HRSA

Health Resources & Services Administration

Federal Office of Rural Health Policy

Rural Communities Opioid Response Program – Northern Border Rural Workforce

Opportunity number: HRSA-25-011

Contents

Before you begin

If you believe you are a good candidate for this funding opportunity, secure your SAM.gov and Grants.gov registrations now. If you are already registered, make sure your registrations are active and up-to-date.

SAM.gov registration (this can take several weeks)

You must have an active account with SAM.gov. This includes having a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI).

See Step 2: Get Ready to Apply

Grants.gov registration (this can take several days)

You must have an active Grants.gov registration. Doing so requires a Login.gov registration as well.

See Step 2: Get Ready to Apply

Apply by the application due date

Applications are due by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on April 11, 2025.

> To help you find what you need, this NOFO uses internal links. In Adobe Reader, you can go back to where you were by pressing Alt + Left Arrow (Windows) or Command + Left Arrow (Mac) on your keyboard.

Step 1:
Review the Opportunity

In this step

Basic information

Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

Federal Office of Rural Health Policy

Improving behavioral health care capacity in rural communities of the Northern Border Regional Commission service area.

Summary

The purpose of the Rural Communities Opioid Response Program – Northern Border Rural Workforce (RCORP-Northern Border) is to improve health care in rural areas within the Northern Border Regional Commission's service area by enhancing behavioral health workforce capacity. To this end, the RCORP-Northern Border will implement a network-based approach to provide behavioral health care training and job placement in rural communities. This program addresses the ongoing critical need for behavioral health care professionals in rural communities of the northern border region. The first year of the program may be used for planning activities and formalizing a network, and the remaining three years must be dedicated to implementation of training and job placement.

Funding details

Application Types: New

Expected total available funding in FY 25: $3,200,000

Expected number and type of awards: Up to 8 grants

Funding range per award: Up to $400,000 per year

We plan to fund awards in four 12-month budget periods for a total four year period of performance from September 1, 2025 to August 31, 2029.

The program and awards depend on the annual appropriation of funds and are subject to change based on the availability and amount of appropriations.

Key facts

Opportunity name:
Rural Communities Opioid Response Program – Northern Border Rural Workforce

Opportunity number:
HRSA-25-011

Announcement version:
New

Federal assistance listing:
93.912

Statutory authority:
42 U.S.C. 912(b)(5) (§ 711(b)(5) of the Social Security Act)

Key dates

NOFO issue date:
1/10/2025

Informational webinar:
See Webinar Section

Application deadline:
4/11/2025

Expected award date is by:
September 1, 2025

Expected start date:
September 1, 2025

See other submissions for other time frames that may apply to this NOFO.

Eligibility

Who can apply

You can apply if your organization is in the state of Maine, New York, New Hampshire, or Vermont.

Types of eligible organizations

All domestic public or private, non-profit and for-profit, entities with a physical location in the states of Maine, New York, New Hampshire, or Vermont are eligible to apply. This includes:

- Public institutions of higher education
- Private institutions of higher education
- Non-profits with or without a 501(c)(3) IRS status
- For-profit organizations, including small businesses
- State, county, city, township, and special district governments
- Independent school districts
- Native American tribal governments
- Native American tribal organizations

* "Domestic" means the 50 states, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau.

Individuals are not eligible applicants under this NOFO.

Other eligibility criteria

To be eligible, applicants must represent a network composed of participants at least four or more organizations (your organization plus three additional organizations). These organizations may be rural or urban, but they must be located within the state(s) that you plan to serve.

To be reviewed and scored, your application must:

- Include a target rural service area that contains **only** counties and/or census tracts that are in Appendix A (rural areas within the Northern Border Regional Commission service area).

- ◦ HRSA intends to fund at least one award to organizations located in each of the four Northern Border Regional Commission states (Maine, New Hampshire, New York, Vermont.
- Include letters of commitment from at least three additional potential network members.
- Ensure that at least 50% of proposed network members have a physical location within the target rural service area.
- **NOTE: HRSA will review [Attachment 1](#) and [Attachment 4](#) to determine whether the application meets this eligibility criteria. If [Attachment 1](#) and [Attachment 4](#) do not include all required information, then your application may be considered ineligible, and will not be reviewed or scored.**

Completeness and responsiveness criteria

We will review your application to make sure it meets these basic requirements to move forward in the competition.

We will not consider an application that:

- Is from an organization that does not meet all [eligibility criteria](#).
- Requests funding above the award ceiling shown in the [funding range](#).
- Is [submitted after the deadline](#).
- Is missing required attachments and narrative sections, or required attachments and narrative sections are not complete.

Application limits

You may submit more than one application under the same Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) if each organization is located in a different rural area, serving a different population, and proposes a distinct project. Your application must be unique and independently developed and written. All applicants applying under the same EIN/UEI MUST submit the required information described in Attachment 11.

NOTE: Single organizations (e.g., a parent organization/headquarters) may not apply more than once for this funding opportunity on behalf of its satellite offices or clinics.

We will only review your last validated application for each distinct project before the deadline. If you provide insufficient information in Attachment 11, or submit multiple applications that are nearly identical, we will only accept the last on-time submission associated with the EIN/UEI number.

Cost sharing

This program has no cost-sharing requirement. If you choose to share in the costs of the project, we will not consider it during <u>merit review</u>. We will hold you accountable for any funds you add, including through <u>reporting</u>.

Program description

Purpose

The purpose of the Rural Communities Opioid Response Program – Northern Border Rural Workforce (RCORP-Northern Border) is to improve health care in rural areas within the Northern Border Regional Commission's service area (Maine, New Hampshire, New York, Vermont) by enhancing behavioral health workforce capacity.

Goals

Goal 1: Training

Form a network of local organizations to develop and implement innovative, evidence-based training programs focused on addressing the rural behavioral health workforce needs in rural northern border areas.

Goal 2: Placement

Ensure that individuals completing RCORP-Northern Border funded training are placed and retained in supportive, well-compensated employment within the target rural service area, where they will utilize their behavioral health training and have opportunities for continued growth.

Goal 3: Sustainability

Develop innovative, multi-sectoral approaches to ensure the continued availability of RCORP-Northern Border supported services in the target rural service area post federal funding.

Target Population

The target population for RCORP-Northern Border Rural Workforce includes individuals residing in HRSA-designated rural counties and census tracts within the Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) service area (See Appendix A for an inclusive list of all qualifying counties and census tracts for this award).

Program Highlights

- You **must** provide training in at least one behavioral health care profession that, upon completion of training and any required certifications, is able to prescribe

medication assisted treatment and bill third party payors for reimbursement of services.

- You must collaborate in a network of at least four organizations (your organization plus three additional organizations). At least 50% of the organizations in the network must have a physical location in the target rural service area.

