



Health and Human Services

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

DIVISION OF COMPLIANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Best and Brightest- Medical Equipment Procurement

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL #PHTHORC26011

Contract Term: June 1, 2026 – September 30, 2031

HHS Issuing Officer

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SECTION 1 -- GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

1.01 Purpose

The purpose of this Request for Proposal (RFP) # PHTHORC26011 is to solicit applications that will enable the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (referred to as Agency) to select the most qualified Rural organizations in Iowa to receive funding support for medical equipment procurement and installation, including Minor Alterations and Renovations if needed. The goal of this opportunity is to provide new lines of service not currently available in the region, increase access to existing services, and/or increase the sustainability of providing high quality healthcare in Rural communities.

This procurement is supported by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling approximately \$50,000,000 with 100 percent funded by CMS/HHS. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official view of, nor an endorsement, by CMS/HHS, or the U.S. Government.

This work implements a portion of the Hometown Connections initiative of the Iowa Healthy Hometowns Project, funded through the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' Rural Health Transformation Program, opportunity #: CMS-RHT-26-001.

1.02 Contract Term

The anticipated **Contract Term** is from June 1, 2026 to September 30, 2031. Continuation of the contract is at the Agency's sole discretion and are subject to: review of the contractor performance, contractor's compliance with the special and general terms and contingent terms of the contract, availability of funds, program modifications, or any other grounds determined by the Agency to be in the Agency's best interests. The contract term, including all possible extensions provided by the Agency shall not exceed a six-year period.

The issuance of this RFP in no way constitutes a commitment by the Agency to award a contract.

1.03 Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must meet each of the following eligibility requirements for consideration.

Eligible Applicants

Public, private, non-profit, academic, community-based or governmental healthcare facilities that provide in-person healthcare services in a Rural area, as defined in this RFP, are eligible to apply.

Facilities eligible for application include hospitals, clinics, Federally Qualified Health Centers, primary care providers, behavioral health centers, and other organizations delivering direct healthcare services in the areas of maternal/child health, cancer, cardiovascular health, mental/behavioral health, and chronic disease prevention and management.

Recipients of Best and Brightest Medical Equipment RFP#PHTHORC26009 awards will not be eligible to apply.

Note: Applicants for the Best & Brightest- Rural Healthcare Workforce Recruitment RFP #PHTHORC26010 and #PHTHORC26012 are also eligible to apply for this RFP. Applicants are not required to apply for both the Best & Brightest- Rural Healthcare Workforce Recruitment and this RFP.

Electronic Communication Requirements

Applicant is required to maintain and provide to the Agency, upon application, a current and valid email account for electronic communications with the Agency.

Official email communication from the Agency regarding this application will be issued from grants@iowagrants.gov. Applicants are required to assure these communications are received and responded to accordingly.

1.04 Service Delivery Area

The equipment purchased through this RFP must be physically located in a Rural area as defined in section 2 of this RFP.

The Agency may consider geographic distribution of equipment during the selection and award process, refer to Section 4.

1.05 Available Funds

The source of funding is federal funding from the Rural Health Transformation Program, authorized under the One Big Beautiful Bill Act.

The Agency anticipates up to \$50,000,000 available for approximately 25 awards. Refer to section 2.04 for additional funding details. Actual total awards and individual contract funding levels may vary from those listed or funding may be withdrawn completely, depending on availability of funding or any other grounds determined by the Agency to be in the Agency's best interests.

1.06 Schedule of Important Dates (All times and dates listed are local Iowa time.)

The following dates are set forth for informational purposes. The Agency reserves the right to change them.

EVENT	DATE
RFP Issued	February 27, 2026
Written Questions and Responses	
Round 1 Questions Due:	March 5, 2026 by 4 PM
Responses Posted By:	March 12, 2026
Final Questions Due:	March 26, 2026 by 4 PM
Responses Posted By:	April 2, 2026

Applications Due	April 9, 2026 by 12:00 PM (noon) Local Iowa Time
Post Notice of Intent to Award	On or around May 22, 2026

A. RFP Issued – The Agency will post the RFP under Grant Opportunities quick link at www.iowaGrants.gov on the date referenced in the Schedule of Events table above. The RFP will remain posted through the Applications Due date.

B. Applicant’s Conference – An applicant’s conference will not be held.

C. Written Questions and Responses – Written questions related to the RFP must be submitted through www.iowaGrants.gov no later than the dates specified in the table above. Applicant must be registered with IowaGrants in order to submit a question (Refer to the links section for instructions on registering and logging in to IowaGrants).

Written questions submitted after the date specified for final questions in the table above will not be considered and a response will not be provided by the Agency.

- Registered Users login to www.iowaGrants.gov
- Click on ‘Users click here to login’
- ID.iowa.gov, sign-in (email address), click next (enter password), hit enter or click verify
- Search Funding Opportunities
- Select this Funding Opportunity
- Click on ‘Ask A Question’ link located at the top right-hand side of the Opportunity Details page, and enter a single question in the ‘Post Question’ box
- Click the ‘Save’ button

Additional questions may be submitted by repeating the process above for each individual question. If the question or comment pertains to a specific section of the RFP, the section and page must be referenced. Verbal questions will not be accepted. Questions will not be displayed in IowaGrants until written responses are posted by the Agency.

The Agency will prepare written responses to all pertinent, timely and properly submitted questions according to the schedule of events table above. The Agency’s written responses will be considered part of the RFP.

To view posted questions and responses:

- Login to www.iowaGrants.gov
- Search Funding Opportunities
- Select this Funding Opportunity
- Scroll to the bottom of the Opportunity Details page, under the **Questions** subsection to view the posted questions and answers.

It is the responsibility of the applicant to check this Funding Opportunity in www.iowaGrants.gov periodically for written questions and responses to this RFP.

D. Application Creation – The application will consist of multiple required forms (refer to Section 3) available within the Electronic Grant Management system at www.iowaGrants.gov.

Each form of the application must be completed in its entirety or IowaGrants will not permit the application to be submitted.

Each individual within the applicant organization who desires access to the application must be registered in IowaGrants (refer to the links section for instructions on registering and logging in to IowaGrants). **The first user to initiate an application for a Funding Opportunity is designated by the system as the primary user (Registered Applicant) for that application.** This primary user can add additional registered users as Grantee Contacts within their organization to the Funding Opportunity for completion/edit/review of forms and submission of the application. If multiple users are editing the same form within an application at the same time, the last saved version will over-ride any changes made by other users.

IowaGrants will permit multiple registered users of the applicant organization to create separate applications for the same Funding Opportunity, thereby creating multiple applications for the same Funding Opportunity. The applicant is responsible for ensuring only one entire application is completed and submitted for each requested service area (refer to Sections 1.04 and 1.14) in response to this RFP.

