

# Rural Health Transformation Program Technical Assistance for Mobile Mammography Unit Acquisition Funding Opportunity, June 11, 2026

Prepared from presentation slides and speaker notes. This handout is designed as an accessible companion document for participants who may not be able to use slide decks effectively.

## 1. Agenda

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Purpose: To help applicants feel confident and prepared, we will review the funding opportunity guidance, highlight key requirements and provide a space for questions.

- Background
- Eligibility
- Purpose
- Unallowable costs
- Application and Review
- Reporting
- Questions
- Resources and Reminders

Information may change based on updated federal guidance or upon further consideration by North Dakota Health and Human Services (ND HHS).

## 2. Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP)

RHTP was authorized by the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (Section 71401 of Public Law 119-21) providing \$50 billion to all 50 states over five years

- North Dakota Health and Human Services (ND HHS) submitted an application to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)
- ND was awarded \$198.9M for year one (12/29/2025 – 10/30/2026)

North Dakota's application identified 4 initiatives

- Make ND healthy again
- Strengthen and stabilize rural health workforce
- Bring high-quality healthcare closer to home
- Connect technology, data and providers for a stronger ND

### 3. Funding Opportunities

- Funding opportunities will be released in phases, with individual applications announced over time.
- Each funding opportunity will have a unique purpose, eligibility and timeline.
- Future year's funds will be determined by CMS based on the state's progress on the plan submitted in the RHTP application.
- Use of funds must align with the state's RHTP application or provide justification.
- Use of funds must follow state and federal guidance.
- Awarded funds must receive proper state and federal approval.

### 4. Mobile Mammography Unit Acquisition

- Funding opportunity solicitation number: 210-333
- Funding: One award of approximately \$1,500,000

### 5. Eligibility

#### Eligible

- Integrated healthcare systems that include a hospital, outpatient clinics and a variety of support services
- Rural clinic or hospital system expanding screening access across multiple counties
- Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs)
- Tribes, tribal health organizations or a tribal health authority addressing screening gaps on reservation lands

#### Target Populations:

- Western North Dakota Rural Residents (50% of the service area of the mobile mammography unit must include locations between the western border of North Dakota to 75 miles east of Highway 83)
- Medicaid members

#### Priority considerations will be given to applicants that exhibit:

- Provision of breast cancer screening or mobile health services that serve western rural, low-income, medically underserved populations
- Experience in offering preventive screening programs
- Established partnerships for follow-up care (diagnostics, treatment referrals)
- Ability to provide data reporting, metrics and outcomes tracking
- Financial and operational capacity to sustain utilization of the acquired mobile mammography unit

## 6. What is Rural?

- For Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP) funding opportunities, the entities within and the cities of Grand Forks, Fargo, West Fargo and Bismarck are considered urban and do not qualify for RHTP funding opportunities unless the population served by the grant applicant is at least 50% North Dakota rural citizens or the focus of the grant funding will be used for North Dakota rural citizens. RHTP funding must be used to support North Dakota rural citizens.

## 7. Purpose and Outcomes

### Purpose

- Strengthen healthcare delivery infrastructure by expanding access to high-quality, evidence-based breast cancer screening services in Western North Dakota.
- Must support North Dakota's RHTP

### Expected Outcomes:

- Reduce avoidable emergency department visits for Medicaid members
- Improve coordination of care for Medicaid members
- Improve getting care quickly for Medicaid members
- Improve getting appointments with specialists as soon as needed for Medicaid members
- Increase prevention screening rates
- Increased patient choice and care continuity through reduced geographic barriers and expanded service options

## 8. Eligible Proposals

- The successful applicant will acquire and support the deployment of a mobile unit in western North Dakota equipped with digital breast tomosynthesis (3D mammography), enabling advanced imaging capabilities that enhance early detection.
- The funding opportunity prioritizes rural, frontier and medically underserved populations in western North Dakota where gaps in access to diagnostic imaging are most pronounced.
- By addressing barriers such as transportation limitations, geographic isolation and limited availability of local imaging services nearby home, this project aims to increase screening rates, facilitate earlier diagnosis and ultimately reduce disparities in breast cancer morbidity and mortality.