- If necessary, you may use the first year of the award for planning purposes, including establishing partnerships, developing curriculum, and recruiting trainees. Implementation of training must begin by year two of the award.

- You must ensure your network has the capacity to track and collect data on individuals receiving training, where they are placed, and the services they provide upon placement.

- If awarded, you will participate in the RCORP-Northern Border learning collaborative, facilitated by the RCORP technical assistance provider.

- Required staff roles include a project director, data coordinator, and learning collaborative point of contact.

- All award recipients must conduct a financial resources assessment, to identify avenues for sustainability after the award.

Background

This program is authorized by Section 711(b)(5) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 912(b)(5)). HRSA's Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) is the focal point for rural health activities within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. FORHP programs provide technical assistance and other activities as necessary to support improving health care in rural areas. For additional information about FORHP, please see www.hrsa.gov/ruralhealth.

The Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) is a federal-state partnership for economic and community development in northern Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and New York (for a list of counties included in the NBRC service area). The NBRC was created by Congress in 2008, and each year the NBRC provides federal funds for critical economic and community development projects. Their mission is to catalyze community vitality and economic prosperity in the northern border region with flexible funding and strategic support.

Moreover, of the 6,234 mental health-health professional shortage areas (HPSAs) in the U.S., 3,861 (61.93 percent) are in rural areas, representing 28,946,148 people who do not have adequate access to mental health care providers. In the Northern Border Region states, over 4 million individuals live across 286 mental health HPSAs (population data for Vermont is not available). In Maine and New York, less than 20% of the need for mental health care providers are met. In 2022, Maine and Vermont were

among the 10 states with the highest overdose death rates, and New York had the second highest number of overdose deaths.

Over the next ten years, from 2024-2034, the National Center for Health Workforce estimates that across the country, the number of behavioral health workers will decrease by 9%, while the demand for behavioral health care services will increase by 37%. By 2034, the National Center for Health Workforce Analysis predicts that the supply of addiction counselors will only meet 55% of the need in New York, and 61% in New Hampshire. While the supply of addiction counselors is anticipated to be sufficient to meet state-wide need in Vermont and Maine, this does not account for distribution of providers and the additional challenges that rural communities face in securing behavioral health workforce. A recent study found that those in nonmetropolitan areas were significantly less likely to receive medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD). Moreover, the estimated average drive time to an opioid treatment program for people living in rural areas is 6 times greater than for those living in urban areas.

Program requirements and expectations

Target rural service area

RCORP-Northern Border supported services may only be delivered in qualifying rural NBRC counties and census tracts. See Appendix A for a list of all qualifying counties within the NBRC service area.

You may not duplicate the services being offered in the same county by another RCORP-Northern Border award recipient. If you are awarded and your service area overlaps with another RCORP-Northern Border award recipient, you must work with HRSA to reconcile any potential duplication of services.

Your service area may include counties in more than one state.

Requirements for achieving RCORP-Northern Border Goals

Goal 1: Training

Establish a network of local organizations to develop and implement innovative, evidence-based training programs focused on addressing the rural behavioral health workforce needs in rural northern border areas.

- Establish formal training and certification programs to address specific needs for behavioral health providers in the target rural service area.
    - You must provide training in at least one behavioral health profession that, upon completion of training and any required certifications, is able to prescribe medication assisted treatment and bill third party payors for

reimbursement of services (through any relevant mechanism, including incident-to billing).

- ◦ You may also provide training for behavioral health paraprofessionals, such as peer recovery support specialists and case managers.
- ◦ You may include cross training of existing providers, to enable them to offer new or expanded behavioral health care services (e.g., training a primary care physician to offer medication for opioid use disorder).
- ◦ Please see Appendix B for a list of behavioral health professions for consideration.
- The types of training and certification that you will offer must be clearly connected to community need for behavioral health providers.
- Training and certification must take place within the target rural service area.
- Training and certification must be culturally and linguistically appropriate for the target rural population that you will serve.

Goal 2: Placement

Ensure that individuals completing RCORP-Northern Border funded training are placed and retained in supportive, well-compensated employment within the target rural service area, where they will utilize their behavioral health training and have opportunities for continued growth.

- Coordinate with your network and other community partners to ensure that individuals trained with RCORP-Northern Border funds secure supportive, well-compensated employment.
  - ◦ If you are offering cross-training to existing behavioral health care providers, then you should ensure that upon completion of training, these providers are in roles which allow them to implement their new skillsets.
- We strongly encourage you to engage with the HRSA-funded Substance Use Disorder Treatment and Recovery Loan Repayment Program (STAR-LRP). You may use RCORP-Northern Border funds to assist behavioral health service delivery sites in becoming STAR-LRP approved facilities.
- Work with employers to implement employee retention approaches.

Goal 3: Sustainability

Develop innovative, multi-sectoral approaches to ensure the continued availability of RCORP-Northern Border Rural Workforce supported services in the target rural service area post federal funding.

It is critical to ensure that grant-funded training and support (established under Goals 1 and 2) remain available after RCORP-Northern Border funding ends, so that the behavioral health workforce can continue to develop and strengthen.

- Throughout the period of performance, you should work with your network (see Network Requirements) to make RCORP-Northern Border supported services sustainable.
- You must complete a Financial Resources Assessment (see reporting requirements). This will help identify potential sources of funding that may be leveraged after the RCORP-Northern Border project ends.
- You will also receive personalized technical assistance throughout your project, to help plan for the sustainability of RCORP-Northern Border funded services.

Network Requirements

Training behavioral health care providers requires a variety of different resources. This can be especially challenging in rural communities where such resources and services may be less available or separated by significant distances. Therefore, you must implement your RCORP-Northern Border project as part of a network of organizations that represent different aspects of the behavioral health workforce.

If awarded, you must submit a single memorandum of understanding signed by each network member within the first year of the project.

- Your network must represent a diversity of sectors relevant to behavioral health training in your target rural service area.
- Additionally, at least 50% of your network members must have a physical location (either a headquarters or a satellite site) within the target rural service area
- Each member of your network must be fully integrated into the RCORP-Northern Border project.
- At a minimum, network members should commit to:
  - Meeting regularly (at least once a quarter).
  - Coordinating with other network members on RCORP-Northern Border activities.
  - Sharing aggregate data for performance reporting to HRSA.
  - Sustaining services after the period of performance ends.
- **We strongly encourage** you to consider engaging local community colleges or other institutions of higher education as members of your network.

Planning Period

You may, but are not required to, spend up to the first year of the award conducting planning activities. Planning activities may include, but are not limited to:

- Formalizing network partnerships
- Developing and signing memorandum of understanding for the network
- Developing curriculum
- Achieving accreditation
- Scheduling trainings
- Assisting sites in becoming STAR-LRP certified facilities, and, where appropriate, applying for a mental health HPSA designation

You must begin implementing trainings no later than September 1, 2026 – one year into your period of performance.