E. Applications Due – Applications must be submitted by 12:00 p.m. (noon) (local Iowa time) **April 9, 2026** in the Electronic Grant Management System at www.iowaGrants.gov. Attempted submission of a completed application after stated due date and time will not be allowed by the system. This Funding Opportunity will not be available as a Current Opportunity on the Electronic Grant Management System after the stated due date and time. If submission of an application is attempted after the stated date and time, the applicant will receive a notice stating “The Funding Opportunity is closed”.

Applications submitted to the Agency in any manner other than through Electronic Grant Management System of the IowaGrants website (e.g. electronic mail to any other address, faxed, hand-delivered, mailed or shipped or courier-service delivered versions) will be rejected, not reviewed by the Agency and a rejection notice will be sent to the applicant. Any information submitted separately from the application will not be considered in the review process.

The date and time system of the IowaGrants Electronic Grant Management System shall serve as the official regulator for the submission date and time of an application.

The due date and time requirements for submission of the application within the Electronic Grant Management System of IowaGrants website are mandatory requirements and will not be subject to waiver as a minor deficiency.

Submission Confirmation Screen: After an applicant submits an application, a confirmation screen containing an Application ID number will appear on your computer screen.

It is the applicant’s sole responsibility to complete all Funding Opportunity Forms and submit the application in sufficient time.

F. Release of Names of Applicants – April 13-15, 2026. The names of all applicants who submitted applications by the deadline shall be released to all who have requested such notification via an email request to Julie Jones at julie.jones@hhs.iowa.gov. The announcement of applicants who timely submitted an application does not mean that an individual application

has been deemed technically compliant or accepted for evaluation.

G. Notice of Intent to Award – A Notice of Intent to Award the contract(s) will be posted for 10 business days on the Agency Web page <https://hhs.iowa.gov/about/funding-opportunities/notice-intent-award> on or around the date specified in the Schedule of Events table above. Applicants are solely responsible for reviewing the Notice of Intent to Award to determine their award status.

H. Contract Negotiations and Execution of the Contract – Following the posting of the Notice of Intent to Award, the Authorized Official for the successful applicant(s) will receive a contract document via email from the Agency. The successful applicant has eight (8) working days from date of receipt in which to sign a contract with the Agency. If a contract has not been executed within eight (8) working days of applicant's receipt, the Agency reserves the right to cancel the award and to send a contract to the next highest ranked applicant or other entity deemed appropriate by the Agency. Individual contract negotiations following the award will not be allowed and failure to sign the contract in the time provided by the Agency may result in award/contract rescission.

1.07 Inquiries

Inquiries related to the RFP shall be submitted in accordance with Section 1.06 (C).

For assistance regarding IowaGrants, please contact the Agency IowaGrants Helpdesk at iowagrants.helpdesk@hhs.iowa.gov or by calling 1-866-520-8987 (available between 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM on weekdays, excluding state holidays).

Unauthorized contact regarding this RFP with other state employees may result in disqualification. In no case shall verbal communications override written communications. Only written communications are binding on the Agency.

The Agency assumes no responsibility for representations made by its officers or employees prior to the execution of a legal contract, unless such representations are specifically incorporated into the RFP or the contract.

Any verbal information provided by the applicant shall not be considered part of its application.

1.08 Amendments to the RFP

The Agency reserves the right to amend the RFP at any time. In the event the Agency decides to amend, add to, or delete any part of this RFP, a written amendment will be posted at www.IowaGrants.gov under the Attachments section of this Funding Opportunity. The applicant is advised to check this website periodically for amendments to this RFP. In the event an amendment occurs after the Funding Opportunity is closed, the Agency will email the written amendment to the individuals identified in the submitted application as the Project Officer (Registered Applicant) and the Authorized Official listed in the Cover Sheet- General Information Form.

1.09 Open Competition

No attempt shall be made by the applicant to induce any other person or firm to submit or not to submit an application for the purpose of restricting competition.

1.10 Withdrawal of Applications

An application created in IowaGrants.gov cannot be deleted. An application may be withdrawn by request of an applicant at any time prior to the due date and time. An applicant desiring to withdraw an application shall submit notification including the funding opportunity number, application ID, title of the application, and the applicant organization name via email to iowagrants.helpdesk@hhs.iowa.gov.

After this funding opportunity closes, the Agency may withdraw applications that have not been submitted.

1.11 Resubmission of Withdrawn Applications

A withdrawn application may be resubmitted by an applicant at any time prior to the stated due date and time for the submission of applications.

To access a withdrawn application:

- Registered Users login to www.iowaGrants.gov as a returning user;
- Search Funding Opportunities;
- Select this Funding Opportunity;
- Click on 'Copy Existing Application';
- Select the application that you want to copy by marking it under the 'Copy' column (Note: all applications whether in editing, submitted or withdrawn status will be displayed to be copied);
- Click the 'Save' button.

The application that was copied will be open in this funding opportunity. Be sure to re-title the application if necessary, by going into the General Information form and editing it. Continue to complete the application forms and submit following the guidance provided in sections 1.06 (D) and (E), and in section 3 of this RFP.

Withdrawn applications for this RFP posting must be submitted by the due date provided in section 1.06 in order to be considered for funding. Withdrawn, submitted, or editing status applications are also available to copy to other Funding Opportunities in IowaGrants at any time.

1.12 Acceptance of Terms and Conditions

- A. An applicant's submission of an application constitutes acceptance of the terms, conditions, criteria and requirements set forth in the RFP and operates as a waiver of any and all objections to the contents of the RFP. By submitting an application, an applicant agrees that it will not bring any claim or have any cause of action against the Agency or the State of Iowa based on the terms or conditions of the RFP or the procurement process.

- B. The Agency reserves the right to accept or reject any exception taken by an applicant to the terms and conditions of this RFP. Applicants must submit proposed or requested contract changes during the Question-and-Answer period for the Agency to address for all applicants. Individual contract negotiations following the award will not be allowed and failure to sign the contract in the time provided by the Agency may result in award/contract rescission. Rescissions will occur at the Agency's sole discretion. If an award is rescinded, the Agency may select another award based on the evaluation process identified in Section 4.

1.13 Costs of Application Preparation

All costs of preparing the application are the sole responsibility of the applicant. The Agency is not responsible for any costs incurred by the applicant which are related to the preparation or submission of the application or any other activities undertaken by the applicant related in any way to this RFP.

1.14 Multiple Applications

An applicant may submit one application per county within the eligible service area covered to address the equipment needs identified by the applicant's needs assessment outlined in this opportunity.

1.15 Oral Presentation

Applicants may be requested to make an oral presentation of the application. The determination of need for presentations, the location, order, and schedule of the presentations is at the sole discretion of the Agency. If an oral presentation is required, applicants may clarify or elaborate on their applications but may in no way change their original application.

