

Welcome!

The meeting will begin shortly...

South Carolina's Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP) Application

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Nov. 18, 2025

About the Cooperative Agreement

Established by the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, also known as the Working Families Tax Cuts Act, on July 4, 2025

Funding spans a five-year period
Federal Fiscal Years 2026-2030

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

www.cms.gov/rhtprogram



Cooperative Agreement

A cooperative agreement is a formal partnership with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

CMS maintains substantial involvement throughout the project.

Every major decision, activity, and modification requires CMS approval.

States cannot proceed with implementation steps without explicit CMS authorization.

The agreement ensures alignment with federal requirements, quality standards, and funding rules.

Application contents are subject to change based upon CMS feedback and approval.

South Carolina RHT Vision & Goals



Vision

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



Goal

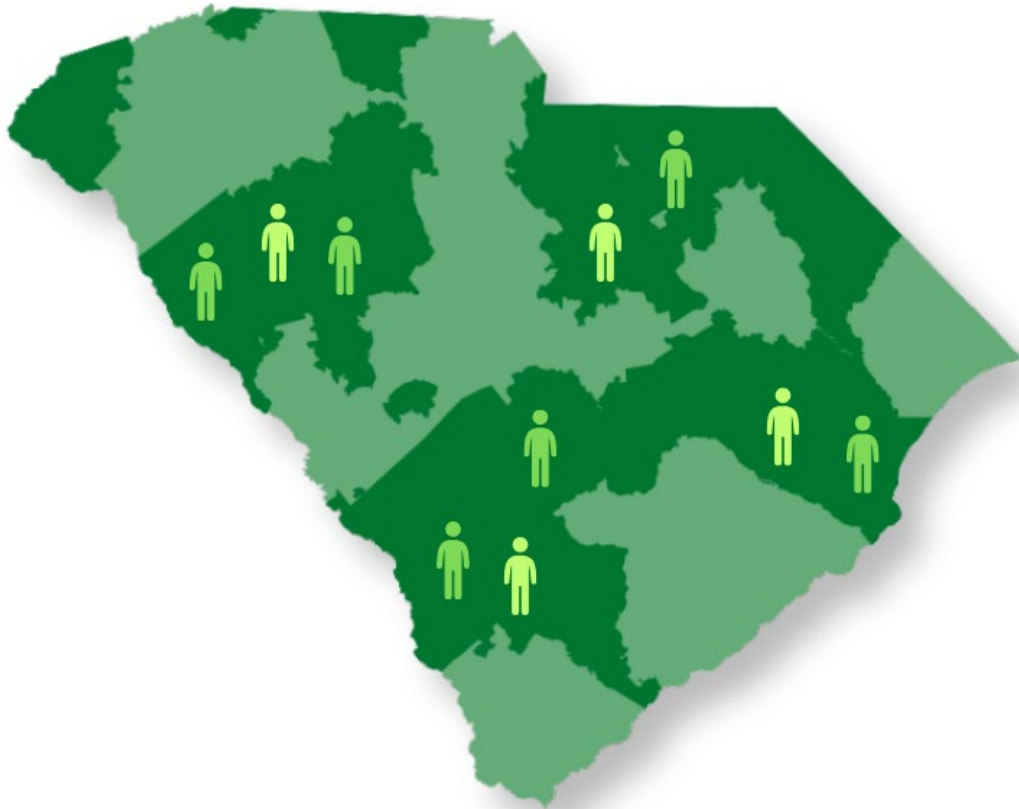
To increase healthcare access and quality for improved chronic disease management and health outcomes for rural communities in South Carolina



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

South Carolina Rural Health Landscape



High rates of chronic disease and maternal mortality

Limited access to care and provider shortages

Aging infrastructure and hospital closures

Economic and geographic barriers



CMS Strategic Goals



Make Rural America Healthy Again



prevention, chronic disease, behavioral health, prenatal care

Sustainable Access



ensure rural providers remain long-term access points

Workforce Development



attract, retain, and expand provider capacity

Innovative Care



value-based arrangements, flexible care delivery

Tech Innovation



telehealth, data systems, cybersecurity, emerging tech



South Carolina Highlighted Use of Funds Categories



Uses outlined in the Working Families Tax Cuts Act and the RHTP Notice of Funding Opportunity



Stakeholder Input

SCDHHS received more than 350 proposals from hospitals, community providers, provider associations and other stakeholders.

