2025-2026 Rural Population Health Incubator Program
FAQ

General

Q: How many grants are available?
A: There are a total of 10 grants
- Four grants are set aside for Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs), CAH-owned clinics or organizations partnering with a CAH or CAH-owned clinic (a letter of support must be supplied if in partnership with a CAH)
- The rest of the grants are open to rural clinics, public health departments, EMS and other community-based organizations.
- There is a possibility of providing more grants through our partnership with the Roundhouse Foundation, which will be decided during the application review period.

Q: Can applicant organizations charge their normal indirect rate?
A: Yes, Incubator funds can be used for indirect costs, but they must be limited to 15% of the total budget or less.

Application
Q: There's space to upload one supporting document on the online submission form. What if I have more than one letter of support?
A: You can combine the PDFs into one document and upload that one document.

Q: Can organizations apply for multiple projects?
A: Yes, you can submit multiple grant applications for different projects.

Eligibility

Q: Who is eligible to apply for the Incubator?
A: Rural hospitals, clinics, public health departments and community-based organizations are eligible to apply for the Incubator. Urban-based entities are eligible if the program exclusively serves a rural area <u>and</u> have an established partnership with a rural organization. Partnerships must be demonstrated through a letter of support, which can be uploaded as supplemental material on the application. Rural is defined by the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy. Find out if your area is rural by using the [Am I Rural? Tool](#).

Q: Are private rural clinics eligible?
A: Yes, private rural clinics are eligible.

Q: Can an urban organization apply for the Incubator if they are serving a rural area?
A: Yes, an urban organization can apply if they have a partnership with and experience in working with a rural hospital, clinic, public health, EMS or community-based organization.

<u>This partnership must be demonstrated by uploading a letter of support</u> in the supplemental documents section of the application.

<div align="center"><u>Budget</u></div>

Q: Can salaries be supported through the Incubator?
A: Yes, salaries can be supported if the program aligns with the Incubator program goals. ORH encourages you to limit salaries attributed to the grant to 20% so more funds are spent on direct program costs. However, if you propose using grant funds to exclusively support salaries, please include a strong sustainability plan for the position to continue after the grant period.

* Please note that salaries for direct patient care cannot be supported by Incubator funds.

Q: What costs are ineligible to be covered by the Incubator funds?
A: Applications that propose using funds solely for medical devices for direct patient care will not be approved. However, purchasing supplies that support the program are allowable. Grant funds cannot be spent on food or drink. Fund cannot support salaries for direct patient care.

For example:
- <u>Allowable</u>: A hospital who requests grant funds to support their programming for older adults and would like to use Incubator funding to purchase gym equipment that is needed for their weekly mobility classes.
- <u>Unallowable</u>: A clinic applies for funding to buy 100 blood pressure cuffs.

<div align="center"><u>Grant Period</u></div>

Q: Where will the grantee cohort meetings be held?
A: These meetings will be held virtually.

Q: How long is the grant period?
A: The grant period runs from June 15, 2025 to June 14, 2026

<div align="center"><u>Reporting</u></div>

Q: What are the reporting requirements?
A: Grantees are required to submit a midpoint report in December, as well as a final report in June. Templates will be provided. These reports are not meant to be overly burdensome but to provide a succinct overview of the project's progress, successes and challenges, overall impact, and grant expenses.