1.16 Disqualification of Applications/Cancellation of the RFP

- A. The Agency reserves the right to disqualify, in whole or in part, any or all applications, to advertise for new applications, to arrange to receive or itself perform the services herein, to abandon the need for such services, and to cancel this RFP if it is in the best interests of the Agency.
- B. Any application will be disqualified outright and not evaluated for any of the following reasons:
 - 1. The applicant is not an eligible applicant as defined in section 1.03.
 - 2. The location site of the new piece of equipment is not located within an eligible Rural location as defined in this RFP.
 - 3. An applicant submits more than one application for the same county.
 - 4. An application is submitted in a manner other than the Electronic Grant Management System at www.iowaGrants.gov.
- C. Any application may be disqualified outright and not evaluated for any one of the following reasons:

1. The applicant fails to include required information or fails to include sufficient information to determine whether an RFP requirement has been satisfied.
2. The applicant fails to follow the application instructions or presents information requested by this RFP in a manner inconsistent with the instructions of the RFP.
3. The applicant provides misleading or inaccurate answers.
4. The applicant states that a mandatory requirement cannot be satisfied.
5. The applicant's response materially changes a mandatory requirement.
6. The applicant's response limits the right of the Agency.
7. The applicant fails to respond to the Agency's request for information, documents, or references.
8. The applicant fails to include any signature, certification, authorization, or stipulation requested by this RFP.
9. The applicant initiates unauthorized contact regarding the RFP with a state employee.

1.17 Restrictions on Gifts and Activities

Iowa Code Chapter 68B contains laws which restrict gifts which may be given or received by state employees and requires certain individuals to disclose information concerning their activities with state government. Applicants are responsible for determining the applicability of this chapter to their activities and for complying with these requirements.

In addition, Iowa Code Chapter 722 provides that it is a felony offense to bribe a public official.

1.18 Use of Subcontractors

- A. The Agency acknowledges that the selected Applicant may contract with third parties for the performance of any of the Contractor's obligations. The Agency reserves the right to provide prior approval for any subcontractor used to perform services under any contract that may result from this RFP.
- B. Current individual employees of the State of Iowa may not act as subcontractors under this contract.
- C. The applicant is fully responsible for all work performed by subcontractors. No subcontract into which the applicant enters into with respect to performance under the contract will, in any way relieve the applicant of any responsibility for performance of its duties.

1.19 Reference Checks

The Agency reserves the right to contact any reference to assist in the evaluation of the application, to verify information contained in the application and to discuss the applicant's qualifications and the qualifications of any subcontractor identified in the application.

1.20 Criminal Background Checks

The Agency reserves the right to conduct criminal history and other background investigations

into the applicant, its officers, directors, managerial and supervisory personnel, clerical or support personnel, and health care professional personnel retained by the applicant for duties related to the performance of the contract. Such information may be used in determining contract awards. The applicant shall cause all waivers to be executed by appropriate persons to effectuate the investigations.

1.21 Information from Other Sources

The Agency reserves the right to obtain and consider information from other sources concerning an applicant, including the applicant's product or services, personnel, and subcontractors, and the applicant's capability and performance under other Agency contracts, other state contracts and contracts with private entities. The Agency may use any of this information in evaluating an applicant's application.

1.22 Verification of Application Contents

The Agency reserves the right to verify the contents of an application submitted by an applicant. Misleading or inaccurate responses may result in rejection of the application pursuant to Section 1.16.

1.23 Litigation and Investigation Disclosure

The applicant shall disclose any pending or threatened litigation, administrative, or regulatory proceedings or similar matters which could affect the ability of the applicant to perform the required services. Failure to disclose such matters at the time of application within the Business Organization Form (Refer to Section 3 of this RFP) may result in rejection of the application or in termination of any subsequent contract. This is a continuing disclosure requirement. Any such matter commencing after submission of an application must be disclosed within 30 days in a written statement to the Agency.

1.24 Financial Accountability

The applicant shall maintain sufficient financial accountability and records. The applicant shall disclose each irregularity of accounts maintained by the applicant discovered by the applicant's accounting firm, the applicant, or any other third party. Failure to disclose such matters, including the circumstances and disposition of the irregularities, at the time of application within the Business Organization Form (Refer to Section 3 of this RFP) may result in rejection of the application or in termination of any subsequent contract. This is a continuing disclosure requirement. Any such matter commencing after submission of an application must be disclosed within 30 days in a written statement to the Agency.

1.25 RFP Application Clarification Process

The Agency may request clarification from applicants for the purpose of resolving ambiguities or questioning information presented in the application. Clarifications may occur throughout the application evaluation process. Requests for clarification will be issued to the primary user (Registered Applicant) through email from an Agency Service Contract Compliance Officer. Clarification responses shall be in writing in the format provided by the Agency and shall

address only the information requested. Responses shall be submitted to the Agency within the time stipulated at the time of the request. An applicant will not be permitted to modify or amend its application if contacted by the Agency for this reason.

1.26 Waivers and Variances

The Agency reserves the right to waive or permit cure of non-material variances in the application's form and content providing such action is in the best interest of the Agency. In the event the Agency waives or permits cure of nonmaterial variances, such waiver or cure will not modify the RFP requirements or excuse the applicant from full compliance with RFP specifications or other contract requirements if the applicant is awarded the contract. The determination of materiality is in the sole discretion of the Agency.

1.27 Disposition of Applications

All application submissions become the property of the Agency.

If the Agency awards funds to an applicant, the contents of all applications will be in the public domain at the conclusion of the selection process and will be open to inspection by interested parties subject to exceptions provided in Iowa Code Chapter 22 or other provision of law.

1.28 Public Records and Requests for Confidential Treatment of Application Information

The Agency's release of public records is governed by Iowa Code chapter 22. Applicants are encouraged to familiarize themselves with Chapter 22 before submitting an application in response to this RFP.

The Agency will copy and produce public records upon request as required to comply with Chapter 22 and will treat all information submitted by an applicant as non-confidential records unless applicant requests specific parts of the application be treated as confidential at the time of the submission as set forth herein AND the information is confidential under Iowa or other applicable law.

All information submitted by an applicant will be treated as public information following the conclusion of the selection process unless the applicant properly requests that information be treated as confidential at the time the application is submitted.

Failure of the Applicant to request information be treated as confidential as specified herein shall relieve Agency personnel from any responsibility for maintaining the information in confidence. Applicants may not request confidential treatment with respect to pricing or budget information and transmittal letters. An applicant's request for confidentiality that does not comply with this section or an applicant's request for confidentiality on information or material that cannot be held in confidence as set forth herein are grounds for rejecting an application as non-responsive.