## 9. Timeline

### Operating Period

- Begin: once the agreement has been fully executed, following all required approvals and signatures.
- End: September 30, 2027
  - All funds must be fully expended by that date.
  - All goods purchased under this award must be fully delivered by the end of the operating period.

### Key Dates

- June 30, 2026, 5:00 PM CT: Applications Due
- July 1 - 31, 2026:
  - Review and scoring
  - Communication with applicants for adjustments if needed
- Approvals by CMS and ND HHS leadership
  - Agreement development
- September 2026: All year 1 funds must be awarded
- September 2027: All year one funds must be expended

## 10. Requirements to Receive Federal Funding

- Register with the Secretary of State to perform business in the state.
- If your organization has not been paid by a state entity before, you must register with the vendor registry before you can be paid.
- ND HHS will require a W9 form to set up by your organization within our contract system. If your organization would like to be paid with electronic funds transfer, you need to submit the substitute IRS form W-9.
- Organizations need to register with SAMS.gov and receive a UEI number to receive these funds.

## 11. Budget Information for the Mobile Mammography Unit Acquisition Funding Opportunity

- Modified total direct administrative/indirect costs are not allowable for this funding opportunity.
- All goods purchased under this award must be fully delivered no later than Sept. 30, 2027.

## 12. Budget Information for the Mobile Mammography Unit Acquisition Funding Opportunity

### Allowable expenses for acquisition of a mobile mammography unit include:

- Specialized Vehicle: Custom-built vehicle with lead-lined walls, generator, HVAC, patient areas transforming the vehicle into a clinical space including ADA-accessible design.
- Medical Imaging Unit: Core component for imaging – 3D digital mammography system known as tomosynthesis is considered the current standard of care.
- Essential Software: Radiology Information System (RIS) and Picture Archiving and Communication System (PACS).
- Initial Licensing and Certification: Mammography Quality Standards Act (MQSA) certification, state-specific facility and technologist licenses.
- Insurance and Legal Fees: Business formation, medical malpractice, auto and general liability insurance.
- Initial Staffing and Training: Salaries for first 1-2 months for specialized equipment training.\*
- Initial Marketing and Community Outreach: Website, communications collateral (ads, informational flyers), community engagement and digital advertising.

## 13. Unallowable Costs and Limits

- Pre-award costs.
- Meeting matching requirements for any other federal funds or for local entities.
- Services, equipment or supports that are the legal responsibility of another party under federal, state or tribal law.
- Supplanting existing state, local, tribal or private funding of infrastructure or services.
- New construction, building expansion or purchasing of buildings.
  - Renovations or alterations are allowed if they are clearly linked to program goals. Cannot include cosmetic upgrades or significant retrofitting of buildings.
  - Renovation or alternations cannot exceed 20% of total funding in a budget period.
- Replacing payment(s) for clinical services that could be reimbursed by insurance.
  - Direct healthcare services may be funded if not currently reimbursable, will fill a gap in care coverage and/or may transform current care delivery model.

- Provider payments cannot exceed 15% of total funding in a budget period.

## 14. Unallowable Costs and Limits

- No more than 5% of total funding in a budget period can support funding the replacement of an electronic health record (EHR) system if a previous HITECH certified EMR is in place as of September 1, 2025.
- Funding toward initiatives similar to the “Rural Tech Catalyst Fund Initiative” cannot exceed the lesser of 10% of total funding or \$20 million of total funding awarded in a budget period.
- Financial assistance to households for installation and monthly broadband internet costs.
- Clinician salaries/wages for facilities that subject clinicians to non-compete clauses.
- Meals and food.

## 15. Application

- Background
- Narrative
  - Identified Need and Proposed Goals
  - Strategies, Activities, and Measurable Outcomes
- Action Plan
- Budget

## 16. Application – Background

- Organization name and background
- Project lead and contact information
- Project title and brief description of why you’re applying

## 17. Application - Narrative

### Identified need and proposed goals

- Identify the need for the proposed project
  - Challenges the proposed project aims to address
  - Relevant local data to demonstrate the scope and urgency of the need
- Outline your overarching goal(s) and target population
  - Describe the broad, high-level change(s) your organization seeks to achieve

- If the proposed project serves additional populations or is located in an urban area, describe how rural residents, including rural tribal residents and rural Medicaid members, will be served.
- Is your project already in progress, currently funded by another source or actively being implemented in your organization or community?
  - Identify current or similar projects and their funding sources.
  - Why is the expansion needed? How will your proposed project enhance or expand rather than duplicate existing efforts?

