GRANTS OFFICE
empowering communities



Rural Health Transformation Program, Explained

Funding for 2026 and Beyond

Today's Presenters



Chris LaPage

Grants Office
Chief Services Officer



Amber Walker

Grants Office
Grants Development Associate

TODAY'S AGENDA

01 | RHT Program Details

02 | Distribution of Funds

03 | What's Next?

04 | Grants Office Communities & Direct Services

05 | Q&A



RHT Program Details

Rural Health Transformation Program



Description

This Center for Medicaid and Medicare program was designed to help rural communities transform health care delivery, improve access to healthcare providers, and improve health outcomes in rural communities.

Funding Amount

$10 billion anticipated annually for FY26-30 (total of $50 billion)

Deadline

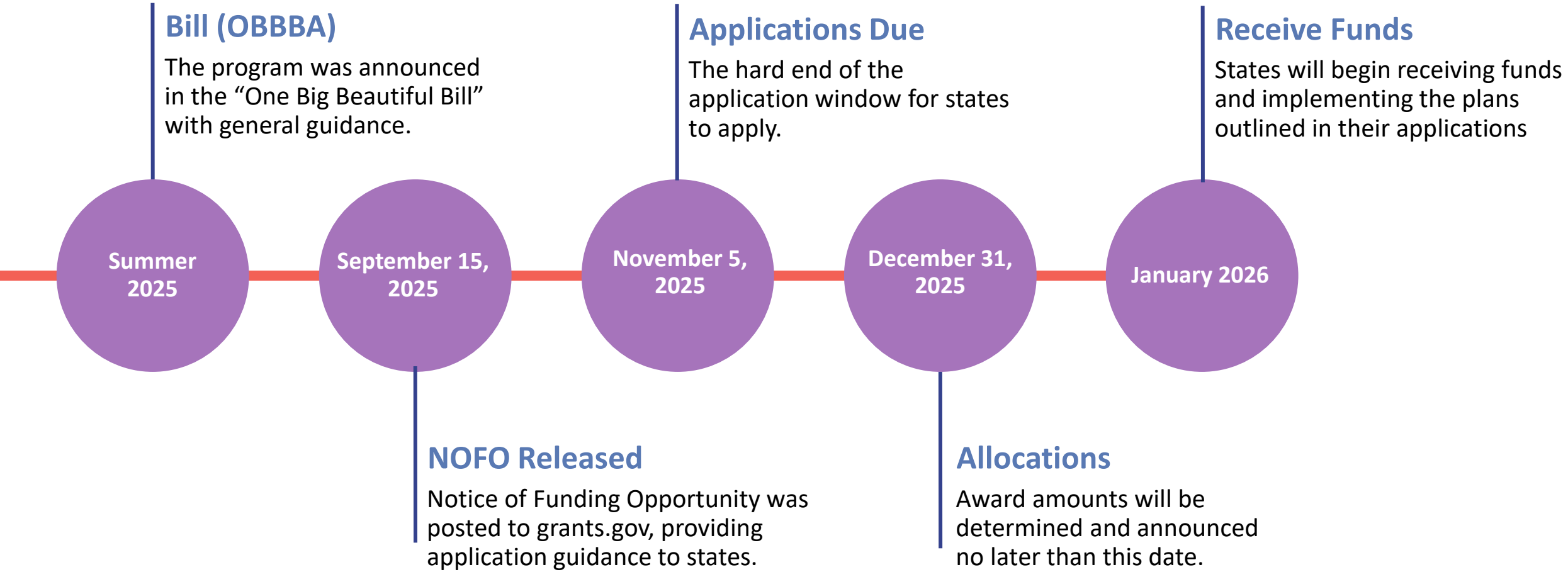
November 5, 2025

Eligibility Notes

All 50 state governments are eligible to apply.

District of Columbia, U.S. Territories, and local rural providers and healthcare facilities are not eligible to apply to this funding opportunity.