A. Confidential Treatment of Information is Requested by the Applicant

An applicant requesting confidential treatment of information contained in its application shall be required to submit two copies of its application (one complete application

(containing confidential information) and one redacted version (with confidential information excised) and complete and submit Form 22 with both applications; as outlined herein:

1. Complete and Submit Form 22 with both applications

APPLICANT NOTE: SUBMISSION OF THIS FORM 22 IS REQUIRED **ONLY** IF REQUESTING CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT OF APPLICATION INFORMATION.

In order to request information contained in an application to be treated as confidential, the applicant must complete and submit FORM 22 with both applications. Failure of the applicant to accurately and fully complete FORM 22 with the application submission may result in the application to be considered non-responsive and not evaluated. The Form 22 is available to download from a link located in the attachments section of the standard application form titled Application Certification and Conditions (refer to section 3 of this RFP). Applicant must download Form 22 from a link within this form, complete it, and upload it into the specific field of the electronic Application Certification and Conditions form in both applications.

Form 22 will not be considered fully complete unless, for **each** confidentiality request, the applicant: (1) enumerates the specific grounds in Iowa Code chapter 22 or other applicable law that supports treatment of the material as confidential, (2) justifies why the material should be maintained in confidence, (3) explains why disclosure of the material would not be in the best interest of the public, and (4) sets forth the name, address, telephone, and e-mail for the person authorized by applicant to respond to inquiries by the Agency concerning the confidential status of such material. Requests to maintain an entire application as confidential will be rejected as non-responsive.

2. An applicant that submits an application containing confidential information must submit two copies of its application (one complete application and one redacted version of the application) for this RFP. Completed Form 22 shall be uploaded in the Application Certifications and Conditions form in **both** copies.

One copy of the application must be completed and submitted in its entirety, containing the confidential information. This is the application that will be reviewed.

The applicant must submit one copy of the application labeled "Redacted Copy" from which the confidential information had been excised. In order to do this, the applicant shall rename the copy with the word 'Redacted' added as the **first** word in the application title, using the exact same title as the first copy of the application. The applicant must then revise each form within the copied/redacted application removing the confidential information and inserting the word 'redacted' in the required fields. The confidential material must be excised from the redacted version in such a way as to allow the public to determine the general nature of the material removed and to retain as much of the application as possible.

Both copies of the application must be submitted by the applicant by the due date and time outlined in Section 1.06 (D).

B. Public Requests

In the event the Agency receives a public request for application information marked confidential, written notice shall be given to the applicant seventy-two (72) hours prior to the release of the information to allow the applicant to seek injunctive relief pursuant to Iowa Code Section 22.8. The information marked confidential shall be treated as confidential information to the extent such information is determined confidential under Iowa Code Chapter 22 or other provisions of law by a court of competent jurisdiction. If the Agency receives a request for information that applicant has marked as confidential and if a judicial or administrative proceeding is initiated to compel the release of such material, applicant shall, at its sole expense, appear in such action and defend its request for confidentiality. If an applicant fails to do so, the Agency may release the information or material with or without providing advance notice to the applicant and with or without affording applicant the opportunity to obtain an order restraining its release from a court possessing competent jurisdiction.

Additionally, if applicant fails to comply with the request process set forth herein, if applicant's request for confidentiality is unreasonable, or if applicant rescinds its request for confidential treatment, Agency may release such information or material with or without providing advance notice to applicant and with or without affording applicant the opportunity to obtain an order restraining its release from a court possessing competent jurisdiction.

The applicant's failure to request confidential treatment of material pursuant to this section and the relevant law will be deemed by the Agency as a waiver of any right to confidentiality which the applicant may have had.

1.29 Copyrights

By submitting an application, the applicant agrees that the Agency may release the application for the purpose of facilitating the evaluation of the application or to respond to requests for public records. By submitting the application, the applicant consents to such release and warrants and represents that such release will not violate the rights of any third party. The Agency shall have the right to use ideas or adaptations of ideas that are presented in the applications. In the event the applicant copyrights its application, the Agency may reject the application as noncompliant.

1.30 Review of Notice of Disqualification or Notice of Intent to Award Decision

Applicants may request reconsideration of either a notice of disqualification or notice of intent to award decision by submitting a written request to the Agency. The Agency must receive the written request for reconsideration **within five calendar days (exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays, and legal state holidays)** from the date of the notice of disqualification or notice of intent to award decision, whichever is earlier.

The reconsideration shall be addressed to the issuing officer cited in the RFP (Julie Jones), and shall be submitted via email, including a read receipt verification, to the following email address: reconsiderationrequest@hhs.iowa.gov.

It is the Applicant's responsibility to assure timely delivery of the request for reconsideration. The request for reconsideration shall clearly and fully identify all issues being contested by reference to the page and section number of the RFP.

The Agency will expeditiously address the request for reconsideration and issue a decision. The Applicant may choose to file an appeal with the Agency within five days of the date of the decision on reconsideration exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays, and legal state holidays.

1.31 Definition of Contract and exclusivity

The full execution of a written contract by both parties shall constitute the making of a contract for services and no applicant shall acquire any legal or equitable rights relative to the contract until the contract has been fully executed by the successful applicant and the Agency. Any contract resulting from this RFP shall not be an exclusive contract.

1.32 Construction of RFP

This RFP shall be construed in light of pertinent legal requirements and the laws of the State of Iowa. Changes in applicable statutes and rules may affect the award process or the resulting contract. Applicants are responsible for ascertaining the relevant legal requirements. Any and all litigation or actions commenced in connection with this RFP shall be brought in the appropriate Iowa forum.

SECTION 2 – BACKGROUND AND SCOPE OF WORK

2.01 Background

Iowa's rural communities face persistent and intensifying public health challenges, including limited access to care, workforce shortages, and disparities in health outcomes. In response, the Agency developed the Healthy Hometowns initiative(1) as the state's submission to the federal Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP), authorized under the One Big Beautiful Bill Act(2). This initiative is designed to transform the delivery of healthcare in rural Iowa by building a high-quality, sustainable system of care that improves health, well-being, and quality of life for rural residents.

Through the Iowa HHS Strategic Plan and Strategic Plan in Action(3), the Agency has committed to elevate organizational health, advance operational excellence, and help Iowa thrive. The Iowa Rural Health Transformation Plan, Healthy Hometowns, is in direct alignment with those goals by promoting access to health and human services resources and helping individuals, families, children, and communities thrive. Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds set the foundation for Healthy Hometowns via House File 972 of the 91st Iowa General Assembly. This legislation, enacted July 1, 2025, establishes a multi-prong strategy for improving rural health care access and health outcomes for rural Iowans. This plan revolves around the concept that Iowa describes as Health Hubs, often referred to as hub-and-spoke models of care. The vision for Healthy Hometowns is to implement robust hub-and-spoke frameworks that supports long-term, sustainable and high-quality health care for Iowans living in rural areas.

