



Rural Health Transformation Program Stakeholder Comment Period Opens

Sept. 16, 2025

The One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA), enacted into federal law on July 4, 2025, created a national \$50 billion fund called the [Rural Health Transformation \(RHT\) Program](#). All states are eligible to apply for this funding, and the State of Ohio will submit an application. To assist development of Ohio's application, the State is seeking public input on the concepts and priorities outlined in the OBBBA.

An informational call is being held on Thursday, Sept. 18, 2 p.m.

[Join link](#)

Webinar number

2339 685 7861

Webinar password

VjPpBkT59j7 (85772585 when dialing from a phone or video system)

Join by phone

+1-408-418-9388 United States Toll

Access code: 233 968 57861

The federal RHT program highlights the following priority areas, and states must incorporate at least three of these in their rural health transformation plan for the application.

Make Rural America Healthy Again

Support rural health innovations and new access points to promote preventive 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 in Rural Communities

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.

Rural Health Workforce Development

Attract and retain a high-skilled healthcare 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 for Rural Residents

Spark the growth of innovative care models to improve health outcomes, coordinate care, and promote flexible care arrangements. Develop and implement payment mechanisms incentivizing providers or

accountable care organizations (ACOs) to reduce healthcare costs, improve quality of care, and shift care to lower cost settings.

Tech Innovation to Improve Service Delivery to Rural Communities

Foster use of innovative technologies that promote efficient care delivery, data security, and access to digital health tools by rural facilities, providers, and patients. Projects support access to remote care, improve data sharing, strengthen cybersecurity, and invest in emerging technologies.

This [Rural Health Transformation Project Stakeholder Survey](#) provides an opportunity for Ohio's stakeholders to provide input for activities that can be completed in the project's five-year period. The OBBBA provides one-time funding for the RHT Project. For concepts expected to last beyond five years, please identify how the work will be sustained without additional federal or state funding. Commenters may provide feedback on one or more concepts but are not required to respond to every question.

Please refer to the [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) for additional insight and information into eligible initiatives and limitations on the use of funding.

This survey is not an application for funding specific projects so commentors should refrain from submitting any sensitive, proprietary, or confidential information. All information is considered public record. Comments will be accepted through Friday, Oct. 3, 2025.

Please complete the [Rural Health Transformation survey](#) to submit your ideas.

Survey Preview

Commentors can submit ideas in one or more of the following areas:

- Make rural America healthy again.
- Sustainable access.
- Workforce development.
- Innovative care.
- Tech innovation.
- Other activities (that address the federal priorities).

You will be asked to provide the following information for each area to which you are responding:

- Describe immediate solutions which may alleviate some challenges associated with the area.
- Describe long-term strategies to address the challenges associated with this area. What is the impact of these strategies beyond five years and how will the work be sustained?
- What are the key performance indicators to measure the success of the suggested immediate and/or long-term strategies?
- Describe any Ohio-based stakeholders with whom you have discussed these ideas. What was their feedback?

Thank you for your contributions to this important program. Questions may be directed to [ODH Rural Health Transformation](#).