Rural Health Transformation Program Timeline



Application Window

September 15 – November 5th

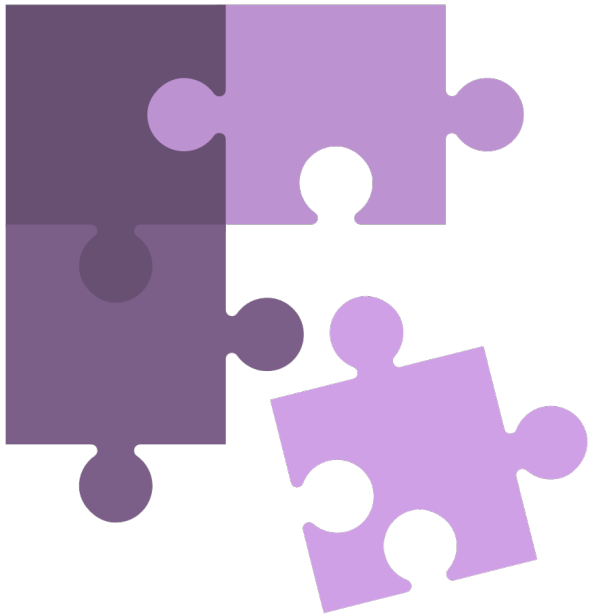
States Are:



- Collecting information from stakeholders
- Holding informational webinars and keeping stakeholders informed
- Assigning lead agencies and developing their application and state plan for funds

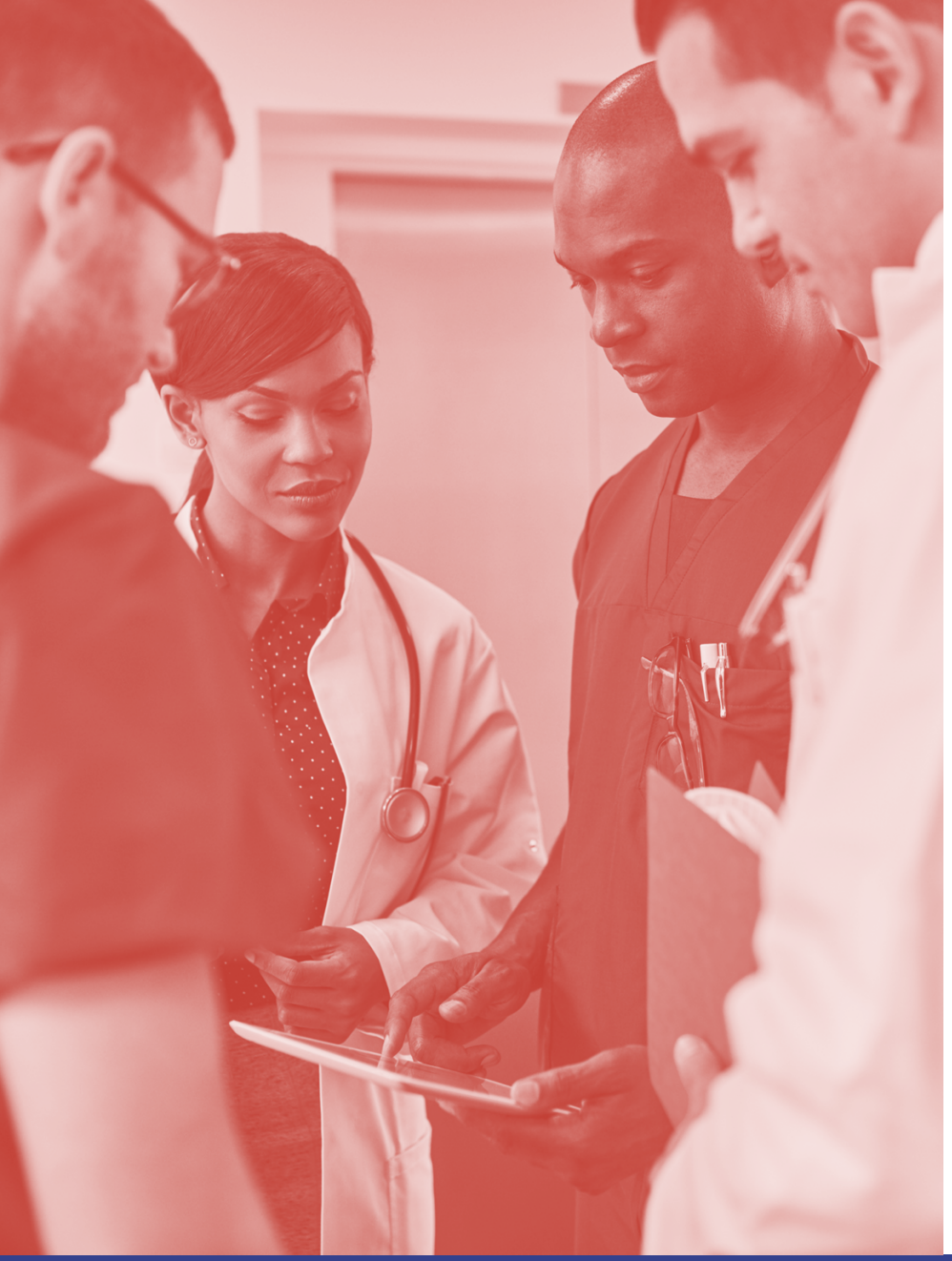
Five Strategic Goals of RHTP

1. Make Rural America Healthy Again
2. Sustainable Access
3. Workforce Development
4. Innovative Care
5. Tech Innovation



State plans must address at least 3:

- Prevention & Chronic Disease
- Provider Payments (cannot exceed 15%)
- Consumer Tech Solutions
- Training & Technical Assistance
- Workforce
- IT Advances
- Appropriate Care Availability “Right Size” systems
- Behavioral Health (Opioid Use Disorder/ Treatment)
- Innovative Care
- Capital Expenditures & Infrastructure (limitations apply)
- Fostering Collaboration



Funding Restrictions Continued

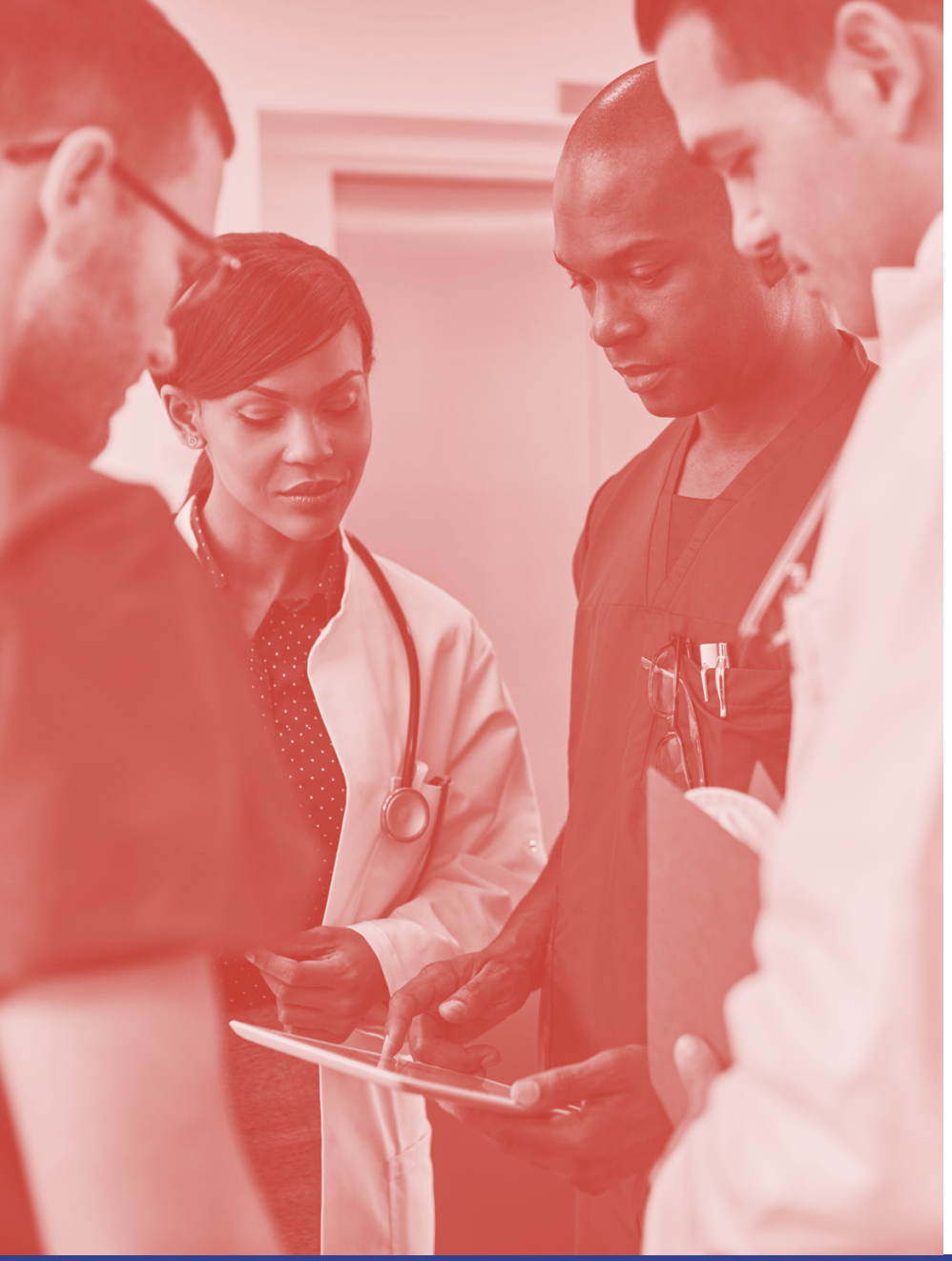
01 No New Construction

02 Cannot replace payment for clinical services

03 No more than 5% to EMR replacement

04 Cannot back-fill programs

05 No more than 10% for Administrative



Funding Restrictions Continued

06 Clinician salaries or wages

07 Limit on salary rate ($225,750)

08 “Start Up” initiatives – Limit lesser of 10% or $20M

09 Expenditures attributable to intergovernmental transfer

10 Standard limits

Distribution of Funds

$10 Billion Annually (2026-2030)

Baseline Funding: $25 Billion

CMS will distribute **$25 billion equally among all approved States,** up to a maximum of 50 approved States. ($5 billion annually / $100,000,000 per state if all 50 are approved)

&

Workload Funding: $25 Billion

CMS will distribute the other **$25 billion based on the content and quality of state applications and rural factors**. ($5 billion annually)

Workload Funding Factors



Rural Data

Rural facility and population score will only be calculated once, in calendar year Q4 2025.

Initiative-Based

CMS will recalculate the initiative-based score each budget period.

State policy actions

CMS will recalculate the initiative-based score each budget period. Some policy components will not count towards the overall score until the budget period beginning in October 2026

What’s Next?

Each State is Unique

- Priorities
- Award Amounts
- Transparency
- Distribution Plans

January 2026 & Beyond



Subawards Competitive

States may choose to open grant competitions for providers and rural entities.



Subawards Noncompetitive

Awarded to a subrecipient based on the criteria set by the prime recipient (State Government)



Spending Funds

States must spend awarded funds by the end of the subsequent fiscal year.

What you can do now



Identify what agency in your state is leading the RHTP efforts (Most typically, Departments of Health)

Review webinars and available information / Participate in any calls for public comment.

Stay engaged! Sign up for listservs, set Google alerts for your state, and reach out to program managers!

Join Communities, your new *grant search* and *collaboration* platform…

SCAN HERE

GRANTS OFFICE
COMMUNITIES

Key benefits of Grants Office Communities

Find and share funding opportunities.

Manage proposals with confidence.

Collaborate with team members.