Healthy Hometowns has three primary goals:

1. Iowans will be able to get health care within their rural communities at the most appropriate locations for type and level of care thanks to support from newly developed partnerships, more rural primary care physicians and specialists, and upgraded equipment.
2. Iowans living in rural areas will have improved health outcomes with similar rates of morbidity and premature mortality to those living in Iowa's more populous areas.
3. Iowa will invest in the development and utilization of innovative technology and data infrastructures to support sustainable care options close to home, seamless care partnerships, and data sharing throughout the state.

Purpose:

As part of Healthy Hometowns, the objective of this RFP is to seek Applicants with an identified need to procure, install, and use medical equipment in Rural Iowa.

These funds are intended to be used for the acquisition and installation of advanced medical technologies, such as (but not limited to) robotic surgical systems, low-dose CT scans, radiotherapy units, CT/PET scanners, and cardiac catheterization equipment. Allowable costs include the medical equipment or devices, installation of the device, and Minor Alterations and

¹ <https://hhs.iowa.gov/initiatives/rural-health-transformation-rht>

² <https://www.cms.gov/priorities/rural-health-transformation-rht-program/overview>

³ <https://hhs.iowa.gov/about/strategic-plan>

Renovations necessary for service delivery. Based on recent Certificate of Need applications, the average cost for equipment procurement and installation is estimated at approximately \$3.32 million.

The Agency anticipates funding applications for purchases and installation of single, large-scale items that increase the ability of Rural providers to offer new lines of service, increase access to additional healthcare services in Rural Iowa, provide enhanced screening capabilities, and/or reduce the occurrence of rural bypass by keeping rural residents in rural communities to receive preventive and diagnostic services, surgeries, and healthcare treatments.

Expected Outcomes include:

1. Improved access to specialized medical equipment in rural Iowa.
2. Reduction in patient readmissions, transfers, and rural bypass for healthcare service delivery.

2.02 Definitions

A. RFP General Definitions. When appearing as capitalized terms in this RFP, including attachments, the following quoted terms (and the plural thereof, when appropriate) have the meanings set forth in this section.

“Agency” means the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services.

“Business Day” means any day other than a Saturday, Sunday, or State holiday as specified by Iowa Code § 1C.2.

“Request for Proposal” or “RFP” means a formal Request for Proposal that involves the state Agency soliciting bids to purchase services through a competitive process.

“Performance Measures” means measures that assess the Deliverables or activity under this Contract. Performance measures include, but are not limited to quality, input, output, efficiency, and outcome measures.

B. Definitions Specific to this RFP. When appearing as capitalized terms in this RFP, including attachments, the following quoted terms (and the plural thereof, when appropriate) have the meanings set forth in this section.

“Equipment” means tangible personal property (including information technology systems) having a useful life of more than one year and a per-unit acquisition cost that equals or exceeds the lesser of the capitalization level established by the recipient or subrecipient for financial statement purposes, or \$10,000.

“Minor Alterations and Renovations” means small modifications aimed at enhancing the functionality of the facility where the equipment will be installed. In general, minor modifications to an existing building footprint, existing infrastructure, and existing rooms within a facility would be considered minor building alterations or renovations. For example, costs to prepare spaces within existing health care facilities to serve as a site to

install and use purchased equipment. The Agency and CMS reserve the right to deny any requests for minor alterations and renovations.

“**Capital Expenditures**” means expenditures to acquire capital assets or expenditures to make additions, improvements, modifications, replacements, rearrangements, reinstallations, renovations, or alterations to capital assets that materially increase their value or useful life.

“**Rural**” means an area designated by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) as an eligible geographic location to apply for rural health grants. Applicants should use the “Rural Health Grants Eligibility Analyzer ([Rural Health Grants Eligibility Analyzer](#))” to determine rurality for the purpose of this funding opportunity ([How We Define Rural | HRSA](#)).

2.03 Scope of Work.

A. Work Plans. The Applicant will develop and implement Work Plans compliant with the Deliverables and timelines listed in section B within the forms in IowaGrants as described in Section 3 of this RFP.

B. Deliverables. In compliance with the Agency-approved work plan within IowaGrants, the Contractor shall:

Procure, install, and use a needed piece of large-scale medical equipment. The medical equipment must be necessary for the intended service area and population, feasible to procure and install between 6/1/2026 and 9/30/2027, supported by staff and medical professionals knowledgeable in the use of the equipment, and sustainable for the site of installation to maintain. The Applicant shall perform work in three distinct categories: planning, implementation, and reporting data on equipment utilization.

1. The Contractor must develop and submit for Agency approval a Medical Equipment Procurement and Implementation Project Plan. Within this plan, the Contractor shall outline:
 - i. A detailed plan for the procurement, delivery, and installation of the medical equipment, including timelines, responsible personnel, and vendor coordination. This plan should include cost and bid information or details that justify the costs for equipment procurement and installation. It should also include all required steps the Contractor will take to ensure compliance with all relevant local, state, and federal laws and regulations.
 1. If the equipment purchase consists of funds beyond those provided by the Contract, the Contractor shall describe the additional amount, source of those funds, and evidence that these funds will be available to complete the project.
 - ii. A description of any Minor Alterations and Renovations required for installation and operationalization of the equipment, including compliance with applicable codes and standards.
 1. Minor Alterations and Renovations ARE a permissible use of

funding for projects that include small modifications aimed at enhancing the functionality of the facility where the equipment will be installed. These shall be reviewed and approved by the Agency prior to expending funds.

- a. Examples of minor alterations include but are not limited to widening doorways, moving existing equipment, moving light fixtures to accommodate new equipment, or patching paint.
- iii. Documentation of estimated useful life for the equipment being purchased.
- iv. Explanation of the providers who will use the equipment, the medical procedures that will be completed with the equipment, any staff training required prior to equipment use, and the plans to complete staff training.
- v. A comprehensive timeline from receipt of funds to equipment use, including the date equipment is expected to be operational.
- vi. A detailed description of any anticipated barriers with the procurement, implementation, use, and maintenance of the equipment and plans for addressing the barriers.

2. The Contractor must develop and submit for Agency approval an Equipment Project Installation and Completion Report. Within this Report, the Contractor shall:

- i. Certify that all equipment funded through this RFP is fully installed and operational.
- ii. Submit verification of operational status, including photographs, installation reports, receipts, and/or vendor certification.
- iii. Provide a timeline for when services using the new equipment will begin, including any staffing, personnel training plans, and/or administrative activity that would need to predicate the date when services using the new equipment will begin.
- iv. Provide plans for communication or marketing to make the community aware of the new equipment or expanded capabilities provided by the new equipment.