Learning Collaborative

If awarded, you will participate in the quarterly RCORP-Northern Border learning collaborative, facilitated by the HRSA-funded RCORP technical assistance provider. The learning collaborative will offer the opportunity to network, share best practices, address challenges, and receive targeted technical assistance for your project.

- You must designate one individual to serve as the point of contact for the learning collaborative.
- We anticipate that the learning collaborative will meet on a quarterly basis.

Data Collection

Measuring success is a key element of RCORP-Northern Border. We encourage you to use RCORP-Northern Border funds to enhance the data collection and analysis capacity of your network. We also encourage you to implement ongoing quality improvement efforts.

Recipients will be expected to report detailed quantitative data related to the number of individuals trained through RCORP-Northern Border funds, where they are placed, services they provided upon placement.

Staffing Requirements

To achieve RCORP-Impact goals and meet the program requirements, you must include the following roles in your project. Individuals may fulfill more than one role:

Project Director

- Primary point of contact and leadership for the award.
- Directs project activities.
- Makes staffing, financial, or other adjustments to align project activities with the project outcomes.
- Ensures that trainings are coordinated and well-managed.
- Engages community members and key stakeholders to implement project activities.
- Must attend monthly calls with HRSA program staff and the HRSA-funded RCORP technical assistance team.
- You may decide the job qualifications and percentage of effort needed to effectively fulfill these duties, but we strongly recommend a minimum time commitment of at least .25 FTE for the Project Director.

Learning Collaborative Point of Contact

- Participates in monthly learning collaborative meetings.
- Should be a key staff member with the authority to speak on behalf of your project.
- You may decide the job qualifications and percentage of effort needed to effectively fulfill these duties.

Data Coordinator

- Coordinates with your network members to collect, aggregate, track, and report quantitative and qualitative data and information to fulfill HRSA's reporting requirements.
- You may decide the job qualifications and percentage of effort needed to effectively fulfill these duties.

Sustainability

Throughout the period of performance, you should work with your network to make RCORP-Northern Border supported services sustainable. Additionally, all award recipients must conduct a financial resources assessment, to identify avenues for sustainability after the award. HRSA will provide additional information during the period of performance.

Award information

Funding policies and limitations

Policies

- We will only make awards if this program receives funding. If Congress appropriates funds for this purpose, we will move forward with the review and award process.
- Support beyond the first budget year will depend on:
    - Annual appropriation of funds.
    - Your satisfactory progress in meeting the project's objectives.
    - A decision that continued funding is in the government's best interest.
- If we receive additional funding for this program, we may:
    - Fund additional applicants from the rank order list.
    - Extend the period of performance.
    - Award supplemental funding.

General limitations

- For guidance on some types of costs we do not allow or restrict, see Project Budget Information in Section 3.1.4 of the [Application Guide](#). You can also see 45 CFR part 75, or any superseding regulation, [General Provisions for Selected Items of Cost](#).
- You cannot earn profit from the federal award. See [45 CFR 75.400(g)](#).
- Congress's current appropriations act includes a salary limitation, which applies to this program. As of January 2025, the salary rate limitation is $225,700. This limitation may be updated.

Indirect costs

Indirect costs are costs you charge across more than one project that cannot be easily separated by project. For example, this could include utilities for a building that supports multiple projects).

To charge indirect costs you can select one of two methods:

Method 1 – Approved rate. You currently have an indirect cost rate approved by your cognizant federal agency.

Method 2 – De minimis rate. Per 2 CFR 200.414(f), if you have never received a negotiated indirect cost rate, you may elect to charge a *de minimis* rate. If you choose this method, costs included in the indirect cost pool must not be charged as direct costs.

This rate is 15% of modified total direct costs (MTDC). See 2 CFR 200.1 for the definition of MTDC. You can use this rate indefinitely.

Program income

Program income is money earned as a result of your award-supported project activities. You must use any program income you generate from awarded funds for approved project-related activities. Find more about program income at 45 CFR 75.307.

Step 2:
Get Ready to Apply

In this step

Get registered

SAM.gov

You must have an active account with SAM.gov to apply. This includes having a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI). SAM.gov registration can take several weeks. Begin that process today.

To register, go to SAM.gov Entity Registration and select Get Started. From the same page, you can also select the Entity Registration Checklist to find out what you'll need to register.

When you register or update your SAM.gov registration, you must agree to the financial assistance general certifications and representations. You must agree to those for grants specifically, as opposed to contracts, because the two sets of agreements are different. You will have to maintain your registration throughout the life of any award.

Grants.gov

You must also have an active account with Grants.gov. You can see step-by-step instructions at the Grants.gov Quick Start Guide for Applicants.

Find the application package

The application package has all the forms you need to apply. You can find it online. Go to Grants Search at Grants.gov and search for opportunity number HRSA-25-011.

After you select the opportunity, we recommend that you click the Subscribe button to get updates.

Application writing help

Visit HHS Tips for Preparing Grant Proposals.

Visit HRSA's How to Prepare Your Application page for more guidance.

See Apply for a Grant for other help and resources.

Join the webinar

More information on HRSA-25-011's webinar will be posted at a later date to the related documents tab here:

We recommend you "Subscribe" to the NOFO on Grants.gov to receive updates when documents are posted.

The Webinar will be recorded.

Have questions? Go to Contacts and Support.

Step 3:
Prepare Your Application

In this step

Application contents and format

Applications include 5 main components. This section includes guidance on each.

Application page limit 60 pages.

Submit your information in English and express whole number budget figures using U.S. dollars.

Make sure you include each of these:

Components	Submission format
Project abstract	Use the Project Abstract Summary form.
Project narrative	Use the Project Narrative Attachment form.
Budget narrative	Use the Budget Narrative Attachment form.
Attachments	Insert each in the Attachments form.
Other required forms	Upload using each required form.

Required format

You must format your narratives and attachments using our required formats for fonts, size, color, format, and margins. See the formatting guidelines in Section 3.2 of the Application Guide.

Project abstract

Complete the information in the Project Abstract Summary form. Include a short description of your proposed project. Include the needs you plan to address, the proposed services, and the population groups you plan to serve. For more information, see Section 3.1.2 of the Application Guide.

Project narrative

In this section, you will describe all aspects of your project. Project activities must comply with the [non-discrimination requirements](#).

Use the section headers and the order listed.

IMPORTANT NOTE: All required information must be located in the corresponding narrative section, as described below.

Background

See merit review criterion 1: [Background](#)

- State the objective(s) of your proposed project.
- Briefly summarize the needs you are planning to address with your project.
- Describe the types of behavioral health workforce training you plan to implement.
- Briefly describe the target rural service area. **Reminder: If your target rural service area contains any counties or census tracts that are NOT included in Appendix A, your application will not be reviewed or scored.**
- Briefly describe target rural population.

