

# 2026 RHTP Funding Opportunities

## Helping Your Organization Secure Funding & Improve Rural Health

States have received Year 1 funding of \$10 billion from the \$50 billion allocated over five years by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) under the [Rural Health Transformation Program](#) (RHTP). Healthcare organizations in each state have the opportunity to apply for part of the state-level funding.

RHTP funding is available over the next five years to improve rural health across the U.S., and just as each state has unique initiatives to support CMS goals, healthcare organizations' strategies to improve rural health will strengthen access to care, improve health outcomes, modernize healthcare delivery, and support long-term sustainability. States are choosing different methods of awarding the funding, with some selecting a few entities for further distribution and others awarding grants directly to numerous healthcare and community-based organizations.

### Why This Matters

Year 1 funds must be obligated by October 2026, so some funding opportunities for healthcare organizations are being released with 30-day response windows. Organizations will benefit not only from evaluating opportunities as requests for applications (RFAs) are released but also from preparing strategically aligned applications, developing relevant partnerships, and being ready to manage funded strategies.

### Applying for RHTP Funding

Organizations should check official state sources to identify specific funding opportunities. Each successful applicant must demonstrate expansion of services to meet community need, sustainable programs with measurable outcomes, operational and technological readiness, and alignment with federal and state rural health priorities.

### What Successful Applications Will Require

- Defined community need and target population
- Clear goals, implementation strategies, and workplans
- Measurable outcomes and evaluation metrics
- Community and stakeholder engagement
- Sustainability planning
- Budget narrative and operational readiness

### PYA can help you identify and evaluate rural initiatives that support RHTP goals in these common areas of focus:

- Prevention and chronic disease management
- Behavioral and mental health services
- Expansion of care availability
- Support for workforce development
- Addressing of gaps in provider payments
- New care delivery models
- Technology solutions and improvements

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## How PYA Can Help

With deep experience in launching rural initiatives and a keen understanding of the financial, logistical, regulatory, and political challenges facing rural healthcare, PYA works with rural providers on initiatives that improve access, strengthen operations, support financial sustainability, and connect communities to the broader continuum of care.

PYA is already assisting healthcare organizations in preparing for RHTP funding opportunities, and for decades, we've helped rural providers implement initiatives to improve health in their communities.

To assist with RHTP funding applications, our team can help evaluate alignment with upcoming initiatives, identify operational considerations, support planning efforts before application deadlines arrive, and fully develop comprehensive applications with a broad range of support:

- RFA planning and application development assistance
- Workplan and implementation planning
- Evaluation metrics and outcome planning
- Sustainability planning
- Technology and telehealth strategy
- Service line planning and expansion strategies
- Population health and transformation assessments
- Physical space conversions with PYA's affiliate, Realty Trust Group

After applications are submitted and funding is awarded, our experienced Advisory Services team can support the implementation of funded initiatives with these and other services:

- Strategic and operational planning
- Regulatory compliance
- Data sourcing and analysis
- Ongoing community needs assessments
- Technology and cybersecurity support
- Forensic accounting and advisory
- Audit and assurance
- Outcomes assessment and reporting

Founded in 1983, PYA is dedicated to our rural health mission to help rural providers pursue data-driven and locally informed transformation to preserve access to high-quality essential services and to connect the community to the broader care continuum. We understand rural is not “small urban”; rural providers face unique challenges demanding customized solutions.

**Contact the PYA Rural Health Transformation Team at [pyapc.com/rural](https://pyapc.com/rural).**

