

South Carolina's Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP): Grant Applications

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Meeting Recording

Today's stakeholder meeting on the RHTP is being recorded and will be posted on the agency's website at www.scdhhs.gov/rhttp.

Please use the Q&A function to submit any questions you may have.

About the Cooperative Agreement

Established under Section 71401 of Public Law 119-21 under the Working Families Tax Cuts Act, also known as the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, on July 4, 2025

Funding spans a five-year period

Federal Fiscal Years (FFYs) 2026-2030

"Supporting rural communities to improve healthcare access, quality and outcomes through system transformation"

www.cms.gov/rhtprogram

South Carolina's Notice of Award

Award Details

- Award Amount: \$200,030,252.32
- Funding Mechanism: Cooperative Agreement
- Budget Period 1: Dec. 29, 2025 – Oct. 30, 2026

Key Conditions

- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS) approval required before drawdown
- Five budget periods; continued funding based on performance and compliance
- Reporting requirements: Quarterly and annual progress reports and financial reports

The Rural Health Transformation Program is supported by CMS of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling \$200,030,252.32 with 100 percent funded by CMS/HHS. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by CMS/HHS, or the U.S. Government.

South Carolina RHTP Vision & Goals



Vision

To transform rural healthcare in South Carolina so all communities may thrive



Goal

To increase healthcare access and quality for improved chronic disease management and health outcomes for rural communities in South Carolina



Objectives

- Improve chronic disease management and health outcomes
- Enhance provider capacity to deliver high-quality care
- Elevate provider and patient experience
- Increase innovation, digital literacy, and adoption of best practices in rural health

Building on Success in South Carolina



South Carolina intends to utilize the RHTP to scale established and successful models

The state is prioritizing chronic care, maximizing utilization of technology and building durable infrastructure that fits population needs for long-term community health.

Grant Opportunities

- SCDHHS will release four grant opportunities associated with each initiative in our application
 - *The Tech Catalyst Fund will have a separate but consistent funding methodology administered by a third-party*
- These are competitive, merit-based grant awards
- **All awards from SCDHHS to subrecipients must be approved by CMS prior to release**

FFY26 Priority Projects

Connections to Care	Leveling Up	Wellness Within Reach	Shoring Up to Sustainability
Expanding access via telehealth, digital tools, and IT upgrades	Enhancing chronic care and statewide partnerships	Delivering care to rural areas by removing access barriers	Advancing workforce training and modernizing infrastructure
<i>FFY26: \$75 million</i>	<i>FFY26: \$27 million</i>	<i>FFY26: \$27.7 million</i>	<i>FFY26: \$40 million</i>
<p>Modernize Health IT Infrastructure</p> <p>Expand Remote Patient Monitoring (RPM) & Assistive Technology</p>	Chronic Disease Program Expansion	<p>Mobile Crisis Response</p> <p>Expand Community Care Sites</p>	<p>Facility Enhancements</p> <p>Masterclass Training Series</p> <p>Healthcare Workforce</p>