Proposal Themes

- Workforce recruitment and retention
- Infrastructure and equipment
- Telehealth
- Workforce training
- Mobile units, home visiting, pop-up clinics
- Remote patient monitoring
- Electronic health record (EHR) systems
- Behavioral health
- Partnerships/collaborations
- Statewide technology platforms
- Artificial intelligence
- Scope of practice
- RHT program management

Initiatives

Connections to Care

Expanding access via telehealth, digital tools, and IT upgrades



Wellness Within Reach

Delivering care to rural areas by removing access barriers



Tech Catalyst Fund

Backing rural health innovation and community solutions



Leveling Up

Enhancing chronic care and statewide partnerships



Shoring Up to Sustainability

Advancing workforce training and modernizing infrastructure

Initiative: Connections to Care

Requested amount: \$300 million

Connections to Care

*Expanding access via
telehealth, digital tools,
and IT upgrades*



Activities:

- Provider technology systems
- Remote patient monitoring and assistive technology
- Telehealth expansion in rural hospitals and schools
- Statewide resource database
- Digital literacy

Example: Assisting healthcare entities in transitions from a paper-based system to a fully electronic health record system with integrated modules, to improve interoperability, reduce duplication, and support value-based care, as well as, to improve care coordination and streamline admissions

Initiative: Leveling Up

Requested amount: \$175 million



Leveling Up

*Enhancing chronic care
and statewide
partnerships*

Activities:

- Enhance graduate medical education programs
- Scale proven pilots
- Needs assessment
- Chronic disease program expansion

Example: Incorporating a rural education component into existing programs through partnerships with rural hospitals, including nutrition education due to the prevalence of diet-related diseases in rural areas

Initiative: Wellness Within Reach

Requested amount: \$250 million

Wellness Within Reach

Delivering care to rural areas by removing access barriers



Activities:

- Mobile crisis response
- Expand community care sites
- Emergency medical services
- Community-based health kiosks

Example: Purchasing additional mobile health units that provide specialized care, such as mobile computed tomography (CT) units, to rural areas

Initiative: Shoring Up to Sustainability

Requested amount: \$150 million



Shoring Up to Sustainability

Advancing workforce training and modernizing infrastructure

Activities:

- Healthcare workforce
- Facility enhancements
- Masterclass training series
- Upskilling workforce
- Building tomorrow's workforce

Example: Fund rural health care organizations to provide one-time signing bonuses to recruit quality providers with a five-year commitment

Initiative: Tech Catalyst Fund

Requested amount: \$25 million

Tech Catalyst Fund

*Backing rural health
innovation and
community solutions*



Goals:

- Fuel health tech startups
- Strengthen community solutions
- Catalyze rural economic development

Example: Funding for consumer-facing, technology-driven solutions, for which traditional government funding sources and private commercial incentives have proven inadequate or insufficient to drive development and innovation

Grant Opportunities

- SCDHHS will release grant opportunities associated with each initiative
 - Tech Catalyst Fund will have a separate but consistent funding methodology
- Annual funding opportunities based upon funding award from CMS
- Competitive, merit-based grant awards
- Awards from SCDHHS to subrecipients must be approved by CMS

Preparing for Grant Cycle 1

- **Sign up for SCDHHS bulletins!**
- Become familiar with CMS guidance: Notice of Funding Opportunity, FAQs and unallowable uses of funds
- Become familiar with SCDHHS guidance: South Carolina RHTP application and webinars
- Understand the specific needs of rural communities in South Carolina
- Conceptualize a plan that will bring sustainable access to rural South Carolina

Register for SCDHHS Bulletins

www.scdhhs.gov

Scroll down

The screenshot shows the SCDHHS website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for CLAIMS, COMMUNICATIONS, APPEALS, FRAUD, and CONTACT. Below this is the Healthy Connections MEDICAID logo and a search bar. The main content area features a dark blue banner with the text "Get all the information you need to become a Medicaid provider." and a green button labeled "Provider Enrollment »". Below the banner is a light blue section titled "Updates". Inside this section, there is a text input field labeled "Enter Email Address" and a green button labeled "SUBSCRIBE". A large orange arrow points to the "SUBSCRIBE" button.

CLAIMS COMMUNICATIONS APPEALS FRAUD CONTACT

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Healthy Connections
MEDICAID

MEMBERS PROVIDERS PARTNERS APPLY FOR MEDICAID

Enter Search Terms SEARCH

Get all the information you need to become a Medicaid provider.

Provider Enrollment »

Updates

Subscribe to get updates in your inbox:

Enter Email Address SUBSCRIBE

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SCDHHS Website: RHTP

www.scdhhs.gov/rhtp

HOME / RESOURCES / GRANTS

Grants

Grant Opportunities

Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP)

+

Rural & Medically Underserved Area Grant

+

Behavioral Health Crisis Stabilization Services Grant

+

RESOURCES

Contract Library

Notification Forms

Programs and Initiatives

BabyNet (IDEA Part C)

+

+



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Questions or Comments

Email: grants@scdhhs.gov



Website: www.scdhhs.gov/rhttp

