



Ohio Rural Health Capacity Building Grant

A partnership between Anthem and Ohio Rural Health Association

Please review these instructions carefully before completing your application. Applications that are incomplete or do not meet the eligibility requirements may not advance to scoring.

1. Grant Purpose

The Ohio Rural Health Capacity Building Grant supports projects that strengthen Critical Access Hospitals and Rural Health Clinics and improve access, services, outcomes, equity, or organizational capacity in rural Ohio.

Grant awards may range from **\$10,000 to \$50,000**. Projects must be completed, and awarded funds must be spent, within **one year of the award date**.

2. Applicant Eligibility

Applicants must:

- Be a current Medicaid-certified Rural Health Clinic located in Ohio or a Critical Access Hospital.
- Be a current member of the Ohio Rural Health Association (will be verified).
- Request between \$10,000 and \$50,000.
- Be able to complete the proposed project and spend all grant funds within one year.
- Agree to complete required quarterly progress and final reports.
- Agree to recognize Anthem and Ohio Rural Health Association on project announcements
- Submit a complete application with all required information, certifications, and signatures.

3. Allowable Project Areas

Funding may support projects involving:

- Capital equipment or other assets
- Facility improvements or repairs
- Workforce development, training, or capacity building

- Social determinants of health initiatives
- Maternal health initiatives
- Health equity and equitable-access initiatives
- Other activities that strengthen rural healthcare capacity and align with the purpose of the grant

All requested expenses must be reasonable, allowable, and directly related to the proposed project.

4. Completing the Application

Answer every question completely and clearly. Responses should be specific enough for reviewers to understand the need, proposed solution, expected impact, budget, and ability to complete the project.

Project Purpose and Demonstrated Need

Describe:

- The problem or need the project will address
- Who is affected by the need
- The purpose of the proposed project
- The activities, improvements, or purchases to be completed
- How the proposed project responds to the identified need
- Any data, examples, or supporting information that demonstrate the need

If equipment, materials, or contracted services will be purchased, include vendor quotes or estimates when available.

Expected Impact and Measurable Outcomes

Explain:

- How the project will benefit the clinic, hospital, patients, or rural community
- The specific improvements expected because of the project
- Who will benefit and approximately how many people may be affected
- How the project may improve access, outcomes, equity, services, or organizational capacity

- How results will be measured
- What information or data will be collected and reported

Outcomes should be specific and measurable whenever possible.

Alignment with the Grant Purpose

Explain how the project will strengthen Ohio's rural healthcare safety net and support one or more of the grant's priority areas.

Applicants should clearly connect the proposed activities to community needs and the organization's ability to provide sustainable, accessible, and effective rural healthcare services.

Sustainability and Collaboration

Describe:

- How the project will continue to benefit the organization or community after the grant period
- How equipment, programs, services, or improvements will be maintained
- Any ongoing costs and how those costs will be supported
- Community partners, providers, referral networks, or other organizations involved
- The specific role of each partner, when applicable

Collaboration is encouraged when it meaningfully supports the project, but applicants should not identify partners who are not actively involved.

Project Readiness and Feasibility

Provide a realistic implementation plan that identifies:

- Major project activities
- The expected timeline
- Staff or partners responsible for implementation
- When purchases or improvements will occur
- How progress will be monitored
- How the organization will complete the project and spend the funds within one year

5. Budget Instructions

Complete a project budget and provide a clear explanation for every requested expense.

The budget should:

- Identify the amount requested in each applicable category
- Clearly describe the purpose of each expense
- Connect each expense to a proposed project activity
- Include reasonable and necessary costs
- Include quotes or estimates for major purchases when available
- Show the total amount requested from the grant
- Identify other committed funding sources, if applicable

Do not include an applicant match in the budget. A match is not required and will not affect the application's score.

6. Required Attachments

Include all required supporting documentation, which may include:

- Vendor quotes or cost estimates
- A detailed project budget
- Supporting data or documentation
- Letters describing confirmed partnerships, if applicable
- Required certifications
- Authorized official's signature

Only include attachments that support or clarify the proposed project.

7. Application Review

Applications will first be reviewed for eligibility and completeness. Eligible applications will then be scored using the following criteria:

Scoring category	Points
Project Purpose and Demonstrated Need	25
Expected Impact and Measurable Outcomes	25
Alignment with Grant Purpose and Priorities	15
Sustainability and Collaboration	15
Project Budget and Cost Effectiveness	15
Project Readiness and Feasibility	5
Total	100

Reviewers will evaluate only the information included in the submitted application and supporting materials. Applicants should not assume reviewers have prior knowledge of their organization, community, or proposed project.

8. Reporting Requirements

Award recipients must submit required quarterly project reports and supporting documentation. Reports may include:

- Progress toward project activities and outcomes
- Documentation of grant expenditures
- Challenges or changes affecting implementation
- Measurable results and community impact
- A final summary of the completed project
- Demonstration on how Anthem and Ohio Rural Health Association were identified as funders.

Failure to meet reporting requirements may affect the organization's eligibility for future funding.

9. Final Review Before Submission

Before submitting, confirm that:

- Every application section is complete.
- The funding request is between \$10,000 and \$50,000.
- The project can be completed within one year.
- The budget total is accurate.
- Every expense has a clear explanation.
- Required quotes and supporting documents are attached.
- Expected outcomes are specific and measurable.
- Certifications have been completed.
- The authorized official has signed and dated the application.
- The application is submitted by the stated deadline and through the required submission method.

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