CARES Funding Round 2 The Changes, Applying, And Winning



Presented by





WEBINAR

CARES Funding Round 2 The Changes, Applying, And Winning



Dana SatterwhiteGrants Consultant
Learn, Design, Apply, Inc



Barbara CatenaciGrant Expert



Ram Fish CEO, 19Labs





GALE



A smart, open platform for **Enhanced Telehealth** and **RPM**

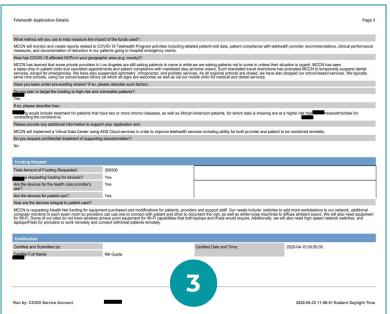
One Platform, Different Use Cases





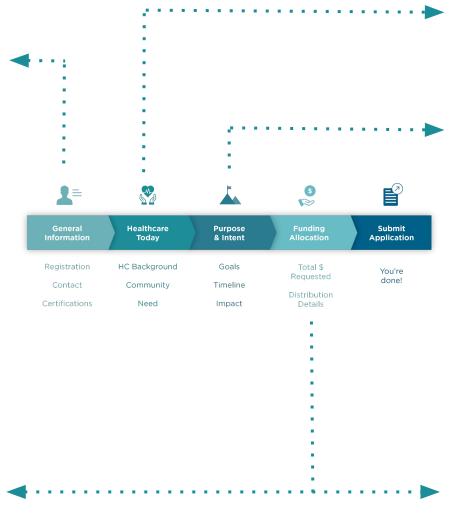


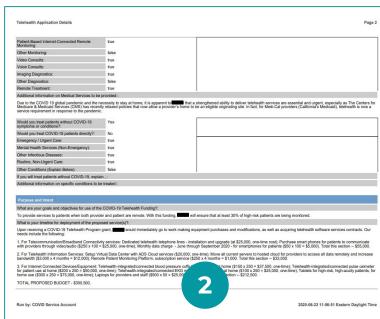


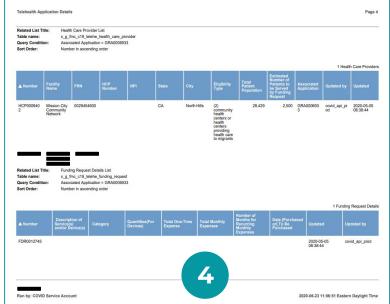


Sample Winning Application

\$308K. 4 Pages.











WEBINAR

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Dana Satterwhite LDA Grants

- 14 years of experience in finding funding for technology initiatives
- Former Tandberg, Cisco Grants, and Facebook
- Grants Manager at Learn Design Apply (LDA)





FCC Telehealth Program: Basic Details

Program designed to "support healthcare providers across the country in expanding or developing connected health platforms to address the coronavirus pandemic."

- \$250M approved funding \$50M slated for administrative purposes
- Health care providers must obtain an eligibility determination (USAC) for the lead health care provider site that they include in their application
- Applicants must have submitted a Form 460 to receive a health care provider number (HCP) to apply for Round 2 of the Program (eligibility does not need to be approved upon submission just requested)
- The COVID-19 Telehealth Program is limited to nonprofit and public eligible health care providers
- Filing window of seven calendar days for Round 2 of the Program with 2-week warning before posting application window
- All eligible Round 2 applicants can apply for up to \$1M in funding
- Round 1 awardees also qualify for the full \$1Million award amount per application regardless of what they were awarded in Round 1.





What can you do right NOW?

- Create an FRN if you don't have one: https://apps.fcc.gov/cores/userLogin.do
- Establish Eligibility: https://www.usac.org/rural-health-care/resources/forms/resources/forms/
- Make sure you have an active SAM registration (needed for reimbursement)... Start this process NOW

Project Planning:

- Think through your project who will be served, how many, demographics, etc.?
- Tie that to your budget needs... how will you spend your funds? Get a quotation (line item detail) so that you are ready to fill out a budget and justification narrative
- Make sure you have an active SAM registration (needed for reimbursement)...start this process NOW





Eligible Budget Items

Round 2 applicants may receive Program funding to support up to 12 months of eligible recurring services as well as eligible annual license agreements (only one-year term will be funded).