Organizational Information

See merit review criterion 2: [Organizational](#) Information

Overview

- Describe how the mission of your organization and the scope of current organizational activities align with the purpose and goals of RCORP-Northern Border project.
- Describe your organization's connections and partnerships within the target rural service area and target rural population.
- Describe how the leadership of your organization will support the implementation of your proposed RCORP-Northern Border project.
- Describe how the different components of your organization, apart from leadership, will support the implementation of your proposed RCORP-Northern Border project and the effective management of HRSA funds.
- Describe how you will ensure that implementation of the project begins no later than September 1, 2026.
- Describe how your organization will work with your network to manage staff turnover and ensure continuity of the project's operations and services.

Staffing Plan

- Describe how you will manage your proposed project and ensure that the work plan is implemented effectively.
- Provide a high-level summary of your proposed staffing plan.
    - The staffing plan **must** include a project director, learning collaborative point of contact, and data coordinator.
        - Be sure to list the designated Project Director in Box 8f of the SF-424 Application Page.
- For positions that are currently vacant, describe how you will quickly fill the position if awarded, to avoid any delays in implementing the work plan.
- In Attachment 3, provide a staffing plan.

Staff Biosketches

For each staff member reflected in the staffing plan, provide a brief biographical sketch in Attachment 6 that clearly demonstrates the staff member has appropriate and applicable experience for their role on the project. If an individual is fulfilling multiple roles in the proposed project, you may use a single biographical sketch to address their qualifications for each role.

The names reflected in the staffing plan must align with the names identified in the biographical sketches.

Network

Reminder: In your application, you must specify that at least three additional organizations that you anticipate will be in your network and provide letters of commitment from each. Your network must consist of at least 4 separately owned entities (your organization plus 3 additional organizations). **IMPORTANT: Applications that do not include letters of commitment from at least three proposed network members will not be reviewed or scored.**

Additionally, at least 50% of your network members must have a physical location (either a headquarters or a satellite site) within the target rural service area. **IMPORTANT: If you don't meet this requirement, we may consider your application non-responsive, and it might not be reviewed or scored.**

- Describe how the network will be structured and managed.
- Describe how you will engage network members to ensure effective and productive collaboration.
- Describe how the network members represent the sectors that are necessary to support a coordinated, comprehensive, and sustainable approach to the goals of RCORP-Northern Border.

- Describe how you will ensure that all network members have the capability and agree to share aggregate data to meet HRSA performance reporting requirements.
- In Attachment 4, include information for organizations that you anticipate will serve in the network and attest that the network will meet at least quarterly.
- In Attachment 5, include a letter of support from at least three anticipated network members.

Approach

See merit review criterion 2: Approach

Goal 1: Training

Form a network of local organizations to develop and implement innovative, evidence-based training programs focused on addressing the rural behavioral health workforce needs in rural northern border areas.

Justification of Need

- Use recent, reliable quantitative data to justify the need for the specific behavioral health workforce training programs you are proposing to implement in your target rural service area.
- Describe any existing behavioral health workforce training programs in your target rural service area, and how your network will complement, and not duplicate, these efforts.

Approach

- Clearly state the behavioral health profession(s) that you will train, and, if applicable, certify.
  - NOTE: You **must** provide training in at least one behavioral health profession that, upon completion of training and any required certifications, is able to prescribe medication assisted treatment and bill third party payors for reimbursement of services (through any relevant mechanism, including incident-to billing).
  - You may also provide training for behavioral health paraprofessionals, such as peer recovery support specialists and case managers.
  - You may include cross training of existing providers, to enable them to offer new or expanded behavioral health care services (e.g., training a primary care physician to offer medication for opioid use disorder).
  - Please see appendix B for a list of behavioral health professions for consideration.

- Describe in detail the behavioral health workforce training programs you will implement. Include any certifications that students will receive after completion of the training program(s).
- Explain how you will recruit students and support them through completion of the program.
- Demonstrate that the anticipated number of individuals to be trained will be proportional to the size of your requested budget.

Resolution of Challenges

- Describe any challenges you may encounter, and how you will resolve them.

Goal 2: Placement

Ensure that individuals completing RCORP-Northern Border funded training are placed and retained in supportive, well-compensated employment within the target rural service area, where they will utilize their behavioral health training and have opportunities for continued growth.

Justification of Need

- Use recent, reliable quantitative data to clearly and comprehensively justify the need for practicing behavioral health workforce in your target rural service area.
  - The need for behavioral health workforce must align with the types of training programs that you will implement.
- Use recent, reliable quantitative data to describe needs related to behavioral health workforce retention and support in the target rural service area.

Approach

- Describe in detail how your network will ensure that individuals completing RCORP-Northern Border funded training are placed in employment that:
  - Is located within the target rural service area.
  - Is supportive.
  - Is well-compensated.
  - Enables individuals to utilize their new behavioral health training and have opportunities for continued growth.
  - Retains individuals for the long-term.

Resolution of Challenges

- Describe any challenges you may encounter, and how you will resolve them.

Goal 3: Sustainability

Develop innovative, multi-sectoral approaches to ensure the continued availability of RCORP-Northern Border supported services in the target rural service area post-federal funding.

Justification of Need

- Describe existing collaborations or networks that are supporting the behavioral health workforce in the target rural service area, and why these efforts are insufficient and/or not sustainable.

Approach

- Describe how the network will work towards ensuring the continued availability RCORP-Northern Border training and placement services implemented under Goals 1, and 2, to support the ongoing strengthening of the behavioral health workforce.

Resolution of Challenges

- Describe any challenges you may encounter, and how you will resolve them.

High-level work plan

See merit review criteria 4: [Work Plan](#)

- In [Attachment 2](#), provide a work plan that includes the specific activities and action steps that you will take to implement each of the approaches described in the previous section.
- Please see the [Optional Work Plan Template](#) that you may use as a resource and adjust as needed. The Optional Work Plan Template is not required.

Data and Reporting

See merit review criteria 5: [Data and Reporting](#)

- Describe how you will ensure that the network effectively collects, shares, and reports required HRSA performance measures.
  - **NOTE:** Recipients will be expected to report detailed quantitative data related to the number of individuals trained through RCORP-Northern Border funds, where they are placed, services they provided upon placement. HRSA will provide additional guidance during the period of performance.
- Describe how you will use data, including but not limited to required HRSA performance measures, for the continuous improvement of RCORP-Northern Border Rural Workforce supported services.

See the [reporting](#) section for more information.

Budget and budget narrative

See merit review criterion 6: [Support requested](#)

Your **budget** should follow the instructions in Section 3.1.4 Project Budget Information – Non-Construction Programs (SF-424A) of the [Application Guide](#) and the instructions listed in this section. Your budget should show a well-organized plan.