Access support from the experts.



Get the Details on the RHT Program in Grants Office Communities

Basic Information

Grant Name
Rural Health Transformation (RHT) Program

URL
https://www.cms.gov/priorities/rural-health-transformation-rht-program/rural-health-transformation-rht-program

Authority
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)

IT Classification
B - Readily funds technology as part of an award

Funder Type
Federal Government

Funding Mechanism
Grant

Program Details

Program Summary

The RHT Program will provide funding to support States in enhancing existing activities and implementing activities articulated in the authorizing statute. Through a cooperative agreement award, funding under the RHT Program will be granted directly to States with approved applications, based on a single application opportunity, for investments that will transform the way care is delivered in rural communities. This funding will drive the following strategic goals, which are aligned with approved use of funds:

- Make rural America healthy again - Support rural health innovations and new access points to promote preventative health and address root causes of diseases. Projects will use evidence-based, outcomes-driven interventions to improve disease prevention, chronic disease management, behavioral health, and prenatal care.
- Sustainable access - Help rural providers become long-term access points for care by improving efficiency and sustainability. With RHT Program support, rural facilities work together—or with high-quality regional systems—to share or coordinate operations, technology, primary and specialty care, and emergency services.
- Workforce development - Attract and retain a high-skilled health care workforce by strengthening recruitment and retention of healthcare providers in rural communities. Help rural providers practice at the top of their license and develop a broader set of providers to serve a rural community's needs, such as community health workers, pharmacists, and individuals trained to help patients navigate the healthcare system.
- Innovative care - Spark the growth of innovative care models to improve health outcomes, coordinate care, and promote flexible care

Grant URLs (3)

Grant URL Name	URL	URL Type
Rural Health Tran...	https://www.cms.g...	FAQs
Rural Health Tran...	https://www.cms.g...	Program Page
Rural Health Tran...	https://grants.gov/...	Forecast Page

View All

Key Grant Dates (1)

Deadline Date	Deadline Type
11/5/2025	Application Deadline

View All

Track the Program & Find Other Grants to Support Rural Health

Rural Health tran

PROJECT CATEGORIES

ELIGIBILITIES

STATES

FUNDER TYPES

CLASSIFICATIONS

† This deadline is anticipated and has not yet been officially announced.