3. The Contractor must collect and submit data regarding the use of the new equipment on an annual basis for the time period of 9/30/2027 through 9/30/2031.

- i. Track and report to the Agency the type and number of services provided using the new equipment, beginning from the date of operationalization.
- ii. Track and report to the Agency the total number of unique patients served using the new equipment, and the number dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid.
- iii. Submit a list of the HCPCS/CPT and ICD Codes associated with the services provided by the new equipment.
- iv. Maintain documentation of all billed services for audit and evaluation purposes.

4. Ongoing Compliance Monitoring- Applicants must ensure:

- i. Equipment remains in use for the identified purpose throughout the contract period and useful life of equipment.

- ii. Compliance with State of Iowa Licensure requirements for medical equipment purchasing, such as radiological permits, prior to use of equipment.
 - iii. Any changes in equipment location, usage, or service delivery are requested to the Agency prior to modifications being made.
 - iv. All reporting requirements, including data reports, are submitted on time and in the format required by the Agency.
5. Connect or maintain connection and share data to Iowa's Health Information Exchange, as determined by Iowa HHS. Successful projects must include commitments to use Iowa's Health Information Exchange.

C. Required Reporting. The Agency requires reporting of compliance with the resulting Contract and performance of the Deliverables and Work Plans pursuant to proposed action/work plans, provision of services, and incurred expenses by resulting contractors. Successful applicants will be awarded a contract to be managed within an Electronic Grant Management system within www.iowaGrants.gov. The required reports and related information will be submitted within the Grant Tracking system. The reports and submission requirements are subject to change at the sole discretion of the Agency. The Agency shall review and monitor submitted reports, as well as other data and information for completeness, timeliness, and overall performance pursuant to the Contract.

Anticipated reports (progress and data) include:

- **Equipment Purchase Project Plan Report:** The Contractor shall complete this report to the satisfaction of the Agency due by 60 days following execution of the Contract. A detailed plan for the procurement, delivery, and installation of the medical equipment, including timelines, responsible personnel, and vendor coordination.
- **Quarterly Progress Reports (6/1/26 through 9/30/2027):** These reports will include:
 - The status updates on procurement, delivery, and installation of equipment.
 - Confirmation of operational readiness and any facility modifications completed.
 - Identification of any delays, barriers, or technical issues encountered and plans to address these.
 - Any other information the Agency deems necessary
- **Equipment Project Installation and Completion Report:** The Contractor shall complete this report to the satisfaction of the Agency due by September 1st, 2027. Submit verification of operational status, including photographs, installation reports, receipts, and/or vendor certification. The Agency may request additional information or documentation to ensure this report is complete.
- **Annual Data Reports:** The Contractor shall complete this report to the satisfaction of the Agency due by September 1st of each year, from 2028 – 2031. This report shall include, at a minimum:
 - i. First date of service for purchased equipment.
 - ii. Total number of services provided using the medical equipment.
 - iii. Total number of unique patients served using the medical equipment.
 - iv. A list of ICD/CPT codes associated with providing services with this equipment.
 - v. Narrative description of impact of equipment availability on ability to provide

- patient care, provider capacity, and health outcomes for rural Iowans.
- vi. A sustainability plan for continued use of the equipment.

2.04 Contractor Reimbursement and Contract Payment Methodology

- A. Contractor Payments.** The Contractor may be paid an amount not to exceed \$5,000,000 for the time period of June 1, 2026 to September 30, 2027. Refer to the reimbursement type below.

Contract payments will be through IowaGrants and will be done upon fulfillment of each deliverable requirements, which will be a fixed cost reimbursement. See reimbursement section below for additional details. The Contractor shall submit a claim (invoice) via IowaGrants claim component to be submitted to the Agency associated with meeting the Deliverables of the Contract.

The Agency does not anticipate additional funds to be available beyond 9/30/27. However, there will be data and reporting requirements about the use of the equipment that shall be reported throughout the entire contract period.

B. Cost Restrictions.

1. The Contractor shall only be eligible to receive reimbursement for services described within the Scope of Work, and compliant with the deliverable-based budget.
2. Equipment must be installed before 9/30/2027 or the Contractor may be required to pay funds back to the Agency. Exceptions may be made at the Agency's sole discretion. The Contractor may also be required to pay back funds for failure to make sufficient progress toward equipment implementation and operationalization. The Agency has the sole discretion for determining whether or not the Contractor is making sufficient progress toward equipment installation and operationalization.
3. These funds cannot be used for maintenance agreements on the Equipment purchased with these funds.
4. Indirect Costs or Administrative Costs Charges Limitations:
There is a 10% cap for all administrative costs, including both indirect and direct costs. Not more than 10% of the amount allotted to a contractor for a budget period may be used for administrative expenses. This 10% limit includes indirect and direct costs that are considered administrative costs. Contractors will be required to track and report to the Agency the total amount spent on administrative costs and these costs shall not exceed 10% of the funds received.
5. New Construction and Building Limitations
 - a. Applicants may **not** use funds for new construction or major building expansions.
 - b. This grant cannot be used for demolition activities. Such activities are considered construction or major renovation, which are not allowed under this program.
 - c. Supplanting funding for in-process or planned construction projects or directing funding towards new construction builds is unallowable.
6. Use of funds for broadband infrastructure is unallowable.

7. Contractors must follow all funding restrictions and requirements described within the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' Rural Health Transformation Program, opportunity #: CMS-RHT-26-001

C. Reimbursement.

Deliverable-Based Budget

The Agency will develop a deliverable-based budget based on proposed Agency-approved plans for the purchase and installation of equipment and training staff. The Agency has predetermined the deliverables.

The costs provided by the Agency for each deliverable shall be not to exceed amounts, presented in U.S. Dollars and shall be all-inclusive (comprise all necessary costs): all labor and materials, travel, mileage, meals, lodging, equipment, supplies, personnel, salaries, benefits, insurance, training, conferences, telephone, utilities, start-up costs, applicable taxes, duties, licensing and leasing fees, as well as indirect costs or administrative costs, and all other costs and expenses of applicant in order to fulfill the Services as specified in this RFP. All costs must be all expenses included and based on Net 60 Days Payment Terms. The applicant assumes all liability for any omissions.

The Agency reserves the right to negotiate the identified deliverables, completion dates, and costs after selecting the successful applicant(s).