We strongly encourage you to consider budgeting RCORP-Northern Border funds to support network members' participation in the project.

HHS now uses the definitions for [equipment](#) and [supply](#) in 2 CFR 200.1. The new definitions change the threshold for equipment to the lesser of the recipient's capitalization level or $10,000 and the threshold for supplies to below that amount.

The total project or program costs are all allowable (direct and indirect) costs used for the HRSA award activity or project. This includes costs charged to the award and non-federal funds used to satisfy a matching or cost-sharing requirement (which may include maintenance of effort, if applicable).

The **budget narrative** supports the information you provide in Standard Form 424-A. See [other required forms](#). It includes an itemized breakdown and a clear justification of the costs you request. The merit review committee reviews both.

As you develop your budget, consider:

- If the costs are reasonable and consistent with your project's purpose and activities.
- The restrictions on spending funds. See [funding policies and limitations](#).

- **Travel**: You must budget travel funds for up to two (2) program staff to attend a three-day program meeting in Washington, DC, once in every project year. You may also propose additional meetings and conferences that are directly related to the purpose of the program and will complement your project's objectives.
- **Sustainability**: Your work plan and budget/budget narrative should reflect a shift from capacity-building activities to service delivery and sustainability over the course of the four-year period of performance.
- **Network Members**: We encourage you to consider budgeting RCORP-Impact funds to support network member participation in the project.

To create your budget narrative, see detailed instructions in Section 3.1.5 of the Application Guide.

Attachments

Place your attachments in this order in the Attachments Form. See application checklist to determine if they count toward the page limit.

Attachment 1: General Project Information

IMPORTANT: The information included in this attachment will be used to determine your application's eligibility. Be sure that the information is complete and correct.

Provide the following information about your proposed project:

1. Project Title
2. Requested Award Amount
3. Applicant Organization Name
4. Applicant Organization Address
5. Applicant Organization Facility Type (e.g., Rural Health Clinic, Critical Access Hospital, Tribe/Tribal Organization, Health System, Institute of Higher Learning, Community-based Organization, Foundation, Rural Health Network, etc.)
6. Project Director Name and Title (should be the same individual designated in Box 8f of the SF-424 Application Form)
7. Project Director Contact Information (phone and email)
8. How the Applicant First Learned About the Funding Opportunity (select one: State Office of Rural Health, HRSA News Release, Grants.gov, HRSA Project Officer, HRSA Website, Technical Assistance Provider, State/Local Health Department)
9. Whether you are a: current RCORP award Recipient, previous RCORP award recipient, current RCORP Consortium member, or previous RCORP consortium member.

10. RCORP-Northern Border Rural Workforce target service area (must include ONLY the rural counties and census tracts listed in Appendix A):

    ◦ Fully Rural Counties: Provide the county name and state

    ◦ Partially-Rural Counties: Provide county name, state, and the rural census tract

    Reminder: If your target rural service area contains any counties or census tracts that are NOT included in Appendix A your application will not be reviewed or scored.

11. Type(s) of training/certification that will be offered through the project.

Attachment 2: Work Plan

Provide a work plan that includes the specific activities and action steps that you will take to implement each of the approaches described in the previous section. **We strongly recommend that you provide your Work Plan in a well-formatted, easy to read table that has columns for activity/task, responsible staff, start date, completion date, and activity status.**

The work plan must:

- Address all three RCORP-Northern Border Rural Workforce goals.

- Reflect a 4-year period of performance, including up to one year of planning. Training activities must be fully operational by September 1, 2026.

- Include the names of the individuals/organizations who are responsible for implementing each specific activity.

- Include specific time frames for each activity (please do not list a time frame as ongoing. There should be a specific beginning and end date for each activity).

Attachment 3: Staffing plan & job descriptions

See Section 4.1.vi of the Application Guide. Provide a staffing plan that includes the information below for each project staff and key information about each. It is strongly recommended that you provide this information in a table format. Be sure to include all required staff as described in the Staffing Requirements.

- Name (if not yet hired, state "TBH").

- Title.

- Organizational affiliation.

- Full-time equivalent (FTE) devoted to the project (Note: You cannot bill more than 1.0 FTE across federal awards).

- List of roles and responsibilities on the project.

- Job title (e.g., project director, a learning collaborative.)
- Timeline and process for hiring/onboarding, if applicable.

Attachment 4: Network Members

IMPORTANT: The information included in this attachment will be used to determine your application's eligibility. Be sure that the information is complete and correct.

Reminder: You must specify that at least three additional organizations that you anticipate will be in your network and provide letters of commitment from each. Your network must consist of at least 4 separately owned entities (your organization plus 3 additional organizations). **Applications that do not include letters of commitment from at least three proposed network members will not be reviewed or scored.**

Additionally, at least 50% of your network members must have a physical location (either a headquarters or a satellite site) within the target rural service area. **If you don't meet this requirement, we may consider your application non-responsive, and it might not be reviewed or scored.**

PART A:

Provide the following information for all organizations that you anticipate will serve in the network.

- Organization name
- Organization's physical address
- Sector represented (e.g., education, health, transportation, etc.)
- Point of contact, including name, position title, and email

PART B:

Attest that your network will meet, at a minimum, once a quarter.

Attachment 5: Letters of Support

Provide a letter of support from at least three additional anticipated network members.

The letter should include:

- An overview of the organization's anticipated role in the proposed RCORP-Northern Border project
- A description of the organization's ties to the target rural service area.
- A commitment to share performance data as needed with HRSA.

Attachment 6: Biographical Sketches

For each staff member reflected in the staffing plan, provide a brief biographical sketch that clearly demonstrates the staff member has appropriate and applicable experience for their role on the project. If an individual is fulfilling multiple roles in the proposed project, you may use a single biographical sketch to address their qualifications for each role. The names reflected in the staffing plan must align with the names identified in the biographical sketches.

Attachment 7: Shared EIN

Distinct organizations located in different rural areas and serving different populations may submit individual applications, even if they have the same EIN/UEI. The applications must be unique and independently developed and written. All applicants applying under the same EIN/UEI MUST submit the required information described below.

NOTE: Single organizations (e.g., a parent organization/headquarters) may not apply more than once for this funding opportunity on behalf of its satellite offices or clinics.

If you provide insufficient information in Attachment 11, or submit multiple applications that are nearly identical, HRSA will only accept the last submitted application associated with the EIN/UEI number.

- EIN and UEI number for which there will be multiple applications.
- Name and street address of each organization applying under the same EIN/UEI.
- Name, title, email, and phone number for a point of contact at each of the organizations applying under the same EIN/UEI.
- Name and street address of the "parent" organization.
- Name, title, email address, and phone number for a point of contact at the parent organization.
- Proposed RCORP-Northern Border target rural service area for each of the organizations under the same EIN **(these should not overlap).**
- Attest that each organization applying under the same EIN/UEI will be independently responsible for the planning, program management, financial management, and decision making of their project.
- Include signatures from the points of contact at each applicant organization and the parent organization.

