the end of 5-year grant. NHA has a specific focus on workforce in the survey. The survey section on sustainability of funds specifically mentions rural workforce and there is a dedicated survey question about it. The survey asks how the state should define rural if left undefined by the federal government and how the state should consider projects from urban entities investing in rural communities.
South Dakota	Department of Social Services	August 25	September 22	Respondents must fill out the survey and send it to DSS.Medicaid@state.sd.us. The survey requests feedback on federal priorities and solicits ideas for opportunities, asking specifically about sustainability and cost.
Illinois	Department of Healthcare and Family Services	August 27	September 24	DHFS is administering the RFI. All content and questions are in line with federal guidance and the state does not include its own priorities.

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Louisiana	Department of Health	September 3	September 24	The state published its survey asking about ideas within the five strategic focus areas, in line with the CMS NOFO. The focus areas are: • Make Rural America Healthy Again • Sustainable Access • Workforce Development • Innovative Care Tech Innovation