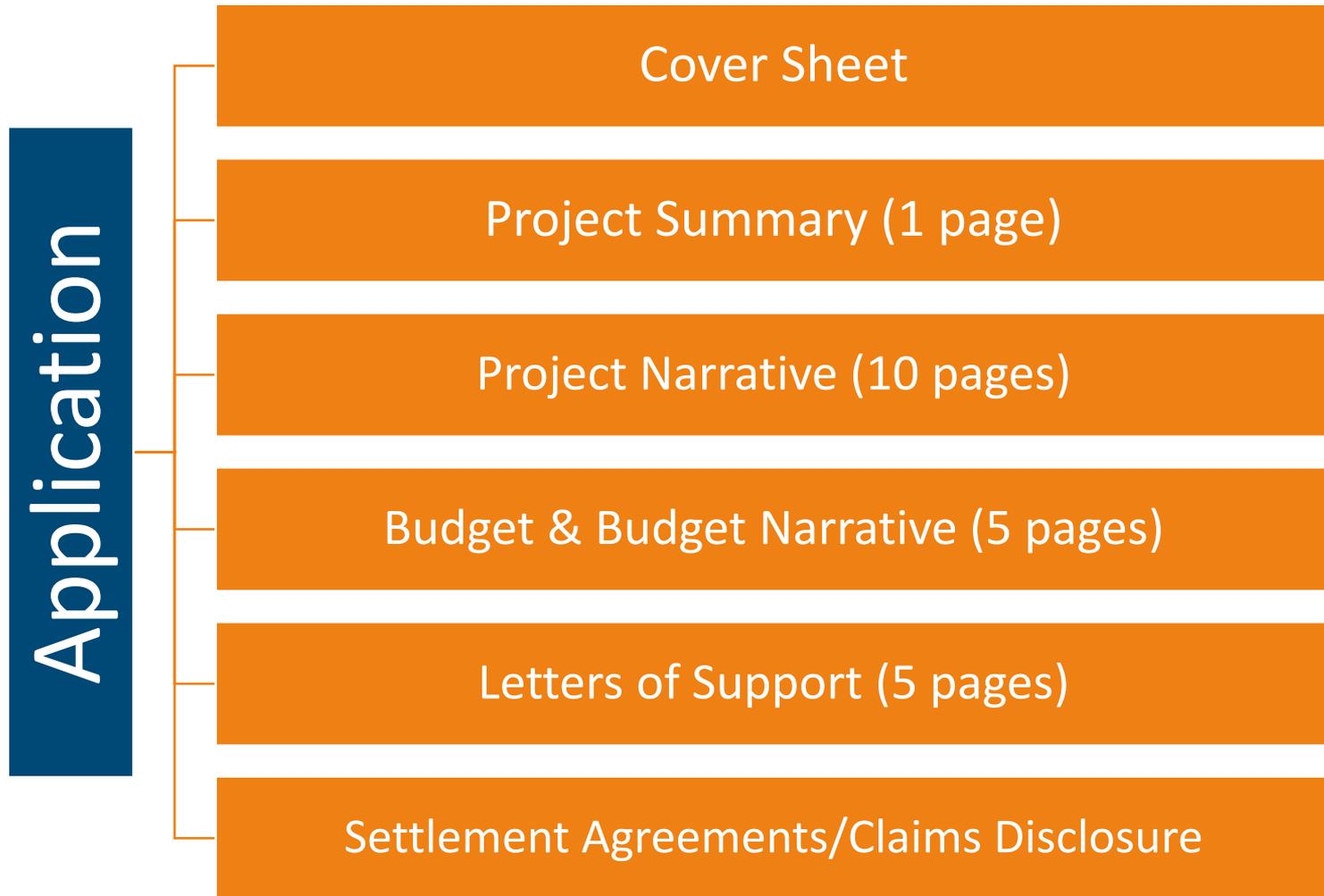
Key Dates

Activity	Date
Anticipated Posting	4/2/2026
Questions Due	4/16/2026
Application Due	6/1/2026
Award Notification	7/31/2026
Spend Deadline	9/30/2027

Eligible Applicants

- Each initiative has its own eligibility criteria that an applicant must meet.
- Multiple applications allowed
- No cost-sharing requirement

Application Components



Application Components: Cover Sheet

Complete and sign the cover sheet, which is page 2 of the grant opportunity

THIS REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS (RFA) advertises the Agency’s need for the services described herein and solicits applications offering to provide those services pursuant to the specifications, terms and conditions specified herein. Successful applicants will be required to enter into a subaward agreement with the Agency to provide such services.

THE UNDERSIGNED HEREBY SUBMITS the following application and certifies that (1) he or she has the authority to apply for this grant on behalf of the organization; and (2) all information provided is true and accurate to the best of Authorized Representative’s knowledge.

TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT:

Authorized Representative	Organization
Title of Authorized Representative	Street Address
Signature of Authorized Representative	
	Date

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Grant Coordinator Name	E-mail
Title	Phone Number

This RFA is for the **Connections to Care Initiative**, which includes two priority projects. Each applicant must indicate one project for which their organization is requesting funding. Applications are limited to **one project per submission**; if more than one project is selected, the application may not be considered.

Please check which project this application is for.

- Modernize Health IT
- Expand Remote Patient Monitoring (RPM) & Assistive Technology

Application Components: Project Summary

Limit to one page.

Write a one-page summary of your proposed project including its purpose and outcomes. Do not include any proprietary or confidential information. SCDHHS may use this document for information sharing and public information requests if necessary. Include:

- The name of your organization
- The names of any anticipated sub-subrecipients or sub-sub-awardee organizations, if applicable
- Project selected
- Project goals
- Total budget amount
- A description of how you will use funds

Application Components: Project Narrative

Limit to 10 pages.

The project narrative is the most important part of the application. It should clearly justify the need for the project, with data; outline the scope of work with a timeline; and describe monitoring and sustainability plans. Keep the narrative clear and focused on what you will do and why it will make a difference for rural South Carolina as it relates to the chosen initiative.

Application Components: Project Narrative *(cont.)*

- Organizational background
 - Overview
 - Service area
 - Capacity
- Assessment of need
 - Problem
 - Supporting data
- Monitoring and evaluation plan
 - Outcomes
 - Organizational impact
 - Evaluation plan
- Scope of work and timeline
 - Project
 - Project description
 - Alignment with South Carolina's RHTP
 - Timeline
 - Partners
- Sustainability plan
 - Sustainability
 - Lasting impact

Application Components: Budget

Applicants must provide a detailed budget using the Budget Worksheet (Attachment I) that specifies the total amount of funding requested.

The budget must not exceed the maximums for the chosen project

Please note that the requested amount is not guaranteed to be awarded. SCDHHS may adjust funding based on need and other relevant factors, which could include awarding partial funding. If an application is only partially funded, the subrecipient will be required to identify and demonstrate other funding sources to ensure the proposed strategy can be fully implemented as outlined in the application.

Attachment I: Budget Worksheet

Category	Amount Requested
Personnel	\$
Fringe Benefits	\$
Travel	\$
Equipment	\$
Supplies	\$
Contractual	\$
Construction	\$
Organizational Contribution	(\$)
Other (specify in narrative)	\$
Total	

Applicant Funding Limits

	Minimum Award Amount	Maximum Award Amount
Connections to Care		
Modernize Health IT Infrastructure		
- System Modification/Upgrades	\$100,000	\$2,000,000
- New/Replacement System	\$5,000,000	\$10,000,000
Expand Remote Patient Monitoring (RPM) & Assistive Technology	\$250,000	\$5,000,000
Leveling Up		
Chronic Disease Program Expansion	\$100,000	\$5,000,000
Wellness Within Reach		
Mobile Crisis Response	\$50,000	\$500,000
Expand Community Care Sites	\$100,000	\$2,000,000
Shoring Up to Sustainability		
Facility Enhancements	\$100,000	\$3,000,000
Masterclass Training Series	\$500,000	\$2,500,000
Healthcare Workforce		
- Physicians	\$75,000/physician	\$275,000/physician
- APRNs and PA	\$37,500/APRN or PA	\$62,500/APRN or PA

Application Components: Budget Narrative

Limit to five pages.

For each budget line item, describe the use of funds, how the cost was calculated, and how costs link to the activities and the goals of the proposal. Provide information for SCDHHS to determine costs are reasonable and permissible.

Budget narrative samples are available on [CMS'](#)
[website.](#)

Application Components: Settlement Agreements/claims

If the applicant currently has, or in the last five years has had, any settlement agreements and/or claims against them with any SCDHHS Medicaid member, county, or state agency in excess of \$10,000, the applicant must disclose such information as part of their application.