Attachment 8-15: other relevant documents

You may use attachments 8 through 15 to add other relevant documents, such as your indirect cost rate agreement.

Other required forms

You will need to complete some other forms. Upload the following forms at Grants.gov. You can find them in the NOFO application package or review them and any available instructions at Grants.gov Forms.

Forms	Submission Requirement
Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)	With application.
Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs (SF-424A)	With application.
Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL)	If applicable, with the application or before award.
Budget Narrative Attachment Form	With application

Step 4: Learn About Review and Award

In this step

Application review	36
Award notices	41

Application review

Initial review

We will review your application to make sure that it meets eligibility criteria, including the completeness and responsiveness criteria. If your application does not meet these criteria, it will not be funded.

We will not review any pages that exceed the page limit.

Merit review

A panel reviews all applications that pass the initial review. The members use these criteria.

Criterion	Total number of points = 100
1. Background	5 points
2. Organizational Information	25 points
3. Approach	50 points
4. Work Plan	10 points
5. Data and Reporting	5 points
6. Support requested	5 points

Criterion 1: Background (5 Points)

See the project narrative Background sections.

The panel will review your application for how well it demonstrates:

- Extensive knowledge and understanding of the target rural service area and target population.
- The objectives of the proposed project are closely aligned with the goal and purpose of RCORP-Northern Border.
- The needs of the target population are closely aligned with the purpose of RCORP-Northern Border.

Criterion 2: Organizational Information (25 Points)

See the project narrative Organizational Information section.

Overview (7 points)

The panel will review your application for how well it demonstrates:

- The mission and activities of the applicant organization are closely aligned with the mission and goals of the proposed RCORP-Impact Project. In other words, the proposed project fits well within the applicant organization.
- Strong connections and relationships with the target rural service area and the target rural population.
- Strong support from organizational leadership to implement the proposed project.
- Strong support from other components of the applicant organization, apart from leadership, to implement the proposed project and ensure effective use of RCORP-Northern Border funds.
- The ability to begin implementing the project no later than September 1, 2026.
- The ability to manage any staff or clinician turnover, so that if these changes occur, the project's administrative operations and services will not be disrupted.

Staffing Plan (5 points)

The panel will review your application for how well it describes a staffing plan that:

- Will be effective and support achievement of the RCORP-Northern Border goals.
- Closely aligns with the project approach and work plan.
- Includes all required roles (project director, learning collaborative point of contact, data coordinator)
- Includes a plan for hiring vacant positions that is feasible and likely to avoid project delays, if awarded.

Staff Biosketches (3 points)

The panel will review your application for how well it demonstrates:

- Biosketches for all the individuals fulfilling key roles on the proposed project.
- Project staff are qualified to effectively fulfill their specific roles on the proposed project.

Network (10 points)

The panel will review your application for how well it describes a Network that:

- Will collaborate effectively and productively, with engagement from all members.
- Has the capacity and agrees to report HRSA-required performance data.
- Represents a diversity of sectors that will support a comprehensive approach to behavioral health workforce training and placement.

- Meets at least once a quarter (per attestation in Attachment 7).
- Thoroughly understands their roles on the project and has strong ties to the target rural service area, as demonstrated in the letters of support.

Criterion 3: Approach (50 Points)

See the project narrative Approach section.

Goal 1: Training (20 Points)

The panel will review your application for how well it describes an approach that:

- Addresses significant, demonstrated need for the proposed specific behavioral health workforce training programs you are proposing to implement in the target rural services area.
- Provides training for at least one profession that, upon completion of training and any required certifications, is able to prescribe medication assisted treatment and bill third party payors for reimbursement of services (through any relevant mechanism, including incident-to billing)
- Effectively engages and recruits students for training and supports them to ensure completion of their program.
- Demonstrates that the anticipated number of individuals to be trained will be proportional to the size of the requested budget.
- Clearly and specifically identifies challenges that may be encountered while implementing this goal and describes realistic, achievable solutions.

Goal 2: Placement (20 Points)

The panel will review your application for how well it describes an approach that:

- Addresses significant, demonstrated need for practicing behavioral health professionals in your target rural services area, that is aligned with the types of programs the applicant plants to implement.
- Addresses significant, demonstrated need for practicing behavioral health workforce retention in the target rural services area.
- Will ensure will ensure that individuals completing RCORP-Northern Border funded training are placed in employment that:
  - Is located within the target rural service area.
  - Is supportive.
  - Is well-compensated.
  - Enables individuals to utilize their new behavioral health training and have opportunities for continued growth.
  - Retains individuals for the long-term.

- Clearly and specifically identifies challenges that may be encountered while implementing this goal and describes realistic, achievable solutions.

Goal 3: Sustainability (10 Points)

The panel will review your application for how well it describes an approach that:

- Ensures the continued availability of RCORP-Northern Border supported services under Goals 1 and 2, so that training and placement support can continue after the period of performance.
- Ensures continuity of operations for the network and minimizes the impact of potential service disruptions.
- Clearly and specifically identifies challenges that may be encountered while implementing this goal and describes realistic, achievable solutions.

Criterion 4: Work plan (10 Points)

See Project Narrative Work Plan section.

The panel will review your application for how well the work plan:

- Demonstrates the ability to achieve the project's objectives within the four-year period of performance.
- Includes all the required elements: Reflects all RCORP-Northern Border and proposed project approaches.
- Reflects a 4-year period of performance.
- Includes the names of the individuals/network members who are responsible for implementing each specific activity.
- Includes specific time frames for each activity (There should be a specific beginning and end date for each activity; activities should not be listed as "ongoing").

Criterion 5: Data and reporting (5 Points)

See Project Narrative Data and Reporting section.

The panel will review your application for how well it describes an approach that:

- Effectively collects, shares, and reports required HRSA performance measures.
- Effectively uses data to continuously improve RCORP-Northern Border behavioral health workforce training and placement activities.

Criterion 6: Support requested (5 Points)

See the [Budget and budget narrative](#) section.

The panel will review your application for how well it documents:

- The number of individuals the applicant plans to serve, the size of the target rural service area, and the scope of proposed services justify the RCORP-Impact budget request.

We do not consider **voluntary** cost sharing during merit review.

Risk review

Before making an award, we review your award history to assess risk. We need to ensure all prior awards were managed well and demonstrated sound business practices. We:

- Review any applicable past performance.
- Review audit reports and findings.
- Analyze the budget.
- Assess your management systems.
- Ensure you continue to be eligible.
- Make sure you comply with any public policies.

We may ask you to submit additional information.