## 18. Application - Narrative

### Strategies, Activities and Measurable Outcomes

- Use outcome-focused terms to describe the strategies and activities:
  - Outcomes should be specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time bound (SMART) and directly linked to the equipment requested.
- When applicable, strategies and activities should be evidence-based, evidence-informed or a promising practice.

### How does your project align with elements of CMS's RHTP?

- Improving access
- Improving outcomes
- Technology use
- Partnerships
- Workforce
- Data-driven solutions
- Financial solvency strategies
- Cause identification

## 19. Application – Action Plan

### Timeline and Milestones

- Provide the timeline to successfully implement the proposed project
- Identify key milestones and estimated completion dates for each strategy and activity
- Include:
  - Project Initiation and Procurement Planning
  - Mobile Coach/Vehicle Acquisition and Customization
  - Acquisition of 3D Mammography Equipment

- PACS (Picture Archiving and Communication System) / RIS (Radiology Information System) Integration and IT Infrastructure
- Regulatory Compliance and Licensing
- Equipment Installation and Testing
- Staff Recruitment and Training
- Community Outreach and Scheduling Launch
- Pilot Operations and Quality Assurance
- Full Program Implementation

## 20. Application – Action Plan

### Metrics

- Demonstrate the anticipated impact, utilization and long-term sustainability of the proposed investment.
- For each measurable outcome, applicants must identify specific metrics that clearly demonstrate community need, service utilization, health impacts and patient health outcomes – not solely the acquisition of the equipment itself.
- How will progress be tracked for reporting

### Key Personnel

- Internal
- Consultants

## 21. Application – Budget

- RHTP funds are governed by applicable provisions of 2 CFR Part 200 and 2 CFR Part 300, with guidance from the federal RHTP Notice of Funding Opportunity and CMS’s Frequently Asked Questions document.
- The limits and unallowable costs detailed in this section come from federal guidance and are non-negotiable.

## 22. Application – Budget

- Budget Period indicates this is year one RHTP funding. This will be different than the period of performance/operating period.
- Priority Area: Clinics Without Walls
- Must use the “Itemized Subrecipient Budget Template”
  - Cover
  - Budget
  - Lease vs. Purchase

- Appropriate justification for each cost category. This should connect the cost to the scope of work and purpose of the funding opportunity.
- Submit the completed template in Excel format.

## 23. Application Submission

### Applications must be submitted through [Qualtrics](#)

- Your progress is automatically saved every time you click the Next button at the bottom of a page.
- If you need to stop, simply close your browser and you can resume within 1 week.
- To resume, click the original survey link again from the same device and browser.
- This feature will not work if you are using a Private or Incognito browser window.
- Submit early to avoid technical issues

### Reminder:

- Applications due by 5:00 p.m. CT on June 30
- Applications not received by the submission date and time will be considered non-responsive and not reviewed
- Required attachments
  - Budget template

## 24. Application Review

### Anticipated July 1 – 30, 2026

- Review and scoring by a committee
- Communication with applicants for adjustments, if needed
- Approvals by CMS and NDHHS leadership
- Agreement development

### [Scoring Criteria on Funding Opportunity Webpage](#)

## 25. Reporting

### Quarterly and annual reports

- Reimbursement requests
- Impact stories
- Progress reports
  - Metrics
  - Use of funds

## 26. Questions

- Review of questions received
- Submit questions via chat
- Funding opportunity FAQ and resources will be added to website
- We may not be able to answer all questions today

## 27. Resources and Reminders

- Visit the [Rural Health Transformation Program webpage](#)
- [Sign up](#) to receive email updates
- [Funding Guidance](#) resource
- Submit questions: [FAQ Survey](#)

## 28. Rural Health Transformation Program

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