Deliverable	Due Date	Payment Details	Fixed Cost
Equipment Purchase Project Plan	Within 60 days following execution of the Contract	The Contractor will submit a Project plan for procuring and installing the new equipment, including detailed cost information and equipment cost estimates and a timeline for purchase, receipt, installation, staff training and dates equipment will be operable. The Agency will release 50% of the approved funding upon approval of the plan.	50% of the approved funding
Equipment Project Installation and Completion Report	To be determined based on the Agency approved Equipment Purchase Project Plan timeline. No later than September 1,	The Contractor will submit a report along with evidence of project completion, including all itemized receipts for equipment, installation, training, etc. The Contractor shall submit verification that medical equipment paid for with grant dollars are acquired, installed, and in service for intended equipment use through documentation such as receipts/paid invoices, pictures,	50% of the approved funding

	2027.	etc.	
Total Maximum Fixed Cost Not to Exceed:			\$5,000,000

SECTION 3 -- APPLICATION CONTENT

In compliance with the minimum requirements and scope outlined in Section 2 – Description of Work and Services, applicants must complete each form listed below from within IowaGrants for this Funding Opportunity.

3.01 Application Instructions

Each user will complete the registration process, only if not already registered. Follow the steps outlined for new registration and logging in to IowaGrants through the link provided in the links section of this RFP and in the Funding Opportunity Details in IowaGrants. New Users should allow at least a few days for the registration to be processed.

Refer to Section 1.06 (D) for instructions on Application Creation.

Note: IowaGrants will permit multiple users within the Applicant Organization to register and begin creation of an application for each funding opportunity.

The applicant is responsible for ensuring **only one entire application is completed and submitted for the same service area** (refer to Sections 1.04, 1.06, and 1.14) in response to this RFP.

For general instructions on completing applications in IowaGrants, as well as how to copy previously created applications, refer to the 'HHS Application Instruction Guidance' as posted under the Attachment section of the Funding Opportunity.

- Submitted applications must meet all minimum and eligibility requirements outlined in this RFP.
- Promotional materials or other items not required by this RFP will not be considered during the review process.
- Any information or materials not required to be submitted as an attachment by this RFP application will not be considered in the review process.

Upon starting an application, the first screen that appears is the General Information Form. This is where the applicant will title their application and identify the Organization they are representing. The registered applicant must be representing an eligible entity (refer to section 1.03). After clicking 'Save'; the applicant can re-open and edit this form to add other users registered with the represented organization in IowaGrants.gov as 'Additional Contacts'.

The saved **General Information** Form appears as the first form in your application.

3.02 Application Forms:

Applicants must complete each application form listed below following the instructions here and within the Electronic Grant Management System at www.lowagrants.gov. Each required field of each Application Form must be completed or the system will not allow the form to be saved. Once an application form is completed, the applicant must mark it as complete. All forms must be marked as complete or IowaGrants will not permit the application to be submitted.

Follow the instructions for each section and field within the form in IowaGrants. A summary of each form's contents is listed below.

Part 1 – Organization Information: This form requires the applicant to identify Key contacts, addresses and additional information:

- Information about the applicant organization, including legal name, address, alternate mailing address for warrant/payments, any pending or threatened litigation or investigation which may affect the Applicant's ability to perform the required services (refer to RFP Section 1.23), as well as identification of the applicant's accounting firm and reporting any irregularities discovered in any of the accounts maintained by the applicant (refer to RFP Section 1.24), and disclosure of history of contract default or terminations.
- Application Certification and Conditions: This form provides for the certification and assurance of the Applicant's intent and commitment to provide the services included in the application if an award is issued. This form will also identify the individual designated as the Grantee Contact with full responsibility for assignment of individuals to a resulting grant site (if applicable) in IowaGrants. Optional sections of this form include a section for the request for confidentiality in compliance with section 1.28 of this RFP and upload field for transmittal letters and other applicable communications.
- The Certification and Conditions Form is **required** to be completed, electronically signed and dated by the Executive Director (ED) or Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the applicant.
- Iowa Code Section 554D.103 defines an electronic signature as "an electronic sound, symbol, or process, attached to or logically associated with a contract or other record and executed or adopted by a person with the intent to sign the record." An applicant may insert an electronically scanned signature, a digital signature, or a typed name, symbol, etc. in compliance with this definition for the electronic signature. An applicant's submission of an application indicates the applicant's agreement to conduct this transaction by electronic means.

Part 2 - Equipment Request and Budget: This part requires information about the equipment requested, address and county of where the equipment will be installed, the cost of the equipment and other costs, and a justification of the budget request. Applicants will identify the physical location where the equipment will be installed and confirm this location's rurality designation based on the "Rural Health Grants Eligibility Analyzer (Rural Health Grants Eligibility Analyzer)" to determine rurality for the purpose of this funding opportunity (How We Define Rural | HRSA). The equipment must be installed in a Rural area.

Part 3 – Justify the Need: This part includes required information about why the equipment is needed, which health issue(s) the equipment will help, and a list of services to be provided by the equipment.

Part 4 – Operational Readiness: This part includes required information about the applicant's history related to purchasing and installing medical equipment, the ability for the organization to complete the scope of work before September 30, 2027, a timeline, tracking and reporting capabilities, and anticipated HCPS/CPT and ICD codes associated with the services the new equipment will provide.

Part 5 – Sustainability: This part includes required information about how the applicant will

sustain the equipment after the grant award, how the equipment improves the organization's financial stability, how the equipment supports sustainability for high-quality health care in rural Iowa, and how the applicant will market the new equipment to the community.

Part 6 – Attestations: This part includes required information about the applicant's participation in Iowa's Health Information Exchange (HIE). Additionally, an attestation that the organization understands the deliverable-based reimbursement budget with a 10% administrative cost limit and a 20% minor modifications and alterations cost limit.

Application Certification and Conditions: This form provides for the certification and assurance of the Applicant's intent and commitment to provide the services included in the application if an award is issued. This form will also identify the individual designated as the Grantee Contact with full responsibility for assignment of individuals to a resulting grant site (if applicable) in IowaGrants. Optional sections of this form include a section for the request for confidentiality in compliance with section 1.28 of this RFP and upload field for transmittal letters and other applicable communications.

- The Certification and Conditions Form is **required** to be completed, electronically signed and dated by the Executive Director (ED) or Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the applicant.
- Iowa Code Section 554D.103 defines an electronic signature as "an electronic sound, symbol, or process, attached to or logically associated with a contract or other record and executed or adopted by a person with the intent to sign the record." An applicant may insert an electronically scanned signature, a digital signature, or a typed name, symbol, etc. in compliance with this definition for the electronic signature. An applicant's submission of an application indicates the applicant's agreement to conduct this transaction by electronic means.

Minority Impact statement: Pursuant to 2008 Iowa Acts, HF 2393, Iowa Code Section 8.11, all grant applications submitted to the State of Iowa beginning January 1, 2009, shall include a Minority Impact Statement. This is the State's mechanism to require grant applications to consider potential impact of the grant project's proposed programs or policies on minority groups.