As part of this review, we use SAM.gov Entity Information [Responsibility/Qualification](#) to check your history for all awards likely to be more than $250,000 over the period of performance. You can comment on your organization's information in SAM.gov. We'll consider your comments before making a decision about your level of risk.

If we find a significant risk, we may choose not to fund your application or to place specific conditions on the award.

For more details, see [45 CFR 75.205](#).

Selection process

When making funding decisions, we consider:

- The amount of available funds.
- Assessed risk.
- Merit review results. These are key in making decisions but are not the only factor.

- The larger portfolio of HRSA-funded projects, including the diversity of project types and geographic distribution.

We may:

- Fund out of rank order.
- Fund applications in whole or in part.
- Fund applications at a lower amount than requested.
- Decide not to allow a recipient to subaward if they may not be able to monitor and manage subrecipients properly.
- Choose to fund no applications under this NOFO.

Award notices

We issue Notices of Award (NOA) on or around the start date listed in the NOFO. See Section 4 of the Application Guide for more information.

By drawing down funds, you accept the terms and conditions of the award.

Step 5:
Submit Your Application

In this step

Application submission and deadlines

Your organization's authorized official must certify your application. See the section on [finding the application package](#) to make sure you have everything you need.

Make sure you are current with SAM.gov and UEI requirements. When you register or update your SAM.gov registration, you must agree to the [financial assistance general certifications and representations](#), and specifically with regard to grants.

Make sure that your SAM.gov registration is accurate for both contracts and grants, as these registrations differ. [See information on getting registered](#). You will have to maintain your registration throughout the life of any award.

Deadlines

You must submit your application by April 11, 2025, at 11:59 p.m. ET.

Grants.gov creates a date and time record when it receives applications.

Submission method

Grants.gov

You must submit your application through Grants.gov. You may do so using Grants.gov Workspace. This is the preferred method. For alternative online methods, see [Applicant System-to-System](#).

For instructions on how to submit in Grants.gov, see the [Quick Start Guide for Applicants](#). Make sure that your application passes the Grants.gov validation checks, or we may not get it. Do not encrypt, zip, or password protect any files.

Have questions? Go to [Contacts and Support](#).

Other submissions

Intergovernmental review

If your state has a process, you will need to submit application information for intergovernmental review under Executive Order 12372. Under this order, states may design their own processes for obtaining, reviewing, and commenting on some applications. Some states have this process and others do not.

To find out your state's approach, see the list of state single points of contact. If you find a contact on the list for your state, contact them as soon as you can to learn their process. If you do not find a contact for your state, you do not need to do anything further.

This requirement never applies to American Indian and Alaska Native tribes or tribal organizations.

Application checklist

Make sure that you have everything you need to apply:

Component	How to upload	Included in <u>page limit*?</u>
☐ **Project abstract**	Use the Project Abstract Summary Form.	No
☐ **Project narrative**	Use the Project Narrative Attachment form.	Yes
☐ **Budget narrative**	Use the Budget Narrative Attachment form.	Yes
Attachments	Insert each in the Attachments Form in this order.	
☐ 1. General Project Information		Yes
☐ 2. Work Plan		Yes
☐ 3. Staffing Plan and Job Descriptions		Yes
☐ 4. Network Members		Yes
☐ 5. Letters of support		Yes
☐ 6. Biographical Sketches		No
☐ 7. Shared EIN		Yes
☐ 8. Other relevant document		Yes
☐ 9. Other relevant document		Yes
☐ 10. Other relevant document		Yes
☐ 11. Other relevant document		Yes
☐ 12. Other relevant document		Yes
☐ 13. Other relevant document		Yes
☐ 14. Other relevant document		Yes
☐ 15. Other relevant document		Yes
Other required forms*	Upload using each required form.	
☐ Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)		No
☐ Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs (SF-424A)		No

Component	How to upload	Included in page limit*?
☐ Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL), optional		No
☐ Project/Performance Site Location(s)		No
☐ Grants.gov Lobbying Form		No
☐ Key Contacts		No

*Only what you attach in these forms counts toward the page limit. The forms themselves do not count.

Step 6:
Learn What Happens After Award

In this step

Post-award requirements and administration

Administrative and national policy requirements

There are important rules you need to know if you get an award. You must follow:

- All terms and conditions in the Notice of Award (NOA). We incorporate this NOFO by reference.

- The regulations at [45 CFR part 75](#), Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for HHS Awards, and any superseding regulations.

  Effective October 1, 2024, HHS adopted the following superseding provisions:

  - [2 CFR 200.1](#), Definitions, Modified Total Direct Cost.
  - [2 CFR 200.1](#), Definitions, Equipment.
  - [2 CFR 200.1](#), Definitions, Supply.
  - [2 CFR 200.313(e)](#), Equipment, Disposition.
  - [2 CFR 200.314(a)](#), Supplies.
  - [2 CFR 200.320](#), Methods of procurement to be followed.
  - [2 CFR 200.333](#), Fixed amount subawards.
  - [2 CFR 200.344](#), Closeout.
  - [2 CFR 200.414(f)](#), Indirect (F&A) costs.
  - [2 CFR 200.501](#), Audit requirements.

- The [HHS Grants Policy Statement](#) (GPS). Your NOA will reference this document. If there are any exceptions to the GPS, they'll be listed in your NOA.

- All federal statutes and regulations relevant to federal financial assistance, including those highlighted in [HHS Administrative and National Policy Requirements](#).

- The requirements for performance management in [2 CFR 200.301](#).

Non-discrimination legal requirements

If you receive an award, you must follow all applicable nondiscrimination laws. You agree to this when you register in SAM.gov. You must also submit an Assurance of Compliance (HHS-690). To learn more, see the Laws and Regulations Enforced by the HHS Office for Civil Rights.

Contact the HHS Office for Civil Rights for more information about obligations and prohibitions under federal civil rights laws or call 1-800-368-1019 or TDD 1-800-537-7697.

The HRSA Office of Civil Rights, Diversity, and Inclusion (OCRDI) offers technical assistance, individual consultations, trainings, and plain language materials to supplement OCR guidance. Visit OCRDI's website to learn more about how federal civil rights laws and accessibility requirements apply to your programs, or contact OCRDI directly at HRSACivilRights@hrsa.gov.

Executive order on worker organizing and empowerment

Executive Order on Worker Organizing and Empowerment (E.O. 14025) encourages worker organizing and collective bargaining and promotes equality of bargaining power between employers and employees.

You can support these goals by developing policies and practices that you could use to promote worker power.

Cybersecurity

You must create a cybersecurity plan if your project involves both of the following conditions:

- You have ongoing access to HHS information or technology systems.
- You handle personal identifiable information (PII) or personal health information (PHI) from HHS.

You must base the plan based on the NIST Cybersecurity Framework. Your plan should include the following steps:

Identify:

- List all assets and accounts with access to HHS systems or PII/PHI.