Application Components: Letters of Support

Limit to five pages.

Provide a letter of support from the chief executive officer and/or an internal board of directors/advisory entity, as well as a professional/community partner.

Evaluation and Scoring: Merit Review

Component	Points Available
Cover sheet	This section will not be evaluated. Application will not pass initial review if not submitted.
Project summary	This section will not be evaluated. Application will not pass initial review if not submitted.
Project narrative	This section will be evaluated on a 100-point scale.
<i>Organizational background</i>	0-20 points
<i>Proposed need</i>	0-20 points
<i>Scope of work and timeline</i>	0-20 points
<i>Monitoring and evaluation plan</i>	0-20 points
<i>Sustainability plan</i>	0-20 points
Budget	This section will be evaluated on a 25-point scale.
Budget narrative	This section will be evaluated on a 75-point scale.
Settlement agreements/claims	This section will be evaluated on a 25-point scale.
Letters of support	This section will not be evaluated. Application will not pass initial review if not submitted.

Evaluation and Scoring: Additional Considerations

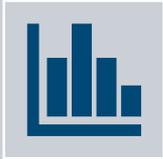
In addition to the application scoring, SCDHHS and the Governor will consider organizational capacity and alignment with statewide geographic priorities to avoid duplication and ensure efficacy and efficiency of funds.

The state intends to utilize the RHTP to scale established and successful models.

SCDHHS may:

- Fund application's specific activities or projects within an application, in whole or in part.
- Fund an application at a lower total amount than requested.
- Choose to fund no applications under this RFA.

Post-Award Reporting Requirements



Quarterly progress and financial reports



Cooperation with independent evaluation firm

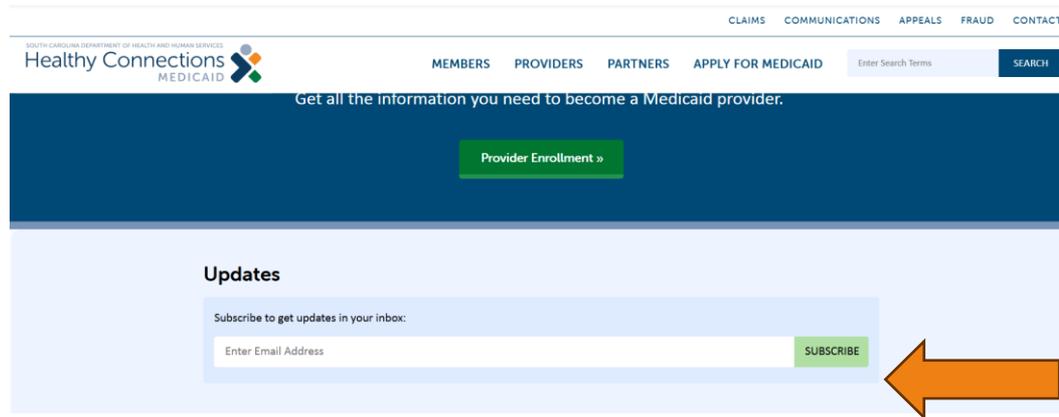


Compliance with CMS reporting standards.



How to Apply?

- Sign up on our website for SCDHHS bulletins
 - Visit www.scdhhs.gov and scroll down



- The Grant Opportunity will be posted on **April 2, 2026** at www.scdhhs.gov/rhttp
- The deadline to submit is no later than **June 1, 2026**. Submit your application by email to grants@scdhhs.gov

Reference Numbers for Each Opportunity

Grant Opportunity	Reference Number
Connections to Care	SCDHHS – 26 – 001
Leveling Up	SCDHHS – 26 – 002
Wellness Within Reach	SCDHHS – 26 – 003
Shoring Up to Sustainability	SCDHHS – 26 – 004

Questions or Comments

Email: grants@scdhhs.gov



Website: www.scdhhs.gov/rhttp