Definitions:

- Ligible devices include only connected devices but not devices that patients use at their homes that do not have a connection to the internet, even if those devices allow the patient to manually report information to their medical professionals remotely.
- Connected devices may include Bluetooth or Wi-Fi enabled devices, or that connect to the Internet directly, including devices/peripherals (e.g., web cameras, stethoscopes) that connect to a consumer's phone or other connected device for purposes of providing telehealth services.
- Network equipment needed to use telecommunications services, information services, or connected devices are also eligible.
- Taxes, shipping, and installation or integration of eligible devices and services, are also eligible.





Ineligible Budget Items

The Program does not support funding for:

- Personnel costs
- Marketing costs
- Administrative expenses
- Training costs
- Indirect costs

Examples of ineligible services and devices include:

- Services or devices purchased or implemented prior to March 13, 2020.
- Administrative costs, e.g., personnel expenses, consultant fees, payroll, training, customer service, project management, records management, reprocessing and logistics, and doctor's costs, etc.
- Technical support, maintenance costs, separate costs for warranties and protection plans.
- Separate costs for non-connected accessories, e.g., cases, mouse pads, cable clips, laptop bags, tablet stands, wall mounts, and charging stations, etc.
- Smart watches and fitness trackers.
- Back-up Power Equipment, e.g., back-up batteries, redundant power cords, Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS), generators, and surge protectors, etc.
- Non-connected medical devices or supplies, e.g., non-connected digital thermometers, testing strips, lancets, disposable covers, and personal protective equipment, etc.
- Construction costs, e.g., fiber/ethernet/cable network constructions, facility alterations, and temporary site location structures, etc.
- Non-telehealth items, e.g., office furniture and supplies, desks, security systems, and indirect costs, etc.





How to justify your funding requests

- Approach it more as a typical competitive grant application
- Provide a higher level of detail (reviewers don't know part numbers or use case)
- Provide a budget spreadsheet and budget narrative
- Be consistent in your need and your requests and document the necessity. Why did you ask for 10K licenses when you are serving 2000 people?
- Provide the reviewer everything they could possibly need and assume they know nothing, connect the dots, stay consistent





Funding Decisions & Process

After applications are scored, USAC, with Bureau and OMD oversight, will:

- 1. USAC will first commit funding to the top-scoring Round 2 application with an eligible lead health care provider located in a state or territory that did not have a lead health care provider receive funding during Round1 if feasible.
- 2. USAC, with Bureau and OMD oversight, will commit funding to the top-scoring Round 2 application in the states and territories where an application with a lead health care provider was awarded Round 1 funding, and to award funding to the second-ranked application in the states where no lead health care provider received Round 1 funding this will result in funding for at least two applications with lead health care providers in each state, territory, or the District of Columbia across both rounds of the Program, if such applications exist





Evaluation Metrics

Round 2 application evaluation metrics should prioritize the overall performance goals of the Program to fund:

- (1) eligible health care providers that will benefit most from telehealth funding;
- (2) as many eligible health care providers as possible;
- (3) Tribal, rural, and low-income communities to ensure that this additional support will be directed to communities where the funding would have the most impact; and
- (4) hardest hit areas to make sure that funding continues to support health care providers in areas most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Each metric is assigned its own objective scoring mechanism, which will allow USAC to score applications.

*Our team can help you determine your score





Scoring System

Factor	Information Required	Points
Hardest Hit Area	Applicants must provide health care provider county	Up to 15
Low-Income Area	Applicants must provide health care provider physical address and county	Up to 15
Round 1 Unfunded Applicant	Applicants must provide unique application number from Round 1 ¹²⁷	15
Tribal Community	Applicants must provide physical address and/or provide supporting documentation to verify Indian Health Service or Tribal affiliation	15
Critical Access Hospital	Applicants must provide proof of Critical Access Hospital certification	10
Federally Qualified Health Center / Federally Qualified Health Center Look-Alike / Disproportionate Share Hospital	Applicants must (1) provide proof of Federally Qualified Health Center certification, or (2) demonstrate qualification as a Federally Qualified Health Center Look-Alike, or (3) demonstrate qualification as a Disproportionate Share Hospital	10
Healthcare Provider Shortage Area	Applicants must provide Healthcare Provider Shortage Area ID number or health care provider county	Up to 10
Round 2 New Applicant	Applicants must certify, under penalty of perjury, that the applicant has not previously applied for Program funding	5
Rural County	Applicants must provide health care provider county	5



Hot Spots Priority:

For Round 2, USAC will rely on publicly available COVID-19 infection rates from the day the application filing window closes, specifically using the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services dataset which breaks down different levels of community spread of COVID-19, and award prioritization points to applications in which an eligible health care provider is in a county defined as a "sustained hotspot" or a "hotspot.

https://beta.healthdata.gov/Health/COVID-19-Community-Profile-Report/gqxm-d9w9

- USAC will award seven (7) points to applications that demonstrate that an eligible health care provider is in a "hotspot" and 15 points to applications that demonstrate that an eligible health care provider is located in a "sustained hotspot."
- USAC will use both county and census tract poverty data because county data alone may not sufficiently capture highly concentrated low-income communities in urban areas or the poverty level of communities within counties where there are large income gaps.





Low Income Areas Priority:

USAC will determine the poverty rate of both the county and the census tract for the eligible health care provider site the applicant has designated for this metric.

If an application would be eligible for more points using the census tract poverty rate than using the county-level poverty rate (or vice versa), we direct USAC to award the application the higher points available between the two.

- · USAC will award 7 points to applications that demonstrate that an eligible health care provider is in a county or census tract where the poverty rate is equal to or greater than the median poverty rate and less than the percentile for poverty for that geographic area
- · 15 points to applications that include an eligible health care provider located in a county or census tract where the poverty rate is in the 75th percentile or greater for that geographic area.





Round 1 – Unfunded Application Priority

USAC will prioritize eligible health care providers that applied for Round 1 funding but did not receive it, and award 15 points to applications that demonstrate they applied for, but did not receive, Round 1 funding.

Tribal Priority

USAC will award 15 points to applications that demonstrate that an eligible health care provider site is either located on Tribal lands or is operated by the Indian Health Service or is otherwise affiliated with a Tribe. Applicants that are otherwise affiliated with a Tribe should provide supporting documentation sufficient to verify their Tribal affiliation.





Critical Access Hospital Priority:

USAC will award 10 points to applications that demonstrate an eligible health care provider qualifies as a Critical Access Hospital.

https://www.flexmonitoring.org/critical-access-hospital-locations-list

FQHC, FQHC Look-Alike and DSH Priority:

USAC will award 10 points to applications that demonstrate that an eligible health care provider qualifies as (1) an FQHC, (2) an FQHC Look-Alike, or (3) a DSH.

https://data.hrsa.gov/data/reports/datagrid?gridName=FQHCs





Health Professions Shortage Areas Priority:

- USAC will award 5 points to applications that include this information on their application and qualify for this factor with an HPSA score of 1-12;
- · 10 prioritization points to applications that include this information on their application and qualify for this factor with an HPSA score of 13-25.

Applicants should use the HPSA score for primary care, which is publicly available on the Health Resources and Services Administration website. https://data.hrsa.gov/tools/shortage-area

Applicants who did NOT apply in Round 1 - Priority:

USAC will award 5 points to applicants who did NOT apply for Round 1 funding.





Rural County Priority:

Applicants should use USAC's Eligible Rural Areas Search tool to determine if an eligible health care provider is in a rural area and provide the physical address of the qualifying health care provider in their application. USAC will award 5 points to applications that demonstrate that an eligible health care provider site is in a rural area.

https://apps.usac.org/rhc/tools/Rural/search/search.asp





Other Funding Available For Telehealth

- ·Evidence-Based Telehealth Network Program (EBTNP) funding available through DHS
- ·Rural Communities Opioid Response Program funding available through SAMHSA
- ·Rural Emergency Medical Services Training Grant funding available through SAMHSA
- ·Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic Expansion Grants funding available through SAMHSA
- ·Tribal Opioid Response Grants funding available through SAMHSA
- Rural Utilities Services Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants funding available through USDA





The #1 Federal Grant for Telehealth Equipment <u>USDA RUS-DLT Grant Program</u>

When: Open now!

Deadline: June 4th

Award Size: up to \$1M

Match: 15% required

Eligibility: Almost any organization delivering or sharing telehealth or distance learning services with rural sites (no sole proprietors; no federal orgs)





RUS-DLT Grant Continued...

Program Purpose: Equalizing access to healthcare or educational resources & services

Prioritizes rurality, poverty, Tribal Lands, and matching funds The "T" in DLT (Telemedicine) has very broad connotations:

- Healthcare services (primary & specialty)
- Clinical Healthcare Education
- Prevention and Wellness
- Mental Health & Substance Abuse
- School based health
- Even For-Profit healthcare (ex: sleep disorder clinics)