Protect:

- Limit access to only those who need it for award activities.

- Ensure all staff complete annual cybersecurity and privacy training. Free training is available at 405(d): [Knowledge on Demand (hhs.gov).](#)
- Use multi-factor authentication for all users accessing HHS systems.
- Regularly backup and test sensitive data.

Detect:

- Install antivirus or anti-malware software on all devices connected to HHS systems.

Respond:

- Create an incident response plan. See [Incident-Response-Plan-Basics_508c.pdf (cisa.gov)](#) for guidance.
- Have procedures to report cybersecurity incidents to HHS within 48 hours. A cybersecurity incident is:
  - Any unplanned interruption or reduction of quality, or
  - An event that could actually or potentially jeopardize confidentiality, integrity, or availability of the system and its information.

Recover:

- Investigate and fix security gaps after any incident.

Reporting

If you are funded, you will have to follow the reporting requirements in Section 4 of the Application Guide. The NOA will provide specific details.

You must also follow these program-specific reporting requirements:

- **Progress reports each year.**

- **Annual performance reports through Electronic Handbooks.**

- **Performance Integrity Management System (PIMS) Reports:** The award recipient must submit quantitative performance reports on an annual basis. These data should reflect the performance of all network members, not just the applicant organization. HRSA will provide additional information during the period of performance. Baseline Data: Recipients must provide baseline data 90 days after award receipt. HRSA will provide additional information during the period of performance.

- **Copy of RCORP-Northern Border Application:** Award recipients must submit a copy of their RCORP-Northern Border application to the HRSA-funded RCORP technical assistance provider and evaluator to provide them with background and context for the proposed project. Recipients may redact information that they do not wish to share with the technical assistance provider or evaluator from the copy of the application that is submitted to them. HRSA will provide additional information during the period of performance.

Contacts and Support

In this step

Agency contacts

Program and eligibility

Caitlin Dunn

Program Coordinator, Rural Strategic Initiatives Division

Attn: RCORP-Pathways

Federal Office of Rural Health Policy

Health Resources and Services Administration

Email your questions to: ruralopioidresponse@hrsa.gov

Call: 301-480-9743

Financial and budget

Lissette Young

Grants Management Specialist

Division of Grants Management Operations, OFAAM

Health Resources and Services Administration

Email your questions to: lyoung@hrsa.gov

Call: 301-287-9864

HRSA Contact Center

Open Monday – Friday, 7 a.m. – 8 p.m. ET, except for federal holidays.

Call: 877-464-4772 / 877-Go4-HRSA

TTY: 877-897-9910

[Electronic Handbooks Contact Center](#)

Grants.gov

Grants.gov provides 24/7 support. You can call 800-518-4726, search the [Grants.gov Knowledge Base](#), or [email Grants.gov for support](#). Hold on to your ticket number.

SAM.gov

If you need help, you can call 866-606-8220 or live chat with the [Federal Service Desk](#).

Helpful websites

- [HRSA Grants page](#)
- [HHS Tips for Preparing Grant Proposals](#)
- [Northern Border Regional Commission](#)
- [Substance Use Disorder Treatment and Recovery Loan Repayment Program](#)
- [National Health Service Corps Rural Community Loan Repayment Program](#)

Appendix A: Rural NBRC Counties and Census Tracts

Maine	
Fully Rural Counties - You may include all or any part of these counties in your service area.	
Aroostook	Oxford
Franklin	Piscataquis
Hancock	Somerset
Kennebec	Waldo
Knox	Washington
Partially Rural Counties - For the counties below, only the listed HRSA-designated rural census tracts may be included in your target rural service area.	
Androscoggin	
23001044000	
Penobscot	
23019013000	23019027000
23019015000	23019029000
23019024500	23019030000
23019025500	23019031000
23019026500	
New Hampshire	
Fully Rural Counties - You may include all or any part of these counties in your service area.	
Belknap	Coos
Carroll	Grafton

Cheshire	Sullivan
Vermont	
Fully Rural Counties - You may include all or any part of these counties in your service area.	
Addison	Orange
Bennington	Orleans
Caledonia	Rutland
Essex	Washington
Franklin	Windham
Grand Isle	Windsor
Lamoille	
New York	
Fully Rural Counties - You may include all or any part of these counties in your service area.	
Cayuga	Lewis
Clinton	Livingston
Essex	Montgomery
Franklin	Orleans
Fulton	Seneca
Genesee	St. Lawrence
Greene	Sullivan
Hamilton	Yates
Partially Rural Counties - For the counties below, only the listed HRSA-designated rural census tracts may be included in your target rural service area.	
Herkimer	
36043010201	36043011001
36043010300	36043011100
36043010400	36043011200
36043010501	36043011301

36043010701	36043011502
36043010702	
Jefferson	
36045060100	36045980000
36045060200	36045990001
Madison	
36053030700	36053940102
36053030800	36053940103
36053030900	36053940200
36053031000	36053940300
36053940101	36053940600
Niagara	
36063024002	36075021402
36063024102	36075021501
36063940100	36075021502
36075021102	36075021601
36075021103	36075021602
36075021104	36075021603
36075021300	36075021604
36075021401	36075021605
Oneida	
36065021900	36065024302
36065022000	36065024303
36065022100	36065024400
36065022200	36065024500
36065022400	36065025900
36065022500	36065026300

36065022701	36065940000
36065022702	36065940100
36065024200	36065940200
36065024301	36065980100
Oswego	
36075020301	36075021000
36075020302	36075021101
Warren	
36113074000	36113076000
36113075000	36113078000
Washington	
36115082001	36115089000
36115084000	36115090000
36115092000	36115094000
Wayne	
36117020600	36117021502
36117021000	36117021600
36117021100	36117021700
36117021200	36117021800
36117021400	36117990100
36117021501	

Appendix B: Examples of Behavioral Health Professions

- Physician - allopathic (MD) or osteopathic (DO)
- Physician assistant (PA)
- Nurse practitioner (NP)
- Registered nurse (RN)
- Certified nurse midwife (CNM)
- Certified registered nurse anesthetist (CRNA)
- Pharmacists (PHARM)
- Health service psychologist (HSP)
- Licensed clinical social worker (LCSW)
- Licensed or certified master's level social workers
- Psychiatric nurse specialist (PNS)
- Marriage and family therapist (MFT)
- Licensed professional counselor (LPC)
- Substance use disorder (SUD) counselors
- Psychology doctoral interns

Clinical support staff

- Clinical nurse specialist (CNS)
- Certified nursing assistant (CNA)
- Licensed practical nurse (LPN)
- Licensed occupational therapists
- Medical Assistants

Behavioral health paraprofessionals

- Community health workers
- Peer recovery specialists
- Case managers
- Health navigators