Rural Health Transformation (RHT) Program
Deadline: Varies by state
Authority: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)
Eligibility: State/Regional Government
Add to Project

Rural Healthcare Provider Transition Project
Deadline: April 2029†
Authority: Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)
Eligibility: Healthcare, Non-profit Organizations, Tribal Government, Other/For-profit
Add to Project

Rural Health Network Development (RHND) Grant Program
Deadline: November 2025†
Authority: Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)
Eligibility: Healthcare, Non-profit Organizations, Tribal Government, Other/For-profit
Add to Project

Grants for Transportation of Veterans in Highly Rural Areas
Deadline: August 2026†
Authority: U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs (VA)
Eligibility: State/Regional Government
Add to Project

Rural Health Network Development Program (NYS)
Deadline: December 2025†
Authority: New York Department of Health
Eligibility: Healthcare, Non-profit Organizations
Add to Project

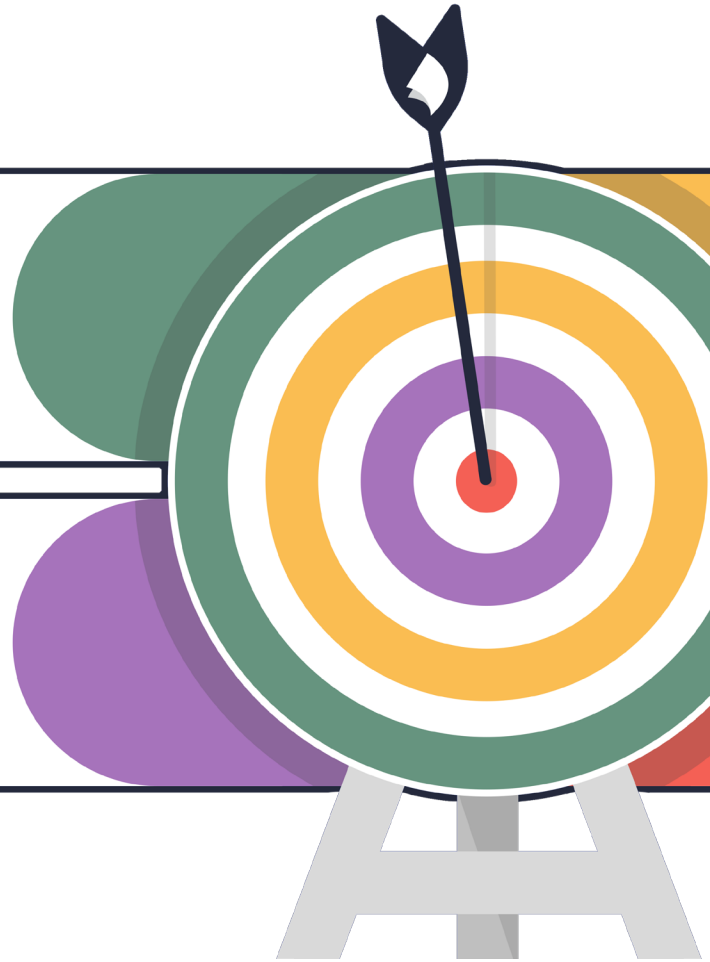
Grants Office Services

Research & Consultation

Identify best-fit grants for upcoming projects and provide next steps.

Project Building

Advise on project development and material gathering with a particular grant in mind.



Grant Proposal Writing

Write a competitive and engaging proposal.

Grant Proposal Review

Provide feedback on application materials, ensuring compliance with submission requirements.

Engage with Grants Office

Step 1

‘Contact Us’

Fill out an Information Collection Tool to engage with the Grants Office Helpdesk.

Step 2

Initial Meeting

Meet with a Grants Office Consultant to discuss your project goals and technology needs.

Step 3

Funding Opportunity Report

Your Grants Office Consultant will provide you with a report detailing applicable grants.

Step 4

Consultative Call

Meet with your Grants Office Consultant to plan and prepare your application.

Step 5

Submit Application

Once completed, you submit your grant application and let us know when you win!

Start here!

Questions?

GRANTS OFFICE
empowering communities

Contact Us

www.grantsoffice.com

info@grantsoffice.com

LinkedIn