

## Program Fact Sheet

March 2026

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### OVERVIEW

Established under H.R. 1 (2025), the Rural Health Transformation (RHT) Program will provide states with \$50 billion in new federal grants over the next five years to transform rural health care systems nationwide. The Nevada Health Authority (NVHA) has been designated as the state lead agency for the RHT Program. The State submitted a successful grant application to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), resulting in an award of **\$179.9 million** in the first year (i.e., Budget Period (BP)1: 12/29/25 – 10/30/26).

As outlined in the state's application (available online [here](#)), Nevada has prioritized 90 percent of these funds across four new initiatives aimed to improve rural health outcomes and access to care. The remaining funds will be used to support state administrative expenses and special health-related programs for rural veterans, corrections partners and Nevada Tribes.

### RURAL HEALTH OUTCOMES ACCELERATOR PROGRAM (RHOAP)

**\$26.9 million**, or 15 percent of RHT funds awarded annually, will be leveraged to promote evidence-based and outcome-driven initiatives tied to value-based and innovative care models for improving rural health in the key areas of chronic disease, primary care, behavioral health, oral health, and maternal and infant health. Eligible initiatives may include new online collaborative care strategies, remote or hybrid approaches to care, online patient health management tools, & virtual provider mentorship programs.



**Distribution of Funds:** A competitive procurement process will be conducted by the Nevada Health Authority through the Nevada State Purchasing Division, resulting in several contract awards. The NVHA estimates a release date for the Request for Proposals (RFP) in May of 2026 with anticipated contract awards issued in September of 2026. Vendors responding under this proposal must be registered vendors with the State of Nevada. NVHA encourages interested entities to begin the registration process now at [NV Vendor services](#). Future RFPs will be revised annually to reflect best practices and will be issued upon CMS' continued approval of Nevada's RHT Funds. Funds awarded under these contracts in BP1 must be obligated by October 30, 2026, and liquidated (i.e., fully spent) by September 30, 2027.

### NEVADA RURAL HEALTH SYSTEM FLEX FUND (Flex Fund)

**\$35.9 million**, or 20 percent of RHT funds awarded annually, will be used to fund resources and equipment that will enhance and modernize local rural health care infrastructures. Eligible resources include, but are not limited to, updated technology, equipment, supplies, vehicles, lab devices, mobile units, emergency services, etc. Rural health providers are encouraged to leverage their collective buying power by setting up regional purchasing strategies and sharing agreements to support cost containment.



**Distribution of Funds:** These funds will be available on an ongoing basis as funding is available for each grant year. NVHA is finalizing an application process for eligible health care providers and entities to access these funds through a Request for Application (RFA). The first RFA is slated for release in late March of 2026, resulting in several subgrant awards. Subawards will be issued continuously throughout the open application period as

applications are received; however, all funding decisions related to the Flex Fund RFA will be finalized on or before September 15, 2026. Recipients will have until October 30, 2027, to fully spend all funds awarded in BP1.

## WORKFORCE RECRUITMENT & RURAL ACCESS PROGRAM (WRRAP)

**\$71.9 million**, or 40 percent of RHT funds awarded annually, will be used to address historic gaps in Nevada’s health care workforce for rural communities. Multiple strategies and entities will be eligible for funding that seek to address immediate and/or long-term challenges with developing and sustaining a reliable and adequate health care workforce in rural Nevada.



**Distribution of Funds:** WRRAP will include three separate funding opportunities. WRRAP projects will be supported through the request for proposal (RFP) and request for application (RFA) processes as outlined below. Subrecipients and contract vendors must be registered vendors with the State of Nevada. NVHA encourages interested entities to begin the registration process now at [NV Vendor services](#). Future RFPs and RFAs will be revised annually to reflect best practices and will be issued upon CMS’ continued approval of Nevada’s RHT Funds. Funds awarded under these subawards or contracts in BP1 must be obligated by October 30, 2026, and liquidated (i.e., fully spent) by September 30, 2027.

There are three funding announcements/opportunities embedded within the WRRAP:

1. **Rural Workforce Programs - \$25,190,425**
  - Process: Request for Proposal (RFP)
  - Funding Opportunity Release: May of 2026
  - Administered by: NVHA and Nevada State Purchasing Division
2. **Rural workforce - Provider Recruitment and Retention - \$32,387,689**
  - Process: Request for application (RFA)
  - Funding Opportunity Release: April 2026
  - Administered by: NVHA
3. **Rural Workforce - Provider Training and Apprenticeships - \$14,394,529**
  - Process: Request for application (RFA)
  - Funding Opportunity Release: April 2026
  - Administered by: NVHA

## RURAL HEALTH INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY

**\$26.9 million** , or 15 percent of RHT funds awarded annually, is earmarked for innovative technologies and modernization of health data and records systems with a focus on alignment with the CMS Digital Health Ecosystem and addressing cybersecurity needs for rural health systems. These funds can also be leveraged to bolster local rural Telehealth infrastructures in support of improved health outcomes. Funds awarded under this initiative may be used to finance technologies that will increase access for rural Nevadans to patient-centered care and support interoperable health data sharing systems.



**Distribution of Funds:** These new grant dollars will be available through a competitive RFP procurement process in collaboration with NVHA and Nevada State Purchasing, resulting in multiple contract awards. The Nevada Health Authority estimates that it will release the procurement announcement (RFP) in May of 2026, with contract awards issued in September of 2026. Vendors responding under this proposal must be registered vendors with

the State of Nevada. NVHA encourages interested entities to begin the registration process now at [NV Vendor services](#). Future RFPs will be revised annually to reflect best practices and will be issued upon CMS' continued approval of Nevada's RHT Funds. Funds awarded under these contracts in BP1 must be obligated by October 30, 2026, and liquidated (i.e., fully spent) by September 30, 2027.

## MARCH 2026

NVHA onboarded two contract vendors to support the development of RFPs and RFAs for the RHT Program in this first year, and is in the process of recruiting and hiring RHT staff to support and manage the project. NVHA's RHT staff team have hosted several public workshops to inform various stakeholders about this critical program, and maintain bi-weekly meetings with the State's CMS Project Officer to ensure ongoing clear communication, monitor progress, and confirm continued funding and programmatic compliance.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Email the team: [RHTP@nvha.nv.gov](mailto:RHTP@nvha.nv.gov)

Check out the [Nevada RHT website](#) for current information, including upcoming RHT meetings/webinars.

Check out [RHTP Initiatives](#) page for more information on all RHT initiatives and programs.

Sign up for the [NVHA ListServ](#) for important announcements related to the RHT program in Nevada.