

How to Position Your Organization to Receive RHTP Funding

As you likely know, the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA) set aside \$50 billion to support rural health care through the [Rural Health Transformation Program \(RHTP\)](#). Rural health providers cannot directly apply for a share of this funding from the RHTP, but they can position themselves to benefit from the program. The funding will be distributed through states, which must submit detailed transformation plans to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services by November 5. This does not mean your organization needs to apply to your state for funding by this date, but there are several things you can do now to position your organization to receive funding.

First, it's important to understand what RHTP funds can be used for:

- Electronic health records (EHRs): Implement or upgrade EHR systems
- Digital patient portals and "digital front doors"
- Strengthen cybersecurity defenses
- Broadband and digital literacy
- AI-assisted diagnostics and decision support:
- Predictive analytics for population health
- Administrative and workflow automation
- Robotics and logistics innovations
- Telehealth and remote patient monitoring

Next, there are several steps you can take to position your organization:

Confirm your state's participation: Contact your state health department, rural health association, or Medicaid agency to see if your state is applying for the RHTP.

Familiarize yourself with your state's plan requirements: Review the elements required for your state's plan.

Proactively engage with your state agencies: Contact your state's health department and Office of Rural Health to provide input on the state's transformation plan and to let them know you plan to request funds.

Highlight specific needs and proposed solutions: Clearly articulate your organization's challenges, how potential funding can help, and the expected impact on healthcare access or outcomes in your community. Use data and stories to show the need and positive aspects of your community.

Develop detailed project proposals: Have project ideas ready, complete with organizational information, needs statements, project descriptions, budgets, work plans, and evaluation plans.

Prioritize key areas: Focus on initiatives that align with the RHTP's goals, such as workforce development, technology adoption (including telehealth and cybersecurity), innovative care models, and addressing social determinants of health.

Reach out to MEDITECH: Contact us if you have questions or need assistance. Regardless of whether your proposal for funding involves our technology, we're here to help.