SECTION 4 – APPLICATION EVALUATION PROCESS AND CRITERIA

4.01 Overview of Evaluation Process

Evaluation of applications submitted under this RFP will be conducted in three phases.

Phase I -- Technical Review: The first phase will involve a preliminary review by the Agency staff of an applicant's compliance with the mandatory requirements, such as eligibility, Rurality of location of equipment, and application content for submitted applications. Applications which fail to satisfy technical requirements or application content may be eliminated from the application review. These applications may be disqualified. The Agency will notify the applicant of a disqualification that occurs during Phase I of the evaluation process. The Agency reserves the right to waive minor variances at the sole discretion of the Agency.

Phase II – Evaluation Committee: Applications determined to be compliant with technical requirements and application content will be accepted for the second phase of evaluation, which may be completed by an evaluation committee or committees established by the Agency. The review committee(s) shall evaluate applications in accordance with a point system. Each committee member will review the applications and the evaluation criteria outlined in this chapter and assign a point total for each criterion. If an applicant is requested to make an oral presentation of the application pursuant to RFP Section 1.15, the committee members may consider the oral presentation of the applicant in determining the points awarded.

The total score awarded by each committee member will be averaged to arrive at the final score for each application and the applications will then be ranked based on the average of the evaluation scores. The Agency staff may solicit additional input and recommendations from the evaluation committee(s).

Based on the number of applicants, the Agency reserves the right to segment the state geographically and use multiple review committees to expedite the review process. This would mean, for example, that one review team will review all applications within one prescribed geographic region and another review team will review all applications for a different geographic region.

Phase III -- Agency Review and Award: The third phase will be a final review. The Agency will consider the submitted applications and the evaluation committee's scores and rankings.

The Agency may also consider geographical distribution, diversification of organizations or organization types, and equipment cost information. Geographical diversification is essential to the success of this program to ensure healthcare throughout the entire state of Iowa. Additionally, diversification in organizational affiliation increases the ability for Iowa to have sustainable rural healthcare. The Agency may consider any information received pursuant to Sections 1.18 - 1.25 of the RFP, and any other information the Agency deems important for the success of the program described within this RFP. The Agency reserves the right not to award contracts to the applicants with the highest point averages.

4.02 Scoring of Applications

Accepted applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- A. All parts of each section are included and addressed.
- B. Descriptions and detail are clear, organized and understandable.
- C. Descriptions are responsive to the intent of the RFP scope of work and goals and objectives.
- D. The overall ability of the applicant, as judged by the evaluation committee, to successfully complete the project within the proposed schedule. This judgment will be based upon factors such as budget, project implementation and management plan and availability of staff.

Points will be assigned to each evaluation component as follows, unless otherwise designated:

4	Applicant has agreed to comply with the requirements and provided a clear and compelling description of how each requirement would be met, with relevant supporting materials. Applicant's proposed approach frequently goes above and beyond the minimum requirements and indicates superior ability to serve the needs of the Agency.
3	Applicant has agreed to comply with the requirements and provided a good and complete description of how the requirements would be met. Response clearly demonstrates a high degree of ability to serve the needs of the Agency.
2	Applicant has agreed to comply with the requirements and provided an adequate description of how the requirements would be met. Response indicates adequate ability to serve the needs of the Agency.
1	Applicant has agreed to comply with the requirements and provided some details on how the requirements would be met. Response does not clearly indicate if all the needs of the Agency will be met.
0	Applicant has not addressed any of the requirements or has provided a response that is limited in scope, vague, or incomplete. Response did not provide a description of how the Agency's needs would be met.

The maximum points to be awarded for each application section are as follows:

Application Form	Component	Weight	Potential Maximum Score
Part 1: Organization Information	-	N/A- Required	N/A
Part 2: Equipment		2	8
Part 3: Justify the Need	-	4	16
Part 4: Operational Readiness	-	4	16
Part 5: Sustainability	-	4	16
Part 6: Attestations	HIE Participation: If Yes, score provided will be a 4, if no, score provided will be zero All other attestation components not scored as they are required.	1	4
Application Certification and Conditions	-	N/A - Required	N/A
Minority Impact Statement	-	N/A - Required	N/A
Total Maximum Points			60

SECTION 5 – CONTRACT

5.01 Contract Conditions

Any contract awarded by the Agency shall include specific contract provisions including the General Terms and Contingent Terms as posted on the Agency's website (refer to the links section of this RFP & Funding Opportunity Details in IowaGrants). Refer to the Attachments section on the Funding Opportunity page for the Draft Sample Contract Template. The Draft Sample Contract Template included is for reference only and is subject to change at the sole discretion of the Agency.

The contract terms contained in the general terms and contingent terms are not intended to be a complete listing of all contract terms but are provided only to enable applicants to better evaluate the costs associated with the RFP and the potential resulting contract. Applicants should plan to include such terms in any contract awarded as a result of the RFP. All costs associated with complying with these requirements should be included in the application. If the contract exceeds \$500,000, or if the contract together with other contracts awarded to the Contractor by the Agency exceeds \$500,000 in the aggregate, the Contractor shall be required to comply with the provisions of Iowa Code chapter 8F, including certification and reporting requirements.

Results of the Agency's evaluation process or changes in federal or state law may require additions or changes in final contract conditions requirements.

5.02 Incorporation of Documents

The RFP, any amendments and written responses to applicant questions, and the application submitted in response to the RFP form a part of the contract. The parties are obligated to perform all services described in the RFP and application unless the contract specifically directs otherwise.

5.03 Order of Priority

In the event of a conflict between the contract, the RFP and the application, the conflict shall be resolved according to the following priorities, ranked in descending order:

1. the Contract;
2. the RFP;
3. the Application.

SECTION 6 – ATTACHMENTS

The following reference documents are posted separately under the Attachment section of this Funding Opportunity.

- A- RFP #PHTHORC26011 Best and Brightest- Medical Equipment Procurement
- B - HHS Application Forms Instruction Guidance (IowaGrants)
- C - FY26 Best and Brightest- Medical Equipment Sample Draft Contract Terms

SECTION 7 – LINKS

The following reference documents are available by clicking on the link provided in the website Links section of this Funding Opportunity.

- A. [IowaGrants Registration and Login Instructions](#)
- B. [IowaGrants External User Training](#)
- C. [IowaGrants Application Guide](#)
- D. [General Terms and Contingent Terms](#)
- E. Rural Health Grants Eligibility Analyzer ([Rural Health Grants Eligibility Analyzer](#))” to determine rurality for the purpose of this funding opportunity
- F. Additional information on determining rural eligibility ([How We Define Rural | HRSA](#)).
- G. [Best and Brightest Medical Equipment - 2nd Procurement](#) Informational Webinar held on February 23, 2026