

USDA Rural Development Health Care Grant Funding

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First things first

- Know your WHY!
- Are you a non-profit?
- If not, do you have a non-profit or non-profit partner that could apply?
- Was I planning for a construction project or an expansion project?
- Do not just see money and try to go after it!
- Grants only make sense when they supplement or align with your strategic plan!



How to Begin

- Did I grow and expand through a physical structure to meet COVID-10 needs?
- Was I planning to do a new construction/build?
- Do I need a mobile unit or vehicle?
- What are the needs of my community and how am I going to meet them?
- What are the needs of my community as a result of the pandemic and do I want to grow and expand to meet those needs?



USDA Rural Development

- Think through your match
 - Your other grants and relief funds can count!
- Lots of rules but people who care
- Reach out to your local or state office and make friends with them
- Use their resources but keep in mind there are a lot of rules to follow
 - Example – Davis Bacon requirements
 - Example – Environmental Reviews



Funding Opportunities

- This program provides up to \$500 million in grant funding to help broaden access to COVID-19 testing and vaccines, rural health care services, and food assistance through food banks and food distribution facilities.
- Funding is available to eligible applicants through two tracks:
- **Track One: Recovery Grants** provide immediate relief to address economic conditions arising from the COVID-19 emergency. Grants range from \$25,000 - \$1 million.
- **Track Two: Impact Grants** advance ideas and solutions to solve regional health care problems to support the long-term sustainability of rural health. Grants range from \$5 million - \$10 million.



Track One Grants – Most Popular

- Up to \$1,000,000
- There will be additional opportunities to apply over the next few months!
- First deadline October 12, 2021 to USDA Office
 - NOT grants.gov



What should I do?

- a) Increase capacity for vaccine distribution (cold storage, vehicle, transportation, and other equipment expenses)
- b) Provide medical supplies and equipment to increase surge capacity (PPE and lab equipment)
- c) Reimburse for lost health care-related revenue (*more on next slide*)
- d) Increase telehealth capabilities
- e) Construct or renovate temporary or permanent structures to provide health care services
- f) Support staffing needs for vaccine administration and/or testing
- g) Support facility, equipment, and increased operating expenses associated with food banks and food distribution facilities
- h) To pay professional service fees and charges, only when necessary and only when secondary part of the grant
- i) To pay for pre-award costs incurred between March 13, 2020 and the proposed start date



Track Two – Grants for a Consortium

- **Impact** applicants also must establish a network or consortium of health care provider organizations, economic development entities, federally-recognized tribes or institutions of higher learning. The network or consortium must:
 - Be comprised of at least three or more entities
 - Be comprised of rural or urban nonprofit entities, as long as at least 66 percent (two-thirds) of the network members are located in a rural area, and primarily serve a rural area
 - Identify one lead entity to serve as the primary applicant and recipient of grant funds.



Track Two – Impact Grants

- **12 Nationally will be funded!**
- **Impact** funds must be used to advance ideas and solutions to solve regional rural health care problems and to support the long-term sustainability of rural health care. Funds may be used to:
 - a) To establish or scale a consortium of community entities and health care partners to plan, implement, and evaluate a model(s) to support solving regional health care problems and long-term sustainability
 - b) To establish or scale an evidence-based model and disseminate lessons learned
 - c) To identify a health-related problem, develop and implement a method and solution, and conduct an evaluation
 - d) To establish a methodology to calculate summary impact measures or estimated return on investment



How does USDA define rural?

- To be eligible for grant funds under this program, a facility or project must be **located** in a city or town of 20,000 or fewer people, or in an unincorporated area.
- The facility or project must also primarily **serve** rural residents in cities or towns with populations of 20,000 or fewer, or in an unincorporated area.
- An applicant's total service area population may exceed 20,000, but a majority of the population must live in rural areas.



The program requires facilities be located in communities with a population of 20,000 or less. What is the data source for this population data?

- For population data, use the 2010 Decennial Census. As of the date the NOFA published, the 2020 localized decennial census data was not yet available. Population data may be found at Total Population (Table P1) from 2010 Decennial Census. Please choose “Geos” then “Place” and search for your community after choosing your state.
- <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=p1&tid=DECENIALSF12010.P1&hidePreview=true>



The program requires applicants to determine the median household income (MHI) of a facility's service area to determine the maximum applicable grant percentage that can be provided? What is the data source for median household income (MHI) data?

- Rural Development relies on the 2006-2010 American Community Survey dataset for median household income (MHI) data. Access the link below for the Median Household Income in the past 12 months (in 2010 inflation-adjusted dollars) (Table B19013). Please choose "Geos" then "Place" and search for your communities after choosing your state. (If your community does not show up, try "Geos" then "County Subdivision" then your state and then your county, and search for your community.)
- <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=b19013&tid=ACSDT5Y2010.B19013&hidePreview=true>



Things to Consider

- Am I willing to follow all of USDA rules?
- How can this project relate to COVID (in some way)?
- What non-profit entity can I partner with?
- How will this help my community?
- How can I spend the big money in the best way to help during these unprecedented times?
- TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS EXCITING PROGRAM!



Feel free to reach out!

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